

SPECIAL SESSION - TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1990

TRAVEL AND CONFERENCE ALLOWANCES

ON MOTION of Councillor Draper and Councillor Kelly it was moved that estimates provided for Travel and Conference Allowances throughout the Operating Budget be reduced by \$4,000. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

SPECIAL RESERVE FUND - EQUIPMENT SECTION

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Walker it was moved that Account #28222 - Special Reserve Fund - Equipment Section - be reduced by the \$30,000 indicated for the Fire Department's section. **MOTION DEFEATED.** Councillor Cosgrove, Councillor Draper, Councillor Goucher and Councillor Kelly voted against the Motion.

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD FUNDING

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Kelly it was moved that \$18,800 included in the estimates as Additional Supplementary Funding to the Halifax County-Bedford District School Board be eliminated.

During discussion of this Motion it was suggested by some members of Council that this Motion might be premature.

The Motion was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED.** Councillor Walker, Councillor Draper, Councillor Goucher and Councillor Cosgrove voted against the Motion.

CAPITAL FROM REVENUE EXPENDITURES

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Kelly it was moved that the estimates for Capital from Revenue purchases be reduced from \$304,400 to \$274,400 (reduction of \$30,000).

During discussion of the Motion it was noted that certain items might be purchased later in the year when Town Council has a better understanding with respect to overall Expenditures/Revenues for 1990.

The Motion was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED.** Councillor Cosgrove, Councillor Walker, Councillor Draper and Councillor Goucher voted against the Motion.

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CON'T

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly it was moved that the estimates for Capital from Revenue purchases be reduced by \$20,000.

There being no seconder to the Motion in response to three calls from Mayor Christie the Motion was declared **INVALID**.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Deputy Mayor Huntington it was moved that the estimates for Capital from Revenue for 1989 be reduced by \$19,000. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

LAKE DRIVE PARK - SECURITY

By memorandum Robert Nauss, Director of Recreation, provided cost estimates to Town Council for the implementation of a private Security Guard Service at Lake Drive Park during the summer months.

During discussion of this subject it was noted by Mr. English that, to date, provision for funding for such a Security Service is not included in the Operating Estimates for 1990.

ON MOTION of Councillor Goucher and Councillor Draper it was moved that the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to arrange for the hiring of a Security Guard for 10 weeks, namely June 24 to August 30, 1990, at the Lake Drive, at a cost of approximately \$6,300.

During discussion of the Motion some concern was expressed by Council relative to the Town possibly paying for security on private property. In response other members of Council suggested that this additional security is needed during the summer months due to the heavy use of the park and beach area by the general public. Some discussion also took place with respect to other measures which have been recommended and are intended to be implemented.

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Kelly it was moved that further consideration of this matter be deferred pending an opportunity for the Chief of Police to study and make recommendations relative to the proposal.

SPECIAL SESSION - TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1990

CON'T

1990 OPERATING ESTIMATES

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Councillor Walker it was moved that the Chief Administrative Officer be instructed to reduce the 1990 Operating Estimates by a further \$100,000.

During discussion of the Motion it was suggested by some members of Council that residents are expecting a reasonable rate increase but not one in the vicinity of 8 percent.

The Motion was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED**. Deputy Mayor Huntington, Councillor Cosgrove, Councillor Draper, and Councillor Goucher voted against the Motion.

800,000
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ON MOTION of Councillor Walker and Councillor Goucher it was moved that the Chief Administrative Officer be requested to table an Operating Budget for 1990 which will reflect Tax Rate increases of 6.5 percent Residential and 7 percent Commercial to the average tax account.

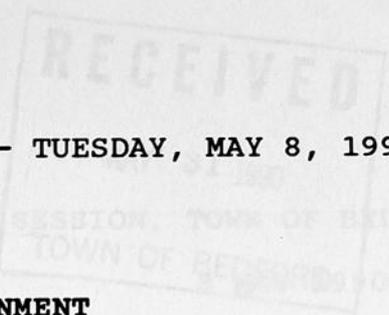
During discussion of the Motion some concern was expressed that these projected tax rates will still be too high.

The Motion was put to the meeting and was **APPROVED**. Councillor Draper and Councillor Kelly voted against the Motion.

TABLING OF FINAL 1990 OPERATING ESTIMATES

In response to an enquiry from Council, the Chief Administrative Officer advised it is his hope that he will be able to table the revised Operating Estimates, as directed, within the next two weeks following further discussions with Department Heads as to the required further reductions.

SPECIAL SESSION - TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1990



CON'T

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Kelly it was moved that the meeting adjourn at approximately 11 p.m.

