

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES November 23, 1999

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor John Cunningham
Councillors: Stephen Streach
Gordon R. Snow
Keith Colwell
Ron Cooper
Harry McInroy
Jack Greenough
Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington
Clint Schofield
Jerry Blumenthal
Graham L. Downey
Sheila Fougere
Russell Walker
Bill Stone
Graham Read
Stephen D. Adams
David Merrigan
Bob Harvey
Peter Kelly
Reg Rankin

REGRETS: Mayor Walter Fitzgerald
Councillor Jack Mitchell

STAFF MEMBERS: Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Barry Allen, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Patti Halliday, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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1. INVOCATION

Deputy Mayor Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Invocation.

2. PROCLAMATIONS

2.1 National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Deputy Mayor Cunningham proclaimed December 6, 1999 to be National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

PRESENTATION - HRM2000 MILLENNIUM PROJECT BOOK LAUNCH

Mr. Dan Norris, Tourism, Culture and Heritage, presented the HRM200 Millennium Project Book entitled "One City, Many Communities" written by Alfreda Withrow, to Regional Council. Mr. Norris noted this book identifies that individual communities still exist, but have become a part of a larger unit, Halifax Regional Municipality. Mr. Norris acknowledged the presence in the gallery of Ms. Withrow, author of the book, and expressed thanks to Nimbus Publishing. A copy of the book was presented to each member of Council.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NOVEMBER 9, 1999

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington that the minutes of November 9, 1999 be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 12.1 Councillor Hetherington - Request to move Information Item #2 (Metro Transit - Sunday Ferry Service) to Regular Council agenda
- 12.2 Councillor Walker - U-Haul Storage Fire - Mitchell Street
- 12.3 Councillor Stone - Quality of Life Program
- 12.4 Land Matter - RFP Starr Manufacturing Proposal

- 12.5 Councillor Kelly - Request to move Information Item #4 (Bedford Highway Restoration - Kearney Lake Road to Hemlock Estates) to Regular Council agenda
- 12.6 Councillor Schofield - FCM Resolutions

Councillor Blumenthal requested that Item 10.2 Advisory Committee for Persons With Disabilities/Access-a-Bus Advisory Committee, be moved up on the agenda when the representatives arrive at the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Cunningham noted that Item 10.3.3 Appeal - Sign Permit, 75 Akerley Boulevard, has been deleted.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Greenough that the Order of Business, Additions and Deletions be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION

6.1 Councillor Walker - Winter Parking

- The following motion was adopted at the November 23, 1999 Regional Council meeting:

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Schofield that Council adopt the recommendation of the Program and Service Review Committee to acknowledge the legal mandate of the Traffic Authority to retain an overnight parking ban. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

At that meeting, Councillor Walker served a Notice of Motion of Reconsideration, seconded by Councillor Kelly.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Kelly that the motion adopted by Council on November 23, 1999 regarding the overnight parking ban be reconsidered.

Speaking in support of the Motion of Reconsideration, Councillor Walker suggested the rural Councillors were probably not aware that individuals have been hired to issue overnight parking ban tickets in their areas. Councillor Walker stated if the Motion of Reconsideration passes, he will put forth a motion to recommend to the Traffic Authority that an overnight parking ban be put in place only during storms.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The original motion adopted by Council on November 23, 1999 was now back on the floor. The motion read as follows:

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Schofield that Council adopt the recommendation of the Program and Service Review Committee to acknowledge the legal mandate of the Traffic Authority to retain an overnight parking ban.

Councillor Walker stated he would like to propose an amendment, and put forth the following motion:

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Adams that the motion be amended to state that Council recommend to the Traffic Authority that the overnight parking ban be in effect only during storms.

Councillor Adams spoke in support of the amendment stating the Motor Vehicle Act will take care of any concerns.

In response to a question of the Deputy Mayor, Mr. David McCusker, Manager, Traffic Services, stated it is his understanding that Works staff need access to local streets as much as arterial and collector streets for the purpose of snow and ice control. Mr. McCusker stated the overnight parking ban is important to the snow and ice control program, and noted that icing conditions are not as predictable as snow.

Responding to a question of Councillor Sarto, Mr. Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Engineering and Transportation Services, stated if the amendment is passed, the Municipality will not be consistent with the Provincial ban. Mr. McCusker explained the Motor Vehicle Act gives the Municipal Traffic Authority the option of adding an overnight parking ban to the Provincial ban. Mr. McCusker stated it is his understanding that an overnight parking ban is applied throughout the Province.

