

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
March 22, 2005

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher
Councillors: Steve Streach
David Hendsbee
Harry McInroy
Gloria McCluskey
Bill Karsten
Becky Kent
Jim Smith
Mary Wile
Patrick Murphy
Dawn Sloane
Sue Uteck
Sheila Fougere
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Robert Harvey
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade

REGRETS:

Councillors: Krista Snow
Andrew Younger
Linda Mosher
Stephen Adams
Brad Johns

STAFF:

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

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF - February 28 and March 1, 2, 3, 4 & 8, 2005

The following corrections were requested: the word “non” to be deleted from the March 3rd minutes, “Mr. Moore” to be changed to “Mr. More” under the item Integrated Emergency Services of the February 28th minutes, the word “role” be changed to “roll” in the March 1st minutes and “Mayor” replace “Councillor” in the March 2nd minutes.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the minutes of February 28 and March 1, 2, 3, 4 & 8, 2005, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Council agreed to add an item entitled “Curfew” at the request of Councillor Sloane.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Deputy Mayor Goucher, that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. PENSION COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Mr. Gordon Roussell and Mr. Nigel Field, Co-Chairs of the HRM Pension Committee addressed Council. They advised that due to the increase in size and complexity of the plan and the increased challenges of the regulatory and investment environment in which it must operate, the Committee believes it is now time to have a professional from the pension industry. The individual would focus entirely on all aspects of the Plan management, to develop a coordinated go forward approach.

Responding to questions from Council, Mr. Roussell advised:

- Last year the pension fund realized a return of 10.3% on assets of approximately \$860million.
- The money is in a trust fund that is administered by a trustee.
- The assets are invested by investment managers.
- There are several specialty managers who invest the assets in different asset classes such as bonds, Canadian and US equities etc.
- Investments are made in accordance with a policy that has been established to lay out

- parameters in terms of how much risk HRM is going to take.
- The new CEO would closely monitor the plan managers and look at alternative ways of investing.
 - The CEO would oversee the investment managers, check how their performance is doing, make sure they are complying with policy, and re-balance the portfolio.
 - The CEO would receive a salary from the Plan resulting from reduced costs in other areas such as consultant fees.
 - An Executive Review Committee will be struck, from members of the pension committee and one outside expert, to do an annual review.
 - The CEO would be on contract which would include what is expected of him/her in the first year.
 - The process should be completed in two months.

Mayor Kelly thanked the presenters.

5. CURFEW - COUNCILLOR SLOANE

Councillor Sloane noted there have been many incidents of swarmings and vandalism by youth. The Councillor requested a report be prepared with respect to the possibility of putting a curfew in place which may provide police with a mechanism to address the issue.

Mr. Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, advised that a curfew would be contrary to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms but staff would examine what is currently in place in other municipalities and report back to Council. He noted the curfew under the Emergency Measures applies to everyone. The proposed curfew would come under the Charter as it would be based on age.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested there may be a mechanism under the Motor Vehicle Act to place some limitation on the mobility of youth.

Deputy Chief Burbridge advised a plan is in the process of being developed to deal with the swarming issue.

Councillor Sloane suggested that a curfew could have a sunrise to sunset time frame.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Jan Gibson
Municipal Clerk

