

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES

April 17, 2012

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter Kelly
Deputy Mayor Bill Karsten
Councillors: Barry Dalrymple
David Hendsbee
Lorelei Nicoll
Gloria McCluskey
Darren Fisher
Jackie Barkhouse
Jim Smith
Mary Wile
Jerry Blumenthal
Sue Uteck
Jennifer Watts
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Linda Mosher
Stephen Adams
Robert Harvey
Tim Outhit
Reg Rankin
Peter Lund

REGRETS:

Councillors: Steve Streach
Dawn Sloane
Brad Johns

STAFF:

Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Martin Ward, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Sherryl Murphy, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms. Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant

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1. INVOCATION

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with the Invocation being led by Councillor Barkhouse.

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillors noted a number of community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 20, 2012

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Smith that the minutes of March 20, 2012 be approved, as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

12.1 Councillor Rankin – Request for staff report re: Options for Public Access to Indian Harbour Lighthouse

12.2 Councillor Nicoll – Request for staff report re: Planned Expansion of Cole Harbour High School

12.3 Councillor Blumenthal – Metro Transit – Provision of Free Passage to Seniors

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Wile that the Order of Business be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

9.1 Correspondence

9.1.1 Request for Fly-Past – Battle of the Atlantic

A request for fly-past from B.W.N. Santarpia, Captain and Base Commander, Canadian Forces Base Halifax, dated March 27, 2012 was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Wile that Halifax Regional Council grant permission for a fly-past of an Aurora aircraft over the

Sailors' Memorial, Point Pleasant Park in conjunction with Battle of the Atlantic ceremonies on Sunday, May 6, 2012. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 Petitions

9.2.1 Councillor Blumenthal

Councillor Blumenthal submitted a petition containing 1,508 signatures supporting Mayor Peter Kelly, Councillor Blumenthal and Councillor Gloria McCluskey in their efforts to have Metro Transit offer Senior Citizens (65+) free passage on regularly scheduled bus routes during "off peak" hours, one day per week.

9.2.2 Councillor McCluskey

Councillor McCluskey submitted a petition containing 1,000 signatures supporting Mayor Peter Kelly, Councillor Blumenthal and Councillor Gloria McCluskey in their efforts to have Metro Transit offer Senior Citizens (65+) free passage on regularly scheduled bus routes during "off peak" hours, one day per week.

Councillor Smith noted that he was in receipt of a petition with 500 signatures in support of the above efforts to have Metro Transit offer Senior Citizens (65+) free passage on regularly scheduled bus routes during "off peak" hours, one day per week, and would present this petition at the next regular Council session.

10. REPORTS

10.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

10.1.1 Tender 12-014, Security Services – Halifax, Dartmouth and Woodside Ferry Terminals

A staff report dated March 27, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Barkhouse that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 12-014 for Security Services at the Halifax, Dartmouth and Woodside Ferry Terminals to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Independent Security Services Atlantic Inc. for a three (3) year Total Tender Price of \$869,123.70 (net HST included) with funding from Operating Account No. R661-6310- Outside Personnel, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the March 27, 2012 staff report.

Staff responded to questions of clarification respecting the bidders and criteria for awarding the Tender.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.2 Tender 12-228, Resurfacing, Sidewalk Renewal and Water Main Renewal, Lawnsdale Drive – East Region

A staff report dated March 27, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve a budget increase of \$356,151.85 (net HST included) to Project Account No. CYX01345 – Street Recapitalization, funded through cost sharing with Halifax Water; and**
- 2. Award Tender No. 12-228, Resurfacing, Sidewalk Renewal and Water Main Renewal Lawnsdale Drive – East Region, to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, Sackville Trenching Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$802,926.70 (net HST included) with funding from Project Account Nos. CYX01345 – Street Recapitalization and CKU01084 – Sidewalk Renewals, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the March 27, 2012 staff report.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.3 Tender 12-150, Stone Masonry Restoration Halifax City Hall – Phase 3

A staff report dated March 26, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Fisher that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 12-150, stone Masonry Restoration, Halifax City Hall – Phase 3, to Coastal Restoration & Masonry Ltd., for a Total Tender Price of \$1,601,123.82 (net HST included) with funding from Project No. CBX01046, Halifax City Hall Stone Restoration, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the March 26, 2012 staff report.