Mr. Dhillon stated staff has concerns with what would be defined as a "storm."

Speaking in support of the amendment, Councillor Read stated he is becoming more convinced that the current ban should be lifted. The Councillor noted if problems occur, the overnight ban can always be put back in place.

Councillor Stone expressed concern with respect to enforcement. The Councillor also expressed concern with the definition of "storm", stating the phrase "during a storm" is not comprehensive enough as it does not identify whether or not it includes ice conditions. Mr.

Dhillon replied, if the amendment passes and is implemented, staff will have to examine the definition of "storm."

Councillor Stone stated enforcement is the problem, not the ban itself, and suggested there needs to be some changes to make it work more efficiently.

Councillor Harvey stated Council cannot make a decision on this matter, but, collectively, can make a strong recommendation to the Traffic Authority. The Councillor noted he suggested at last week's meeting the Sackville model of a parking ban be considered HRM wide, but this has not been done. Councillor Harvey stated he will not support the current overnight parking ban, and noted that during the 18 hours a day when the ban is not in effect, issues such as emergency vehicle access, snow clearing, etc., do not encounter difficulties. The Councillor stated a parking ban is necessary, but not every night for four months. Councillor Harvey suggested a modified ban should be implemented, noting the Motor Vehicle Act requirement is sufficient.

Councillor Schofield stated some sort of ban is required, and he agreed that enforcement is the problem. In response, Mr. Dhillon stated staff will examine the enforcement issue. He noted the purpose of the ban is not to generate revenue, but to ensure the safety of the residents and the vehicles on the roads.

Councillor Greenough noted that during the 18 hours the ban is not in effect, people are up and about and can move their vehicles as necessary. However, during the night, people are asleep, and, therefore, the overnight ban should remain in effect.

Mr. McCusker reiterated that an overnight parking ban is implemented across the Province. Therefore, if the HRM ban is lifted, those streets in HRM that are the responsibility of the Province will still have an overnight parking ban. Mr. McCusker stated it will be difficult to communicate the distinction to the residents.

In response to a question of Councillor Cooper, Mr. Barry Allen, Municipal Solicitor, stated no matter what motion is passed by Council, it will still be up to the Traffic Authority to decide what type of ban will be put in place.

Mr. Dhillon stated staff would like to consider Council's direction, but noted the Traffic Authority still has to operate within the guidelines of the Motor Vehicle Act and be consistent with the Province when it can, ensuring safety. He noted it appears that Council's major concern is with enforcement, and stated staff can take this into consideration along with the safety issue. Mr. Dhillon suggested the Traffic Authority could consider amending the ban so that it ends at 6:00 a.m., rather than 7:00 a.m., to address shift workers' concerns.

Councillor Blumenthal expressed concerns with regards to safety and suggested Council should defer making a decision on this for two weeks, so additional information regarding options can be provided.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Schofield that this matter be deferred for two weeks to allow staff the opportunity to recommend some leniencies in the ban.

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer, noted it is clear that Council is leaning towards removing the overnight parking ban in its present form. He reiterated Mr. Dhillon's comments that the issue appears to be more one of enforcement, and suggested it may be necessary to find a compromise related to enforcement. Mr. Meech noted currently there are inconsistencies between communities within HRM with respect to this issue, and another method to address the matter will need to be determined.

Councillor Kelly inquired if two staff members have been hired to enforce the overnight parking ban outside the urban areas. Mr. Dhillon replied that he was not aware of this. Councillor Kelly inquired if the Province has been enforcing the ban consistently throughout the Province. Mr. Dhillon replied that he did not have that information at this time. If the matter is deferred, Councillor Kelly stated he would like this information included in the staff report. The Councillor also requested that the report include information regarding the degree of enforcement of the ban by the RCMP in HRM and around the Province.

Councillor Hetherington expressed disappointment that a staff report was not provided for this meeting. The Councillor spoke in support of changing the ending time of the overnight ban to 6:00 a.m. Councillor Hetherington expressed concern with enforcement, in particular, too many tickets being issued when there was no snow.

Councillor Downey inquired how many of the issued tickets were actually paid. The Councillor requested that this information be included in the staff report, as well as a comparison of how many tickets were issued on street cleaning nights throughout the year when the overnight parking ban was not in effect.

Mr. McCusker noted there has been some misinformation with respect to the number of tickets issued during snowstorms. He clarified that of the 16,000 parking ban tickets issued, 40 were issued under the Motor Vehicle Act when it was snowing during the daytime hours. Mr. McCusker indicated a large percentage of the remaining tickets were probably written during nighttime snow falls.