[Handwritten signature of Mayor Christie]
MAYOR

[Handwritten signature of Chief Administrative Officer]
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Councillor Fralick
Deputy Warden Baker
Councillor Bell
Councillor Deveau
Councillor Goss
Councillor MacNeil
Councillor Murray
Councillor O'Neil
Councillor Poirier
Councillor St. Pierre
Councillor Thibault
Councillor Tremblay
Councillor Warden

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. K. R. Meach, Chief Administrative Officer
Mayor Christie
Bedford Councillors: Councillor Read, Councillor Draper, Councillor Goss, Councillor MacNeil, Councillor Murray, Councillor O'Neil, Councillor Poirier, Councillor St. Pierre, Councillor Tremblay, Councillor Warden

SECRETARY: Mrs. Twila Simms

Warden Lighter called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. He stated that there were two things that could be agreed upon to resolve the direction the meeting was to take: (1) that the School Board request for supplementary funding be treated separately from the request for extra funding. Councillors agreed. (2) That 80% of Councillors present must be in favour for motion to pass as is required in the agreement for additional funding over the mandatory. Councillors agreed.

Mayor Christie stated that he and the Bedford Councillors were please to be at the meeting and hoped that they could achieve their goals. He stated that both councils have had an opportunity to meet with the school board and hope that both councils could bring this to an early resolve.

It was moved by Councillor Read, seconded by Councillor Draper:
"THAT Halifax County and Bedford Councils support the

RECEIVED
MAY 31 1990
TOWN OF BEDFORD
8 MAY 1990

JOINT COUNCIL SESSION, TOWN OF BEDFORD AND HALIFAX COUNTY

THOSE PRESENT:

- Warden Lichter
- Councillor Meade
- Councillor Poirier
- Councillor Fralick
- Deputy Warden Baker
- Councillor Ball
- Councillor Deveaux
- Councillor Bates
- Councillor Adams
- Councillor Randall
- Councillor Bayers
- Councillor Smiley
- Councillor Reid
- Councillor Merrigan
- Councillor Morgan
- Councillor Eisenhauer
- Councillor MacDonald
- Councillor Boutilier
- Councillor Harvey
- Councillor Sutherland
- Councillor Richards
- Councillor McInroy

ALSO PRESENT:

- Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
- Mayor Christie
- Bedford Councillors:
 - Councillor Draper
 - Councillor Goucher
 - Councillor Walker
 - Councillor Cosgrove

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Twila Simms

.....
Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 3:15 p. m. He stated that there were two things that could be agreed upon to resolve the direction the meeting was to take: (1) that the School Board request for supplementary funding be treated separately from the request for extra funding. Councillors agreed. (2) That 80% of Councillors present must be in favour for motions to pass as is required in the agreement for additional funding over the mandatory. Councillors agreed.

Mayor Christie stated that he and the Bedford Councillors were please to be at the meeting and hoped that they could achieve their goals. He stated that both councils have had an opportunity to meet with the school board and hoped that councils could bring this to an early resolve.

It was moved by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Draper:

"THAT Halifax County and Bedford Councils support the

JOIN full supplementary in the amount of \$1,229,213."

Councillor Boutilier and Councillor Harvey declared conflict of interests.

MOTION CARRIED 23 FOR
2 AGAINST

Warden Lichter congratulated the two councils for agreeing so quickly to the supplementary funding, something that has never happened before.

It was moved by Councillor Draper, seconded by Councillor Goucher:

"THAT the combined councils support the request of the School Board for a further \$1 Million to be cost shared 75% provincial funds and 25% between the two municipalities according to our agreement."

Councillor Draper stated that this would mean \$250,000 between the two municipalities.

Councillor Ball asked, in the package announced by the minister, how much money, if any, will come to our local school board. Councillor Goucher stated that it would be \$372,000.

Councillor Deveaux asked Dr. Morrison to answer the question. Dr. Morrison stated that \$372,000 represents what we would receive in capital funds for 1990 for the first three months. He stated that the restriction in terms of capital is directly to the Board to justify upwards of \$372,000 in capital expenditures.

Councillor Ball stated that if that is the case then the media misquoted the minister. He stated that the media article states that this could be used for anything including teachers salaries and that it was up to the School Board. Councillor Ball stated that the municipality is looking at tax rates and the province has put us in this bind. Councillor Ball stated that if this was towards programs rather than capital, then we may be able to do so, but he stated that he could not support the motion on the floor.

Dr. Morrison stated that he was speaking to the Minister only a few hours ago and he had stated that the extra money would be for capital funding.

Warden Lichter stated that the motion did not specify what happens if the province does not share 75%. He stated that it should be clear that this \$250,000 from the two municipalities is subject to the \$750,000 from the province. He stated that if the province decides not to pay the \$750,000, then councils would not be obliged

to pay the \$250,000 and stated that they would have to convey this to the public.

Councillor Draper clarified the motion, with the support of Councillor Goucher:

"THAT the joint councils agree to the \$1 Million extra funding request from the School Board provided the province provides 75%."

Councillor Bates stated that he was against the motion. He stated that it is dangerous to set a precedent. He stated that the province made the decision on education and they are the ones primarily in control. He stated that this flies in the face of the motions already passed to support the UNSM where we are now paying special welfare beyond the level reasonable for property tax owners. He stated that now we would be doing the same with education. He stated that the municipalities should not assume the province's responsibility. He stated that he did not support the method of raising funds through property tax owners rather than income tax.