Staff responded to questions of clarification on the budget implications and over all cost of the restoration, as well as in relation to the company being awarded the contract.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.4 Starbucks Lease Proposal – Additional Storage, Halifax Ferry Terminal Building

A staff report dated March 23, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that Halifax Regional Council approve the additional storage to be included in the Lease Agreement between the Halifax Regional Municipality and Starbucks Coffee

Canada Inc., based upon the terms and conditions as outlined in Table 1 of the Private and Confidential Report dated March 23, 2012.

Staff responded to questions raised on the location of the storage space.

In response to a question raised by Councillor McCluskey respecting the March 23, 2012 private and confidential staff report, Mayor Kelly confirmed that if the motion is approved by Council, the report would then be released to the public.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee to discuss the March 23, 2012 private and confidential staff information report during the regular Council session. MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.5 Initiation Proposed By-Law S-435, An Amendment to By-Law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements

A staff report dated March 15, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Smith that Halifax Regional Council initiate the process to adopt By-Law S-435, an amendment to By-Law S-400 as outlined in Attachment "A1" of the March 15, 2012 staff report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.6 Initiation Case 17531 – Plan Amendment to Consider a Fraternal Centre at 40 Sandy Lake Road, Beaver Bank

A staff report dated March 19, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Walker that Halifax Regional Council:

- a) **Initiate the process to consider amending the Beaver Bank, Hammonds Plains and Upper Sackville Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law to enable the consideration of a Fraternal Centre at 40 Sandy Lake Road, Beaver Bank; and**
- b) **Request staff to follow the public participation program as adopted by Council in February of 1997.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.7 Initiation Case 17413 – Amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Planning District 4 (Prospect) – 16 Mills Drive, Goodwood

A staff report dated March 7, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Wile that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Authorize staff to initiate a process to consider amending the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Planning District 4, to permit the expansion of the existing construction and demolition materials processing facility located at 16 Mills Drive, Goodwood; and**
- 2. Request that staff follow the public participation program as approved by Council in February 1997.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.8 Second Reading Proposed By-Law S-500 – Respecting Charges for Solar City Program

A staff report dated February 15, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Smith that Halifax Regional Council approve By-Law S-500, Respecting Charges for Solar City Program.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.9 Second Reading By-Law A-500, By-Law to Amend By-Laws, By-Law A-102 and Administrative Order #30, and related Administrative Amendments to various By-Laws

A staff report dated March 15, 2012 was before Council.

A staff report dated September 19, 2011 was circulated to Council.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Wile that Halifax Regional Council approve By-Law A-500, a By-law to Amend By-Laws, to effect an expanded mandate for the Standing Appeals Committee by adopting By-Law A-102 to repeal and replace By-Law A-100 Respecting License and Permit Appeals, amending Administrative Order 30 Respecting Dangerous and Unsightly Premises, and administrative amendments to the following by-laws:

**E-200 – Encroachment By-Law
P-600 – Municipal Parks By-Law
T-600 – Tree By-Law
D-300 – Derelict Building By-Law**

**S-800 – Temporary Signs By-Law
T-108 – Taxi and Limousine By-Law
S-900 – Controlled Access Streets By-Law
S-300 – Streets By-Law**

**L-200 – C&D Materials Recycling and Disposal License By-Law
M-100 – Standards for Residential Occupancy By-Law**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

**10.1.10 Federal and Provincial Area Rate Levies
(i) Supplementary Staff Report
(ii) Community Planning and Economic Development Standing
Committee Report dated September 19, 2011 re: 2011-12 Discretionary
Funding for Business Improvement Districts**

The following was before Council:

- Staff supplementary report dated March 14, 2012
- Report from the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee dated September 19, 2011