Speaking against the deferral, Councillor Adams stated he did not believe Council needs any more information to make a recommendation to the Traffic Authority.

Councillor Sarto spoke in support of the deferral to allow staff the opportunity to address the issues raised by Council. The Councillor requested that staff examine the possibility of waiting to enact the ban until early in the new year.

Closing the debate, Councillor Walker stated it is his belief there are no streets in HRM that are covered by the provincial ban, and other areas in the Province do not enforce it. With respect to snow and ice control vehicles, the Councillor stated he cannot recall any time over the last ten years when these vehicles were taken off the road between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. due to poor weather conditions, and requested that this information be clarified in the staff report. With regards to tow trucks, Councillor Walker stated there are 28 companies, totalling 76 vehicles, that are willing and able to provide assistance to remove vehicles parked on the streets during storms. In closing, Councillor Walker urged Council to defeat the motion to defer and to make a recommendation to the Traffic Authority this evening.

The vote was then taken on the **motion to defer**.

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

The vote was then taken on the amendment which read as follows:

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Adams that the motion be amended to state that Council recommend to the Traffic Authority that the overnight parking ban be in effect only during storms.

Councillor Kelly requested a **Recorded Vote**.

The following members of Council voted **in favour** of the amendment: Deputy Mayor Cunningham, Councillors: Streach, Snow, Colwell, Cooper, Schofield, Blumenthal, Fougere, Walker, Read, Adams, Merrigan, Harvey, Kelly, Rankin

The following members of Council voted **against** the amendment: Councillors: McInroy, Greenough, Sarto, Hetherington, Downey, Stone.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (15 in favour, 6 against) (Mayor Fitzgerald and Councillor Mitchell were absent.)

The vote was then taken on the Main Motion, as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

As the representatives of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities/Access-A-Bus Advisory Committee were now in attendance, it was agreed to deal with Item 10.2 next on the agenda.

10.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES/ACCESS-A-BUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10.2.1 Accessible Transportation Issues as per Terms of Reference

- A report from the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities and the Access-A-Bus Advisory Committee, was before Council for its consideration.

Mr. Darrell Robar, Chairperson, Advisory Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, presented the report to Council.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Fougere that:

- 1. The Access-A-Bus Advisory Committee be mandated by Council to include in their Terms of Reference to advise, assist and provide recommendations to the Halifax Regional Municipality on the quality of service of all accessible transportation, e.g.: Metro Transit's Access-A-Bus service, Conventional Transit Bus and Ferry service, Accessible Taxi's, etc., provided within the Municipality.**
- 2. Council reappoint an elective official to the Access-A-Bus Advisory Committee.**

Councillor Blumenthal volunteered to serve on this Committee if no other members of Council express interest. Deputy Mayor Cunningham thanked the Councillor for his offer.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2.2 Access to Communications in Braille

- A report from the Advisory Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, was before Council for its consideration.

Ms. Barbara Legay presented the report to Council. The report recommended the following:

1. HRM should periodically survey its residents to determine their communication needs.

2. Availability of materials in alternate media should be publicized on a regular basis.
3. HRM should develop an in-house capacity to produce documents in braille through the purchase of a braille printer and the necessary translation software to enable it to produce braille via its own computers.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Greenough that Council adopt the above recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the Status of Persons with Disabilities.

Speaking in support of the motion, Councillor Blumenthal stated everyone deserves the right to have access to information. The Councillor suggested HRM could defer some of the costs of the braille printer by completing printing jobs for other organizations.

Councillor Walker stated he fully supports the recommendation, but suggested the matter needs to be referred to staff for a report before being approved by Council.

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Walker that the matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - None

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

8.1 Parking Meter Advertisements

- A supplementary staff report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for its consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Adams that Council authorize staff to proceed with a one year pilot project with Meter-Ad for parking meter advertisements on the terms and conditions outlined in the staff report dated October 26, 1999.

Speaking against the motion, Councillor Downey stated he could not support the staff recommendation as the Spring Garden Area Business Association is opposed to it.

Councillors Walker and Sarto spoke in support of the one year pilot project, stating it will create revenue.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS**

9.1 **Petitions**

9.1.1 **Councillor Read**

Councillor Read submitted correspondence from the Northwest Arm Heritage Association requesting information regarding the status of a right-of-way that some members believe closely borders the westerly shore of the North West Arm.

9.1.2 **Councillor Read**

Councillor Read submitted correspondence from a resident of Armshore Drive requesting the removal of "no parking" signs on Armshore Drive.