Councillor Deveaux stated that he agrees with Councillor Bates. He stated that there comes a time when one has to bite the bullet. He stated that the cost sharing has been increasing for the municipalities. He stated that he could not understand why the province cut back on education this year. He stated that education should have been one of the last things to be cut back, but he could not support any more than was asked for in supplementary although he would like to. He stated that education is very important, but to pass this motion would carry on a trend that will hurt us next year. He stated that if the province gave education a fair share, then we would not be in this situation to begin with.

Councillor Merrigan stated that he would support the motion. He stated that is not right to put children in a position where their education will be cut back and the county has to do something. He stated that from the input at public meetings, a lot of people are upset. He stated that we should put the province on the spot. He stated that for the sake of a 1% increase in taxes, one would not find too many people who would complain knowing that it was going to education. He added that if the province does not put in 75% then we would not have to pay.

Councillor Reid stated that at this point, the rationale in requesting \$1 Million is as follows. At budget decisions last year, the councils cut back the school board supplementary by \$450,000. As a result the contribution from the province is \$2 Million less. He stated that this year the school board is forced to make \$5.7 Million in cuts from a \$130 Million budget. He stated

that the school board is asking that half of what we cut last year be reintroduced. He stated that if a situation arises this year we will not be in the position to pay for it. He stated that programs introduced in 1968 will be cut. He stated that we must contribute to make sure that programs are not removed this year.

Councillor Walker stated that we would be fooling ourselves to think that property tax owners are not prepared to support this. He stated that funds are less from the federal government to the provincial and from provincial to municipal. He stated that parents are committed to maintain the programs that are presently in place. He stated that it would be a travesty to remove adequate facilities needed by the children. He stated that although it would mean less than 1% to Bedford, he would be supporting the motion because the citizens are behind this.

Warden Lichter stated that he felt somewhat put out when the Bedford is urging the County to be as generous when Bedford's portion is only \$18,000. He stated that maybe it was time that next year the contract be renegotiated and all supplementary and any excess funding be based on the ability to pay, that is assessment. He stated that this would mean a 4/10 of a percent increase to Bedford property owners. He stated that if the arrangement was not on a per student cost but on assessment, Bedford would find that their cost would be double and then one could see if the enthusiasm was the same.

Councillor Walker stated that Bedford has been affected significantly by assessment based sharing with this municipality relative to Metropolitan Authority. He stated that the agreement was negotiable and it has been tried in the past without success. He stated that the people are willing to support this resolution whatever way we pay for it.

Councillor MacDonald stated that he did not want to increase taxes, but over the last 3-4 weeks the message has been loud and clear, that the residents want him to support this increase. He stated that he would agree to support this for one year and hope they will not need it next year.

Councillor Morgan stated that he would not support the motion. He stated that the concern is the statement that people are willing to accept tax increases. He stated that it is not just 1%. He stated that each department indicated that they had to cut out percentages across the board to achieve a 5% tax increase, including school board, library, etc. He stated that this budget will be over 10% if this motion passes. He stated that the same people that want the funding for education are the same people who do not want taxes to be increased. He stated that this would mean everyone else cutting their budget and the School Board receiving

a 10-12% increase. He stated that it was not fair that all other departments - recreation, libraries, etc. - face cuts and not the school board.

Councillor Ball reminded members that a lot of people do not want 10-15% tax increases this year. He stated that with the full supplementary we are in a corner and if this is passed we will be in another corner. He stated that he could not support the motion on the floor. He stated that some councillors have been talking about a 5% tax budget and with this motion we have already approved an 8% budget plus whatever departmental increases that may be required, we could be looking at a 15-20% increase. He stated that it sounds good to support them, and he believes in education, but there are other avenues to deal with the cuts. He stated that we should not bail out the province for their mistakes.

Councillor Cosgrove stated that education of our children is not taking a backwards step.

Councillor Bates stated that Councillors fought hard to try to get supplementary 25 cent dollars approved and he supported it 100%. He stated that the province is responsible for education. He stated that what we are doing is saying that we do not go along with the province and will pick up the remaining shortfall and charge it to the property tax owners. He stated that this should be done through income tax, which is a fairer way of doing it. He stated that he did not agree with the cuts to education, but the municipality should not pick this up.

Councillor Eisenhower stated that he would support the dollars, but did not feel comfortable with the situation. He stated that the Board should go through the budget. He stated that the school board mandate is to provide education to the children not an administrative support for the teachers.

Councillor Draper stated that the school board can take a harder look at where the money can be allocated. She stated that this would be appropriate in the form of a recommendation. She stated that although Bedford's portion is smaller, this still means a 19% increase. She stated that education is the best investment. She stated that the message has been clear, the parents want this no matter what the cost. She stated that other municipalities with declining enrolments have approved increased funding and we are expected to have an additional 200 students next year. She stated that the money will be well spent.

Councillor Reid stated that three weeks ago when the original cuts were made, at least 200 letters distributed to the school board members. He stated that this would be putting pressure on the provincial government stating that we are willing to support

education as high as we can go with the best interest of the taxpayers and students in mind and now it is their turn.

Warden Lichter stated that from reading the Doane Raymond report it will be an indication that we support the idea of full supplementary as the responsibility of the municipality whether we can afford it or not. He stated that we would most likely be here next year and asked to fork our more money because of what the province may do. He stated that one cannot live on borrowed money forever.

Councillor Reid stated that from that report it appears that Halifax County/Bedford would receive a fair amount more than at present. He stated that he has not had an opportunity to compare the affect on the tax rates.

Councillor Richards stated that he was concerned with the motion. He stated that he was concerned with the message that we would be sending out. He stated that he understood that the motion was conditional, but if the province refuses, the school board will be back asking that the joint councils still provide the funding, similar to the library case yesterday. He stated that we cannot jeopardize the students future, but neither can we continue to bail out the province for its mismanagement.

Dr. Morrison stated that the Minister said that he is aware of our situation and understands and will keep this in mind.

Councillor Bates stated that the province has made their bed, now they have to lie in it.

MOTION DEFEATED 17 FOR
8 AGAINST (NOT 80% APPROVAL)

Adjournment

It was moved by Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor Deveaux:

"THAT this meeting adjourn."

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p. m.

JOINT COUNCIL SESSION

15 MAY 1990

THOSE PRESENT: Warden Lichter
Councillor Meade
Councillor Poirier
Councillor Fralick
Deputy Warden Baker
Councillor Ball
Councillor Bates
Councillor Adams
Councillor Bayers
Councillor Smiley
Councillor Reid
Councillor Horne
Councillor Morgan
Councillor Eisenhauer
Councillor MacDonald
Councillor Boutilier
Councillor Harvey
Councillor Sutherland
Councillor Richards
Councillor McInroy

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. K. R. Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mayor Christie, Town of Bedford
Councillor Draper
Councillor Kelly
Councillor Goucher
Councillor Huntington
Councillor Walker
Dr. Morrison, School Board
Ms. B. Rix, School Board
Mr. K. Wilson, Director Finance

SECRETARY: Mrs. Twila Simms

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Warden Lichter called the meeting to order at 3:00 p. m.

Warden Lichter stated that yesterday at 3:30 p.m. Council considered a request by Bedford to have another joint meeting and the motion was defeated 9/9. He stated that he received a request from 9 councillors that read:

"We respectfully request a Special Joint Meeting of Halifax County and Bedford Councils be arranged immediately to consider provision of supplementary funding in the amount of \$500,000, one hundred twenty-five thousand (\$125,000) from the participating Municipal Units, and the remainder to be granted by the Province prior to Halifax County setting its tax rate."

Warden Lichter read the letter received from the Honourable Ronald Giffin, Minister of Education:

prepared to negotiate with Halifax County in good faith a fair and equitable way of providing funds for education above the mandatory he would support the motion. He also stated that he regrets that Bedford Council got hung up on semantics. He stated that he hoped that the motion would be approved.

Councillor Draper stated that one point she would like to make is that it was still her understanding that the request from the school board is for \$1 Million. She stated that the \$500,000 would allow programs to stay in place as much as possible.

Mayor Christie stated that the motion clearly is for \$500,000. Dr. Morrison stated that the school board request has not changed because there has not been a meeting of the board to consider any other motion. Dr. Morrison stated that a letter will be coming from the minister indicating that there will be changes to the existing formula to driver ed and summer school to globalize these figures. He stated that one could not have a \$5.7 Million reduction and put everything back in. He stated that there would be considerable changes, but the board's emphasis has always been on the teacher part of it and will be recommending to the Board that 22 teachers be reinstated, although this is still 12 less than last year.

Councillor Boutilier declared a conflict of interest.

Councillor Harvey stated that he is a teacher normally employed by the Board and stated that the motion could not make him personally richer or poorer and stated that he intended to exercise his right to vote on this motion.

Councillor MacDonald urged Council to support this motion. He stated that this would give members a calm summer without worrying about cuts or about schools being closed. He stated that this is an important part of the school system and the request was not too heavy on our budget.

Councillor Kelly asked Dr. Morrison about a newspaper article that indicated that principals and guidance councillors would be put into teaching positions. Dr. Morrison stated that this would not be a recommendation to the board. He stated that these cases would neither increase nor decrease.

Councillor Gaucher thanked County Council for giving them the opportunity and as a parent and councillor he was pleased with Warden Lichter's comments. He stated that taxpayers in Bedford and the County demand high standards and Councils are ultimately responsible to them. He stated that he was pleased to support this motion.

Councillor Richards stated that Bedford has approved their budget and \$18,000 has been included. He stated that he had some difficulty in the position Bedford was placing County Council in. He stated that he will be supporting the motion, but stated that he was disappointed that Bedford Council is not coming forward with a fair and equitable amount of money. He stated that their budget is already set with the \$18,000 in funding allocated. He stated that it would show a major step forward if they would contribute the full \$18,000 which would have been their share for \$250,000 in excess funding.

Mayor Christie stated that this could be considered. He stated that on the student population basis, Bedford pays \$1134 per student, while the County pays only \$523 per student.

Councillor Richards stated that he was hoping that in the future Councils will be sitting down to renegotiate the formula. He asked that Bedford commit the \$18,000 that is already in their budget as part of the total \$125,000 that the Joint Councils will be contributing to show that this is a serious attempt to fix the inequality in funding and as a sign of positive things to come.

Mayor Christie stated that he did not have the authority to do that, and it would require a Special Council Session to do that. He stated that the motion is to approve \$125,000 based on the existing formula.

Warden Lichter stated that in their discussions it was indicated that he would like to have the excess cost, this time only, to be paid on assessment and then renegotiate the rest. He stated that Mayor Christie had indicated that they had budgeted \$18,000 and were prepared to pay \$18,000. He stated that it was true that Bedford pays twice as much per student, but he had also calculated the impact to the taxpayer that clearly indicates that if we were looking at \$250,000 the impact would be .7 cents per \$100 of assessment for Halifax County and .3 cents per \$100 of assessment for Bedford. He stated that this is the difficulty that some councillors are having.

Councillor Bates stated that the funding we are dealing with is the supplementary funding from 1989 that we did not use. He stated that he had not been comfortable with a new level of funding. He stated that he could support the request and that it was encouraging to read in the papers that supplementary funding may be cut out altogether.

Councillor Morgan stated that since Bedford incorporated our taxes are some 38-40 cents higher, although it is virtually an extension of one community to the other. He stated that an assessment based formula may work out to be in Bedford's favour.

Mayor Christie stated that they were willing to discuss the formula at a future time. He stated that it could be that it could work in their favour.

Councillor Draper stated that Bedford Council will consider forming a joint committee to look at the agreement in the future, but the funds that would be approved today are funds that would have been coming to the Board and our children based on supplementary funding from last year. She stated that they will discuss this joint agreement in the future and pay what is appropriate.

Councillor Huntington stated that in the newspaper the student-teacher ratio is 17-3 yet classes have 30-40 students. He stated that in a time of restraint, it is time to look at the ratio between management and teachers.

Councillor Walker asked if funding allocated to global for driver ed and summer school meant that these would not be available in September. Mayor Christie answered yes. Councillor Reid stated that it was not indicated that they would do away with driver ed, but the cost would increase from \$75 to \$125. He stated that the summer school would not be offered, but a supplementary exam in the fall would be available.

Councillor Walker asked if the School Board has approached the teachers union and asked if some would donate their time to summer school as a possibility. Dr. Morrison stated that this could be a recommendation of council to the NSTU.

Deputy Warden Baker asked if any of the funding would be used for janitorial services or repairs, etc. Dr. Morrison stated that the recommendation to the board would be that \$300,000 to teachers, \$300,000 maintenance and \$100,000 for capital projects.

Councillor McInroy stated that there are many groups willing to put their reputation on the line, ie. boy scouts and girl guides, in order to have a key to use the schools in the evenings.

MOTION CARRIED 21 FOR
2 AGAINST.

Councillor Reid stated that as a member of the School Board he would like to thank the combined councils and the province for the commitments within the last couple of days.

It was moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor McInroy:

"THAT the School Board ask the NSTU that they work cooperatively in restructuring a summer school program

TOWN OF BEDFORD
REGULAR SESSION

JOINT COUNCIL SESSION TUESDAY, 6 MAY 15, 1990

15 MAY 1990

for those students require same."

MOTION CARRIED

It was moved by Councillor MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Bayers:

"THAT the School Board give consideration for the evening use of schools as much as possible."

MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Draper stated that Bedford has a Council Session tonight and it was her intention to bring forward a motion that Bedford contribute the amount allocated in their budget for the School Board.

It was moved by Councillor Reid, seconded by Deputy Warden Baker:

"THAT we agree to sit down in the immediate future and reopen and discuss the District Agreement as it concerns supplementary funds in a committee of the two councils with two representatives from Bedford and four representatives from Halifax County and the appropriate staff."

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment

It was moved by Deputy Warden Baker, seconded by Councillor Reid:

"THAT this meeting adjourn."

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p. m.

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Cosgrove it was moved that the minutes of Meeting #22 - Special Session - April 7, 1990, Meeting #23 - Regular Session - April 17 & April 24, 1990, Meeting #24 - Special Session - April 27 & April 28, 1990, Meeting #25 - Special Session - April 29, 1990 and Meeting #27 - Special Session - May 2, 1990, be approved. MOTION APPROVED unanimously.

Meeting #58

TOWN OF BEDFORD
REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1990

A Regular Session of the Town Council of the Town of Bedford took place on Tuesday, May 15, 1990, 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Suite 400, Bedford Tower, Bedford, Nova Scotia, Mayor Peter Christie presiding.

1. LORD'S PRAYER

Mayor Christie opened the Session by the leading of the Lord's Prayer.

