

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
MAY 9, 2005

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher
Councillors: Krista Snow
David Hendsbee (9:55 a.m.)
Harry McInroy (10:00 a.m.)
Gloria McCluskey
Andrew Younger
Bill Karsten
Becky Kent
Jim Smith
Mary Wile
Dawn Sloane
Sheila Fougere (10:00 a.m.)
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Robert Harvey
Reg Rankin (9:55 a.m.)
Gary Meade

REGRETS:

Councillors: Steve Streach
Patrick Murphy
Sue Uteck
Linda Mosher
Stephen Adams
Brad Johns

STAFF:

Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Betty MacDonald, Director, Governance and Strategic
Initiatives
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 9:30 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NONE

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

The Order of Business was approved as circulated.

4. DRAFT REGIONAL PLAN

- A copy of the Parking Lot items covering all Committee of the Whole meetings was circulated to council and are **attached** to the May 9, 2005 minutes for information purposes.

Settlement

Discussion continued on the Settlement portion of the plan with the following items and concerns identified.

- Concern with the use of the word “shall” with regard to the community and secondary plan.

Governance and Implementation

Ms. Maureen Ryan, Regional Planning, outlined the Governance and Implementation portion of the Plan.

Following the presentation, the following items and issues were noted:

- There is not enough resident involvement and as a result people are not happy.
- After this is implemented, is there a strategy in place to deal with issue of staffing and necessary resources?
- How will we involve youth as well as the homeless?
- There is a need to be at the table with the Province when discussions are held regarding schools.
- Policy G-8 is not sufficiently strong enough to address the concerns with respect to the delivery of education within HRM such as the siting of schools.
- Concern was expressed with respect to real estate speculation regarding identified

growth areas.

(Councillors Hendsbee and Rankin took their place at the meeting at 9:55 a.m.)

- Concern with the fact that Cole Harbour does not have sewer capacity but some as of right development is being suggested in local community and secondary plans.
- HRM should take responsibility for schools.
- Concern that there may be restrictions on affordability and ability to develop such things as gated communities.
- When will the servicing boundary be extended?
- Need to examine the harmonization of terminology in all plans.

(Councillors McInroy and Fougere took their place at the meeting at 10:00 a.m.)

Finance

Mr. Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Planning, presented the finance portion of the Regional Plan.

- How much of the affordability of homes is based on infrastructure and how much on materials?
- Would Sheet Harbour pay a suburban tax rate if it includes central servicing?
- Concern that this plan will focus mainly on planning in the urban core.
- Concern that more services in urban areas will stifle growth and force development out of the rural into the urban areas.
- Will put limitations on construction.
- How will demands on infrastructure such as roads be addressed as a result of the increasing number of non HRM residents travelling into HRM for work from neighbouring municipalities?

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Regional Council:

- 1. Endorse the Regional Plan including all parking lot items for the purpose of public consultation, prior to initiating the plan adoption process.**
- 2. Communicate a sense of urgency to the Province of Nova Scotia regarding the need for legislative authority to require groundwater assessments, in order that interim growth management policies can be lifted at the time of the adoption of the regional plan scheduled for fall 2005**

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Jan Gibson
Municipal Clerk