9.1.3 **Councillor Fougere - Traffic Lights at Connaught and Jubilee**

Councillor Fougere submitted an additional 200 names to the on-going petition opposing the traffic lights at Connaught Avenue and Jubilee Road, bringing the total to 2,500 signatures.

10. **REPORTS**

10.1 **MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

10.1.1 **Councillor Merrigan - Winter Maintenance for Upper Sackville and Middle and North Beaver Bank**

Councillor Merrigan requested a staff report with respect to winter maintenance of roads in the Upper Sackville and Middle and North Beaver Bank area. The Councillor requested that the report provide information on how HRM can look at taking over the maintenance of a 3.5 mile portion of the Beaver Bank Road and a similar section of road in Upper Sackville.

MOVED by Councillors Merrigan and Harvey that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.2 **Councillor McInroy - West Left Turning Enhancement to Traffic Signals at Caldwell Road and Cole Harbour (Portland Street)**

Councillor McInroy requested a staff report to consider interim amendments, until the general enhancements expected to place in the next year occur, to the traffic signals at

Caldwell Road and Cole Harbour. The Councillor suggested extending the length of the green light for left turning vehicles, to reduce the backup on Caldwell Road.

MOVED by Councillors McInroy and Hetherington that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.3 Councillor Walker - Naming of Street

Councillor Walker requested a staff report with respect to a recommendation to the former City of Halifax Council in 1949 to rename a street in memory of Douglas Bertram MacDonald, who died while serving his country in WWII. The Councillor stated a street in the Westmount Subdivision was supposed to be named after Cpl. MacDonald, but this never occurred. Councillor Walker recommended that one of the new streets in the Bayers Lake complex or Clayton Park West could be named after Cpl. MacDonald, and requested that staff prepare a report regarding this issue.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Blumenthal that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES/ACCESS-A-BUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10.2.1 Accessible Transportation Issues as per Terms of Reference

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

10.2.2 Access to Communications in Braille

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

10.3 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

10.3.1 Case 00159 - Development Agreement to Permit a Temporary Parking Lot at 1731 - 41 Barrington Street

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Hetherington that Council give First Reading to the development agreement, attached to the staff report dated November 16, 1999 as Appendix "A", to permit a temporary parking lot at 1731-41 Barrington Street - 1728-30 Granville Street, and schedule the Public Hearing for December 14, 1999. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.3.2 Municipal Planning Strategy Amendment: Case 00137 - Loon Lake Developments Ltd.

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Hetherington that Council initiate a process to amend the boundary line between the Plan Areas of Cole Harbour/Westphal and North Preston, Lake Major, Lake Loon/Cherry Brook and East Preston such that the lands of Lake Loon Developments Limited are located entirely within the Cole Harbour/Westphal plan area, as per the public participation process described in the staff report dated November 18, 1999. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.3.3 Appeal - Sign Permit, 75 Akerley Boulevard

This item was deleted during the Approval of the Order of Business.

10.3.4 Paving - Ridgewood Drive, Boutiliers Point

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Greenough that Council:

1. **Increase the cost-sharing on the above project with NSDOT&PW from \$15,000 to \$34,695 plus H.S.T., and,**
2. **Approve the recovery of the Local Improvement Charges in the amount of \$34,695 plus H.S.T. by area rate applied to the St. Margaret's Bay, Boutiliers Point to Tantallon area of District 23. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11. MOTIONS - None

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 Councillor Hetherington - Request to move Information Item #2 (Metro Transit - Sunday Ferry Service) to Regular Council agenda

- An Information Report prepared for Brian T. Smith, Director of Business Operations, regarding the above, was before Council.

Councillor Hetherington spoke in support of providing Sunday ferry service during the winter months, noting it would cost \$17,000 to provide this service for six hours per day. The Councillors suggested the hours of 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. to provide this service. Councillor Hetherington suggested staff could approach businesses on the waterfront to see if they would be willing to share in the cost to provide this service, as it would bring extra business to these establishments on Sundays.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Read that Sunday ferry service be provided during the winter months.

Councillor Blumenthal spoke in support of extending this service, but suggested funding partners should be sought first.

Councillor Stone stated this project is worth looking at, but expressed concern with approving it from an Information Report. The Councillor suggested the matter should be deferred to budget deliberations.

Mr. Brian Taylor, Manager, Metro Transit, stated staff would like to have the opportunity to examine demand for this service, and to verify what facilities are open on Sundays and if there is interest in cost-sharing.