2. ATTENDANCE

Deputy Mayor Don Huntington and Councillors Anne Cosgrove, Peggy Draper, Len Goucher, Peter Kelly and Grant Walker were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

Staff members attending this meeting included Dan R. English, Chief Administrative Officer; Rick Paynter, Director of Engineering and Works; and Joan Pryde, Deputy Clerk.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 MEETING #52 - SPECIAL SESSION - APRIL 7, 1990

3.2 MEETING #54 - REGULAR SESSION - APRIL 17, & APRIL 23, 1990

3.3 MEETING #55 - SPECIAL SESSION - APRIL 23 & APRIL 26, 1990

3.4 MEETING #56 - SPECIAL SESSION - APRIL 23, 1990

3.5 MEETING #57 - SPECIAL SESSION - MAY 8, 1990

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Cosgrove it was moved that the minutes of Meeting #52 - Special Session - April 7, 1990, Meeting #54 - Regular Session - April 17 & April 23, 1990, Meeting #55 - Special Session - April 23 & April 26, 1990, Meeting #56 - Special Session - April 23, 1990 and Meeting #57 - Special Session - May 8, 1990, be approved. MOTION APPROVED unanimously.

REGULAR SESSION - TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1990

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

On the request of Deputy Mayor Huntington it was agreed that Item #13.7 would be renumbered as Item #6.

On the request of Deputy Mayor Huntington it was agreed that a Motion respecting the School Board would be considered during discussion of Item #13.2, "School Board Report."

On the request of Councillor Cosgrove it was agreed that an Item, "Madison Drive Water Problems," would be placed on the Agenda as Item 11(a).

On the request of Councillor Kelly it was agreed that an Item, "Water Situation on Monarch Drive," would be placed on the Agenda as Item 11(b).

On the request of Councillor Kelly it was agreed that a matter concerning the school bus stop at the intersection of the Hammonds Plains Road and Lewis Drive would be considered during consideration of Item 13.2, "School Board Report."

On the request of Councillor Kelly it was agreed that an item, "Traffic Lights at Dartmouth Road and Ridgevale Drive," would be added to the Agenda as Item #12.7.

On the request of Councillor Walker it was agreed that an Item relative to a Notice of Motion respecting an Amendment to the Noise By-Law would be added to the Agenda as Item #16.1.

5. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Draper it was moved that the order of business, as amended, be approved. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

6. PROPOSAL FROM BEDFORD LEGION TO RELOCATE CENOTAPH

Copies of correspondence between the Town of Bedford and the Royal Canadian Legion - Bedford Branch #95 were circulated to members of Council in which a request was made by the Legion for the relocation of the Cenotaph from its present location to Fish Hatchery Park. Town Council was also asked to consider accepting the

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financial responsibility for the costs involved in this move.

Also circulated were copies of memoranda from the Heritage Advisory Committee, the Recreation Advisory Committee and the Director of Planning and Development Control, outlining various opinions respecting the possibility of such a move and the factors that should be taken into consideration.

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Cosgrove it was moved that Town Council approve the relocation of the Bedford Memorial Cenotaph from its present location on the Bedford Highway to a location in Fish Hatchery Park subject to the determination of a specific location through discussions between representatives of the Bedford Legion and the Recreation Advisory Committee, and the provision of a cost estimate to Town Council, within two weeks.

ON MOTION of Councillor Walker and Councillor Draper it was moved that further consideration of this Motion be deferred for two weeks pending an opportunity for Town Council to engage in further discussions with members of the Bedford Legion.

The Motion to defer was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED**. Deputy Mayor Huntington, Councillor Cosgrove, Councillor Goucher and Councillor Kelly voted against the Motion.

On the request of Deputy Mayor Huntington and with unanimous agreement of Council it was agreed that the Rules of Order should be suspended in order that a representative of the Bedford Legion might speak on this topic.

Mr. Raymond Rudolph of the Bedford Legion addressed Council outlining briefly the reasons why it is felt that it is imperative that the Cenotaph be moved at this time. In particular, he noted that the Cenotaph is currently in very bad condition and must be rebuilt whether it remains in its current location or is moved. He also expressed the opinion that much discussion has already taken place and that it is now time for action.

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The Motion was put to the meeting and **APPROVED** unanimously.

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION

6.1 **NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION SERVED BY COUNCILLOR PETER KELLY RESPECTING A MOTION APPROVED ON APRIL 17, 1990 RELATIVE TO THE LIBRARY LEASE AGREEMENT**

Mayor Christie advised Council that, at the Regular Session held on Tuesday, April 17, 1990, a Notice of Reconsideration was served by Councillor Kelly respecting the following Motion approved at that same meeting:

"Moved that the Mayor and the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to enter into a Lease Agreement with A.J. Hustins Enterprises Limited and the Town of Bedford for rental of space to accommodate the Bedford Branch Library based on cost details as noted in the schedule of Relocation Proposals dated March 22, 1990."

The Notice of Reconsideration was seconded by Councillor Walker.

The Motion was put to the meeting and was **APPROVED**. Deputy Mayor Huntington, Councillor Cosgrove and Councillor Draper voted against the Motion.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Councillor Draper it was moved that, due to current funding restraints initiated by the Provincial Government and other known increases in the Library Budget, further discussion of this item be deferred pending a referral to staff for further deliberations relative to space requirements, financial implications and other possible location alternatives.

In speaking to this Motion to defer, concern was expressed by some members of Council that this is another example of the current Council's history of indecision.

Councillor Goucher reviewed the history of the question of a location for the Library over a period of months and expressed the opinion that the proposed location at Wardour Place was the most viable option and should not

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be deferred.

The Motion to defer was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED**. Deputy Mayor Huntington, Councillor Goucher, Councillor Cosgrove and Councillor Walker voted against the Motion.

ON MOTION of Councillor Goucher and Councillor Cosgrove it was moved that the Motion be amended whereby the total square footage to be included in the lease for the Library premises would be reduced to 5,200 square feet.

During discussion of this amendment, strong concern was expressed by Deputy Mayor Huntington with respect to the fact that staff has requested cost figures relative to reduced space requirements from both Companies involved when, in his opinion, the original Motion relates only to Wardour Place.

Mayor Christie requested that Deputy Mayor Huntington assume the Chair in order that he might address Council.

In addressing Council, Mayor Christie noted that there have been many delays in this matter, which in his opinion, has been unfair to the two proponents. However, he further expressed concern relative to the proposed increase in lease costs that will be involved if either of the proposals are accepted. Mayor Christie concluded his remarks by reviewing the new costs based on the possibility of leasing 5,200 square feet.

Mayor Christie reassumed his position as Chairman of the meeting.

The Motion to amend was put to the meeting and was **APPROVED**.

Councillor Draper and Councillor Walker voted against the Motion. Councillor Kelly abstained from voting.

The amended Motion was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED**. Councillor Walker, Councillor Draper and Mayor Christie voted against the amended Motion. Councillor Kelly abstained from voting.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Councillor Walker it was moved that the matter of a future location for the

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Bedford Branch Library be deferred pending an opportunity for members of Council and Town Staff to have an opportunity to review the cost implications of the various alternatives and report back to Town Council at the next scheduled session. **MOTION APPROVED.** Councillor Goucher and Councillor Cosgrove voted against the Motion.

7. DEFERRED BUSINESS/BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

8. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION

Nil

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND MOTIONS ARISING THEREFROM

Nil

11(a) MADISON DRIVE - WATER PRESSURE PROBLEMS

Councillor Cosgrove addressed Council outlining water pressure problems which are currently being experienced by residents of Madison Drive. She noted that nearly all the homes on the Street have been visited by herself and in each case the residents have advised that the pressure is very low and causing major problems. In particular, she noted the plight of one disabled resident who is experiencing such low water pressure that he is unable now to use his bath facilities. She requested an explanation from the Director of Engineering and Works relative to the cause of the problem.

Rick Paynter, Director of Engineering and Works, reviewed the history of the problem for the benefit of Council noting that the County Water Utility made a temporary change in the water feed system two or three years ago. They have now changed back to the former low feed system. Currently, it is the opinion of the Water Utility that the pressure is still at the level that it was before the original change. However, in response to complaints from the residents of Madison Drive, he has asked the Utility to conduct an analysis of the water pressure system at the present time to determine the exact situation.

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11(a) **CON'T**

In further discussion of this problem, Mr. Paynter advised that the major concern in increasing the pressure to the homes, would be if such a move decreased the fire flow pressure in other areas to an unacceptable level.

A general discussion ensued during which the various alternate possibilities for action were explored and the liability problems that might arise if adequate fire flow pressure is not maintained.

Concern was also expressed with respect to the attitude and lack of action by the Halifax County Water Utility with respect to this and other problems.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Deputy Mayor Huntington it was moved that the Mayor immediately contact the Board of Public Utilities with a request that a meeting be held as soon as possible to deal with the Town of Bedford's application relative to the restructuring of the Halifax County Water Utility in order to incorporate representation from the Town of Bedford. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

Strong concern was expressed by some members of Council that the problem on Madison Drive has not been resolved by the implementation of one of the possible alternatives available. In particular it was noted that a booster station could be placed in the area to solve the problem.

ON MOTION of Councillor Walker and Councillor Draper it was moved that the Director of Engineering and Works immediately request that the Halifax County Water Utility to install a pressure booster pump in this area no later than the end of August. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

Councillor Cosgrove again reiterated the problem for the resident of the area who is disabled and, during further discussion, it was noted by Mr. Paynter that a domestic pressure booster pump could be installed in this home which would help to alleviate the problem.

ON MOTION of Councillor Goucher and Councillor Cosgrove it was moved that the Director of Engineering and Works initiate the installation at the Town's cost of a domestic pressure booster pump in the residence of Mr. LaPierre, 10 Madison Drive

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11(a) CON'T
immediately. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

11(b) WATER SITUATION ON MONARCH DRIVE

Councillor Kelly advised Council with respect to a situation relative to the domestic water system on Monarch Drive. He noted that residents of this Street were advised that the Town of Bedford would cost-share the switch-over of their water supply from a pre-existing private system to the public system if such was desired by the residents. It now appears that, while the residents did not actually ask for this change, a valve was inadvertently turned on two years ago which resulted in the Monarch Drive residents receiving water from the public system at no charge.

The error has now been discovered and it is the desire of the Water Utility to charge the residents not only for the Capital costs involved but also for the water used during the past two years.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Councillor Goucher it was moved that Town of Bedford intervene with the Halifax County Water Utility on behalf of the residents of Monarch Drive with a view to examining the costs involved and extending the time available for payment/repayment.