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Authorize staff to remit the BIDs area rate levies, payable by the Federal and Provincial governments for fiscal 2011-2012, in accordance with Table 1 of the March 14, 2012 staff supplementary report.**
- 2. Authorize staff to remit the BIDs Provincial and Federal area rate levies, such remittance to be made annually pursuant to the schedule for BID area rate levy disbursements.**

Staff responded to questions of clarification raised on the discretionary funding, excluding versus including government levies, as outlined in Table 2 of the April 17, 2012 staff supplementary report.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

**10.1.11 Municipal Guarantee of Halifax Regional Water Commission (HRWC)
Debt – Pre-Financing of Eastern Passage Wastewater Treatment Facility**

A staff report dated April 4, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Barkhouse, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee that Halifax Regional Council approve the Municipality's guarantee of HRWC's future debt related to the Eastern Passage Wastewater Treatment Facility through the Municipal Finance Corporation in the amount of \$52,269,189. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2 WESTERN REGION COMMUNITY COUNCIL

10.2.1 Jurisdiction of the Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee and Contract with HRM

A report from the Western Regional Community Council, dated February 28, 2012 was before Council.

Moved by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Walker that Halifax Regional Council acknowledge the responsibility and the authority of the Community Monitoring Committee for the Otter Lake Landfill as being “to monitor the operation of the facilities and any element of HRM’s integrated solid waste resource management system where the operation of such elements has a direct impact on the operation of the Facilities” and accordingly; request that staff respond to questions outlined in the December 19, 2011 letter from the Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee and follow-up letter dated February 23, 2012 as attached to the Western Region Community Council report dated February 28, 2012.

Mr. Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer referenced the information and attachments as outlined in the February 28th report to the Western Region Community Council.

He noted that staff has responded to all questions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Community Monitoring Committee (CMC) as provided in the letter from the DCAO dated January 24, 2012. He noted further that HRM staff will be working with Mirror around issues that resulted from the cell closure and will provide a report to the CMC. In addition as outlined in the report, staff will be attending monthly CMC meetings.

Mr. Martin Ward, Municipal Solicitor further clarified that the agreement between HRM and CMC specifically outlines the type of information that can be provided as well certain restrictions. The agreement with the CMC is incorporated as part of the main contract with Mirror. If HRM were to go beyond the limits provided for in the agreement and provide information outside of what is permitted in the contract, it could arguably be considered a breach of that contract.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Hum relative to odour complaints from the area around Royal Hemlock, the DCAO noted that there is a record of complaints logged and that work will be reviewed. Councillor Rankin confirmed that several complaints from the area noted have been received by the CMC, documented and forwarded to staff.

Councillor Watts inquired as to what further Council would actually be doing, beyond what has been provided to date, if the recommendation is approved.

The DCAO responded that the CMC has been provided with all the information they are entitled to under the agreement. In further response the Solicitor indicated that he would view the recommendation as affirmation or confirmation that staff should do so.

Councillor Lund inquired regarding the details of the agreement and access by the CMC to information regarding the design and construction of new facilities or site works.

The DCAO indicated that HRM is governed by the language of the agreement, which speaks to the CMC monitoring the operation of the facilities as defined in the agreement. The language in the agreement specifically excludes design and construction of new facilities.

Councillor Rankin expressed strong concern regarding the matter. He indicated that he was present during the process of the development of the strategy, siting of the facility, development of the contract and negotiations with the Province, which required that a CMC be established. He stated his position on the language of the contract as being inclusive rather than exclusive, citing Section 19 and the legal opinion provided to the CMC.

Mr. Ward, Municipal Solicitor responded that it is a matter of the interpretation of the contract and HRM is governed by the language of the agreement. The language of the agreement speaks to the CMC having jurisdiction over the operation of the facilities as defined in the agreement. The language in the agreement specifically excludes design and construction of new facilities. His understanding is that once the facilities are designed and constructed they are then turned over and become part of the monitoring process. He went on to note that it is the Municipality, not the CMC, that would be required to answer for the provision of information not provided for under the agreement.

Members of Council expressed appreciation for the work of the CMC and the residents in the area of the landfill.

Members of Council inquired again as to whether the wording of the recommendation is in keeping with the terms of the contract and does not give any more authority to the CMC other than what is provided for in the contract.

The Solicitor indicated that the motion must be read as asking only for what the Municipality is legally able to provide and recognition of the authority for the CMC as provided for under the contract.

Mr. Labrecque noted that the CMC's mandate is to monitor the Otter Lake facility operations. Solid Waste staff provide reports to the CMC and are open to attend monthly meetings. The jurisdiction over the strategy is the responsibility of Regional Council.

Councillor Rankin stood to note occasions which, in his view, do not reflect cooperation between staff and the CMC.

Mayor Kelly noted that if the Councillor has issues with the process he can address them to the CAO. Council has received legal advice. Council is aware of the process for amending or altering a contract should they wish to do so.

Councillor Uteck asked whether the scheduled work was delayed for any period due to contract negotiations with Mirror.

The DCAO responded that had not been the case and noted that Attachment 3 of the staff report outlines the time lines in regard to the construction.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3 AUDIT & FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

10.3.1 Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Revisions

A report from the Audit and Finance Standing Committee dated March 22, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Walker that Halifax Regional Council approve the Revised Marketing Levy Special Event Reserves Business Case as outlined in Attachment 1 of the January 23, 2012 staff report.

Councillor Uteck noted that during the March 21, 2012 Audit and Finance Standing Committee a concern from the Marketing Levy Special Events was that funds were being taken from the hotel levy tax and the possibility of losing funds for an event. She questioned whether this was a one time use of funds or ongoing.

Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Community and Recreation Services advised that staff is aware of the Standing Committee's concern and that staff is executing on the Event Strategy approved by Regional Council in 2010. Mr. Anguish highlighted the alternative approaches as outlined in the January 23, 2012 staff report. He indicated that as staff and Council move forward and better understand HRM's resourcing and demands upon staff and administration. Staff's goal is to reduce administration, not create more; but at the present time given recent administrative changes additional staff are needed.

Councillor Uteck clarified that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee would work with staff on this one year approach but would have the option to make changes.

Based on concerns raised by several members of Council, it was agreed to revise the motion to include the wording *for the 2012 fiscal year only*.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Walker that Halifax Regional Council approve the Revised Marketing Levy Special Event Reserves Business Case as outlined in Attachment 1 of the January 23, 2012 staff report for the 2012 fiscal year only.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.4 TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

10.4.1 Request to Province – HRM Traffic Authority Ability to Reduce Maximum Speed Limits

A report from the Transportation Standing Committee dated March 26, 2012 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Lund that Halifax Regional Council endorse the draft correspondence included as “Attachment A” of the Transportation Standing Committee report dated March 26, 2012 to the Provincial Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal requesting consideration be given to allow the HRM Traffic Authority to post maximum speed limits lower than 50 km/h.

Councillor Watts noted the Province’s support in allowing the Traffic Authority to lower speed limits in school zones. She further echoed the cycling community’s comments of making roads safer; especially in areas where bike lanes may not be able to be designated.

Councillor Mosher requested an update on Council’s motion of March 10, 2009 to write a letter to the province to request an amendment to section 104 of the *Motor Vehicle Act* in an effort to reduce speed limits in school zones. Mr. Ken Reashor, Director, Transportation and Public Works advised that the Province has agreed to move forward to reduce speed in school zones. Staff is reviewing what signage would be required; with approximately 1,500 signs needed to implement this program.

In response to questions raised by Council, Mr. Reashor clarified that if the Minister of Transportation was to approve Council’s request and grant HRM Traffic Authority the authority to implement reduced speed zones, staff would then use engineering evidence and standards to implement this process.

Mr. Reashor went on to note that there are some streets that have unique qualities (ie. no sidewalks or geometric design features) that would potentially qualify.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Council recessed at 2:40 p.m.

Council reconvened at 2:57 p.m.

10.5 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

10.5.1 Councillor Lund – Request for staff report re: Hammonds Plains Community Centre

A motion memorandum was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Fisher that Halifax Regional Council request staff to prepare a report to Council exploring options for the continued operation of the Hammonds Plains Community Centre, whether to continue owning the facility and enter into a partnership agreement with the Hammonds Plains Community Centre Association for the continued operation of the facility or convey the ownership of the facility to the local community association who have been operating the facility for some time.

Councillor Lund noted that it has taken three years for HRM to determine it has ownership of this property; reiterating the importance of this facility for the community.

MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.

10.5.2 Councillor Barkhouse – Request for staff report re: Eastern Passage High School

A motion memorandum was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Barkhouse, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report regarding the recently announced high school in Eastern Passage including any needs for community enhancement in the area, potential partnership with the Province and possible infrastructure funding opportunities.

Councillor Barkhouse commented that the communities of Eastern passage and Cow Bay are lacking in community infrastructure, which has been one of the factors in the decision to build a high school in Eastern Passage. She commented that this is a valuable and important opportunity for HRM, in conjunction with government partnership and the community, to address infrastructure shortfalls relative to indoor and outdoor recreational infrastructure. As well, there may be an opportunity to explore the facility in association with the Library Facility Master Plan.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.5.3 Councillor Uteck – Request for Planning Amendment for Fenwick Towers Project

A motion memorandum was before Council.

Submissions from Robert A. Stapells, Tony Edwards and Phil Pacey were circulated to Council.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Blumenthal that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Authorize staff to initiate a process to consider amending the Citadel View Plane requirements of the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, the Halifax Municipal Planning Strategy, and the Halifax Peninsula Land Use By-law to permit the exterior modifications to the Fenwick Tower building in the South End of Halifax as per the requirements of the development agreement between Templeton Place Ltd. and Halifax Regional Municipality registered at the Land Registration Office on August 29, 2011.**
- 2. Request staff to follow the public participation program as adopted by Council on February 18, 1997.**

Councillor Uteck clarified that the exterior modifications to the Fenwick Tower building is an engineering issue. Staff has exhausted every design and engineering option; noting that this is the only option available to HRM.

Mr. Richard Harvey, Senior Planner, Community and Recreation Services responded to questions of clarification on the expansion of the proposal in relation to useable floor space and location of the view plane.

Councillor Watts asked that the report identify for the public record what options staff explored and why they were not feasible. Mr. Harvey advised that in addition to providing this information, staff will identify the differences to the view from the Citadel to show the change to the view plane if the adjustment were approved.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.5.4 Councillor Adams –Request for HRM Involvement in the East Port Energy’s District Project re: Downtown Alternative Energy Plan

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Watts that Halifax Regional Council formally request staff’s involvement in the East Port Energy’s district energy project, which has been in development for three years. The project aligns with the goals of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee and the HRM Energy and Environment Office to meet HRM’s

sustainability goals. Other stakeholders include the Province of Nova Scotia, Emera, Nova Scotia Power Inc., Heritage Gas and Altagas.

Mr. Greg Keefe, Acting Director of Finance and Information Technology Services advised that a meeting has been scheduled with stakeholders for next week. Following this meeting, staff would bring a recommendation report to Council.

Councillor Adams suggested that this matter be forwarded to the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee for review.

Without vote on the original motion, it was **MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Dalrymple that following HRM's meeting with stakeholders that the information be forwarded to the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee for review and recommendation.**

Following a brief discussion, the **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

11. MOTIONS

11.1 Councillor Sloane

“To amend the process for public hearings to allow for a question period to be inserted into the process after the public hearing has been closed. This allows for clarification and allows the mover of the recommendation their full five (5) minutes and/or three (3) minutes during deliberations.”

Council agreed to defer this matter to their next regular session.

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 Councillor Rankin – Request for staff report re: Options for Public Access to Indian Harbour Lighthouse

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report on the request from the Federal government for HRM to acquire property, with a lighthouse, that they have deemed surplus, and that HRM assume ongoing maintenance of the lighthouse. The staff report is also to explore access to the lighthouse property for maintenance of the structure and possible public access.

Councillor Rankin believed the lighthouse is in Indian Harbour but noted that staff could identify the PID numbers in their report. He noted that the report would offer commentary in relation to the cultural aspect.

Councillor Walker commented that there is an online workshop taking place April 19th in relation to the process, procedures, nomination, designation and protection of lighthouses, which he would forward Council for their information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 Councillor Nicoll – Request for staff report: Planned Expansion of Cole Harbour High School

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report regarding the recently announced expansion to Cole Harbour High School including any needs for community enhancement in the area, potential partnership with the Province and possible infrastructure funding opportunities.

Councillor Nicoll spoke in support of the expansion to the Cole Harbour High School and enhancement for the community; noting that the Province recently gave \$10 million to Cole Harbour. She suggested that there is possible opportunity to have better alignment of Municipal services for this area.

Councillor Walker asked that the staff report identify whether the project would be funded through an area rate.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 Councillor Blumenthal – Metro Transit – Provision of Free Passage to Seniors

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Halifax Regional Council direct Metro Transit to provide senior citizens (65+) with free passage on regularly schedule routes during non-peak hours, Thursdays, effective June 1, 2012.

Councillor Blumenthal expressed concern with the removal of Route 3 and the affect it has on transportation for seniors and the benefits of a free day of passage for seniors. He suggested that businesses may also consider changing their senior discount days to Thursdays to attract seniors during the weekdays.

Mayor Kelly indicated that Council could choose to deal with this now or through a staff report to identify the budget implications.

The mover and seconder agreed to revise the motion to request a staff report. The motion before Council now read:

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report, including financial implications

and source of funding, with regard to providing senior citizens (65+) with free passage on regularly scheduled transit routes during non-peak hours, Thursdays, effective June 1, 2012.

Councillor Hendsbee requested consideration to revise the experimental date to Tuesdays, which coincides with a number of corporate initiatives (ie. seniors' discount day) across the Municipality; to which the mover and seconder agreed.

The motion before Council now read:

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report, including financial implications and source of funding, with regard to providing senior citizens (65+) with free passage on regularly scheduled transit routes during non-peak hours, Tuesdays, effective June 1, 2012.

Following a brief discussion, the **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

13.1 Councillor Walker

Take Notice that, at the next regular Regional Council meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 24th day of April, 2012, I intend to introduce a motion to bring forward amendments to the HRM Sign By-Law to specifically exclude election signage from being posted in advance of a specific date to be determined by the Returning Officer in the case of Municipal Elections or at the dropping of the writ in Federal and Provincial Elections.

13.2 Councillor Smith

Take Notice that, at the next regular Regional Council meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 24th day of April, 2012, I propose to move First Reading of By-Law S-435, An amendment to By-Law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements, the purpose of which is to apply the 2011 Local Improvement Charges.

14. IN CAMERA

Council may rise and go into a private In Camera session, in accordance with Section 19 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Chapter, for the purpose of dealing with the following:

Private and Confidential Information Items

1. Private and Confidential In Camera Information Report re: Starbucks Lease Proposal – Additional Storage, Halifax Ferry Terminal Building

No In Camera session was held.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Cathy J. Mellett
Municipal Clerk

INFORMATION ITEMS
April 17, 2012

1. Proclamation – Records and Information Management Month – April 2012
2. Proclamation – Administrative Professionals Week – April 22-28, 2012
3. Memorandum from Chair, Audit and Finance Standing Committee dated March 22, 2012 Re: Investment Activities - Quarter Ending December 31, 2011
4. Memorandum from Director, Transportation and Public Works dated March 1, 2012 re: Petition Regarding Paving of Old Coach Road – Goodwood
5. Memorandum from Director, Legal Services and Risk Management dated March 29, 2012 Re: Status of By-Law Prosecutions – December 1 – 31, 2011
6. Memorandum from the Municipal Clerk dated April 10, 2012 re: Requests for Presentation to Council - None