Councillor Hetherington agreed the matter should be referred to staff for a report to examine funding opportunities, but stated he would like to have the service started as soon as possible.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Read that the matter be referred to staff for a report in two weeks. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12.2 Councillor Walker - U-Haul Storage Fire - Mitchell Street

Councillor Walker congratulated Fire Services for the work they did maintaining the recent fire on Mitchell Street. The Councillor requested a staff report with respect to this fire to respond to the following questions:

- What time, and in what order, were the fire stations called, and how long did it take for each station to arrive?
- What stations were put on stand by and did any roll to any other stations and at what times?
- Were any off duty firefighters called in to fight this fire?
- If more firefighters were at the scene earlier, could the building have been saved?

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone that this matter be referred to staff for a report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12.3 Councillor Stone - Quality of Life Program

Councillor Stone reported on an infrastructure program being proposed to the Federal Government by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). This program, entitled the Quality of Life Program, would include specific priorities for the different municipalities. The Councillor stated FCM has been lobbying the government over the last few months, and suggested HRM should communicate the importance of this program to the Federal government. Councillor Stone requested that the Mayor write a letter of support, on behalf of Council, in this regard.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Walker that a letter of support be sent to the Federal Government from the Mayor regarding the Quality of Life Program proposed by FCM, and that this letter be sent to the Federal MPs and Senators who represent HRM, the Prime Minister of Canada, and the Federal Minister of Finance. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12.4 Land Matter - RFP Starr Manufacturing Proposal

- This matter was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the Regular Session and was now before Council for ratification.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Hetherington that:

Council authorize staff to give Sobeys Inc. written notice cancelling further discussion concerning development of the Starr Manufacturing property based on their failure to meet the Stage Two requirements of the Starr/Greenville Proposal Call process (#99-032).

AND, THAT Council authorize staff to approach Loblaws Canada Limited (Atlantic Superstores) regarding their possible interest in purchasing a portion of the former Starr Manufacturing property along with all, or a portion of, the Pine Street extension with the intention that these properties be consolidated with the adjacent Loblaws properties for construction of a new commercial development.

AND, THAT Council direct staff to meet with the Shubenacadie Canal Commission with respect to their correspondence to Mayor Walter Fitzgerald, dated November 15, 1999. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12.5 Councillor Kelly - Request to move Information Item #4 (Bedford Highway Restoration - Kearney Lake Road to Hemlock Estates) to Regular Council agenda

- An Information Report prepared for Kulvinder Dhillon, Director, Engineering and Transportation Services, regarding the above, was before Council.

Councillor Kelly requested a further staff report regarding this matter to clarify the following:

- If there is a dispute with regards to the standard of reinstatement, what direction will this outcome be decided?
- How will the damage to the guardrail and shoulder will be handled.

Councillor Stone inquired that the report include information as to when the complete resurfacing of the inside portion of the highway will be completed.

Council agreed to the request for a staff report.

12.6 Councillor Schofield - FCM Resolutions

Councillor Schofield referred to a letter from Mayor Mel Lastman, Toronto, regarding housing and homelessness reporting and resolutions. Copies of this letter and resolutions were previously circulated to members of Council. The resolutions making recommendations to the Big City Mayors Caucus read as follows:

- 1) That the FCM Big City Mayors Caucus re-issue its urgent request for federal action on homelessness.
- 2) That the FCM Big City Mayors Caucus call on the Federal Government to respond to the housing and homelessness recommendations in our Quality of Life Infrastructure Budget proposal in the next federal budget.
- 3) That the FCM Big City Mayors and Mayors from other municipalities convene in Ottawa on a date to be determined in January 2000 to lobby the federal government for action on homelessness.

MOVED by Councillors Schofield and Rankin that a fax be sent to FCM expressing assurance that HRM agrees with their approach in this matter.

Councillor Hetherington suggested that since there are cost ramifications, this matter had been previously received and filed by Council. The Councillor inquired if it is appropriate for this matter be back before Council at this time. Deputy Mayor Cunningham advised that a matter that has been received and filed can be brought back at any time.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Snow that the matter be referred to staff for a report on what this would involve in terms of financial impact.

Councillor Stone noted that the issue of housing is a municipal responsibility in many areas of Canada, however, the Councillor reminded Council that housing in Nova Scotia is a responsibility of the Province.

Councillor Schofield stated he is not asking that HRM get involved in the program, but that HRM support the Federal government in coming forward with this program.

Councillor Rankin spoke in support of Councillor Schofield's comments.

The vote was taken on the motion to refer the matter to staff.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION - None

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Blumenthal that the meeting adjourn at 8:15 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk