

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
December 2, 2003

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly
Deputy Mayor Steve Streach
Councillors: Krista Snow
David Hendsbee
Ron Cooper
Harry McInroy (3:07 p.m.)
Brian Warshick
Condo Sarto
Jim Smith
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Dawn Sloane
Sue Uteck (3:35 p.m.)
Sheila Fougere
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Linda Mosher (2:55 p.m.)
Brad Johns
Robert Harvey
Len Goucher
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade

ABSENT:

Councillors: Bruce Hetherington (regrets)
Stephen Adams

STAFF:

Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Jan Gibson, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	03
2.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - NONE	03
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	03
4.	SNOW & ICE REVIEW PRELIMINARY FINDINGS	03
5.	ENFORCEMENT POLICY FOR PART 1 OF BY-LAW S-300, REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE FROM SIDEWALKS	04
6.	ADJOURNMENT	04

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - NONE

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

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Goucher, that the Order of Business be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. SNOW & ICE REVIEW PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- An information report, prepared for Mr. Rick Paynter, Director of Public Works and Transportation, dated November 27, 2003, on the above noted, was before Council.

Mr. Rick Paynter, Director, Public Works and Transportation, with the aid of overheads, presented the report noting reasons for the review are:

- Overall program costs over the past two years have exceeded allocated budgets by some 58%,
- Salt usage has increased significantly over the past five years. This is very costly and not environmentally responsible,
- Aging equipment repairs is doubling allocated budgets,
- Challenges surrounding sidewalk snow removal,
- Creeping service level standards have contributed significantly to overall program costs.

Following the presentation, Councillors received answers and clarification on a number of issues with the following requests being made of staff.

Councillor Sloane requested information on the costs for sidewalk snow clearing within HRM.

Councillor Blumenthal requested information on the number of cars that were towed last year.

Councillor Johns requested information on whether there was a deficit for sidewalk snow clearing and what amount was specific to District 19.

Councillor Cooper asked if the municipality pays a share of the sidewalk snow removal in areas where an area rate is collected for provision of the service.

Councillor Hendsbee requested staff provide information on the following:

- The service contract for the streets in the Lawrencetown area that are being contracted out through the municipality to the province
- List of HRM streets that are outside the core but are the responsibility of the municipality
- Street key and classification of roads
- Is the volume of sand expected to be increased
- Status of operational reserves, how much has been set aside and what the expectation is for the future
- Standards of other municipalities that were used and which municipalities were used in establishing the standards
- List of private roads and streets that were cleared be forwarded to the Private Roads committee.

As it was now 4:00 p.m. Council agreed to adjourn and defer continuation of discussion on this item and the remainder of the agenda to December 9, 2003.

5. ENFORCEMENT POLICY FOR PART 1 OF BY-LAW S-300, REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE FROM SIDEWALKS

This item was deferred to December 9, 2003.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Jan Gibson
Acting Municipal Clerk