During discussion of the Motion, it was noted by some members of Council that the total costs involved do not appear to be excessive; however, it was also agreed that there was a principle involved.

The Motion was put to the meeting and **APPROVED** unanimously.

11. MOTIONS

11.1 POLICY RE PROCEDURES FOR FUTURE FENCING OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKLAND - THIRD AND FINAL READING

ON MOTION of Councillor Walker and Councillor Goucher it was moved that the Policy Re Procedures for Future Fencing of Neighbourhood Parkland, as circulated, be received for Third and Final Reading. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

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11.2 POLICY RE SUBDIVISION ENTRANCE SIGNS - MAINTENANCE DEPOSIT - SECOND READING

ON MOTION of Councillor Goucher and Councillor Cosgrove it was moved that the Policy Re Subdivision Entrance Signs - Maintenance Deposit, as circulated, be received for Second Reading.

During discussion of the Motion it was noted by the Chief Administrative Officer that a staff report will be provided to Council prior to Third Reading of this Policy.

The Motion was put to the meeting and **APPROVED** unanimously.

11.3 POLICY RE PROCESS/CRITERIA FOR HERITAGE PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS - SECOND READING

ON MOTION of Councillor Cosgrove and Councillor Goucher it was moved that the Policy Re Process/Criteria for Heritage Property Recommendations, as circulated, be received for Second Reading.

During discussion of the Motion, Councillor Walker suggested and received approval for minor changes to this Policy.

The Motion was put to the meeting and **APPROVED** unanimously.

11.4 BY-LAW RESPECTING COMMITTEE OF WHOLE - SECOND READING

ON MOTION of Councillor Walker and Deputy Mayor Huntington it was moved that the By-Law Respecting Committee of the Whole, as circulated, be received for Second Reading.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Goucher it was moved that the Motion be amended whereby Clauses 3 & 4 of the By-Law would indicate that meetings of the Committee of the Whole would only be held with respect to matters concerning legal action, personnel or purchase of property; further that Clauses 10 & 11 should be deleted from the proposed By-Law.

A lengthy general discussion ensued during which all

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members of Council expressed varying opinions with respect to the desirability of having, "in-camera," meetings of Council (Committee of Whole). Some members of Council expressed the opinion that such meetings were perfectly legitimate for the discussion of any subject prior to actual decision making at open sessions of Town Council. Other members of Council suggested that such meetings should be restricted to the discussion of very sensitive subjects.

Councillor Draper suggested that it might be prudent for the Town of Bedford to initiate more, "open," meetings of the Committee of the Whole to give members of Council a better opportunity for discussion and preliminary review of various topics.

It was suggested by Councillor Walker that if, "in-camera," meetings of the Committee of the Whole are to be restricted to sensitive subjects the matter of negotiations with industry proposing to locate within the Town, should be added as a fourth topic which could be considered at such meetings.

The Motion to amend was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED**. Deputy Mayor Huntington, Councillor Cosgrove and Councillor Walker voted against the Motion.

During discussion of the original Motion and in response to an enquiry from Councillor Draper, it was agreed that a meeting between the By-Law/Policy Advisory Committee and members of Town Council will be held prior to Third Reading of this By-Law.

The Motion was put to the meeting and **APPROVED**. Councillor Draper voted against the Motion.

11.5 AMENDMENTS - BY-LAW RESPECTING RULES OF ORDER - SECOND READING

ON MOTION of Councillor Walker and Deputy Mayor Huntington it was moved that the amendments to the By-Law Respecting Rules of Order, as circulated, be approved for Second Reading.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Councillor Goucher it was moved that Section 10(4) be amended to indicate that

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all members of Council must vote on all Motions. **MOTION APPROVED.** Councillor Draper voted against the Motion.

ON MOTION of Councillor Goucher and Councillor Draper it was moved that the Motion be amended, whereby Clause 33(3) and (4) and Clause 34(4) and (5) will be removed.

Varying opinions were expressed by members of Council with respect to this proposal. Some members expressed the opinion that all members of Council should have the singular right to serve Notices of Reconsideration and Rescission.

Mayor Christie relinquished the Chair to Deputy Mayor Huntington in order to address Council. He noted that, in his opinion, the purpose of the inclusion of the Sections under debate was to ask Council to assess the validity of any Motion of Reconsideration or Rescission.

Mayor Christie reassumed his position as Chairman.

Councillor Draper requested and received information with respect to the need for information relative to what other local municipal Councils are doing in this regard.

The Motion to amend was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED.** Deputy Mayor Huntington, Councillor Walker and Councillor Cosgrove voted against the Motion.

EXTENSION OF TIME OF MEETING

On the request of Mayor Christie it was agreed that the time of the meeting should be extended beyond 10:30 p.m.

During further discussion it was unanimously agreed that there should be a meeting between the By-Law/Policy Advisory Committee and Town Council to discuss this By-Law Respecting Rules of Order prior to Third Reading.

The amended Motion was put to the meeting and was **APPROVED.** Councillor Draper and Councillor Goucher voted against the Motion.

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11.6 POLICY RE ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCE, SEMINARS, ETC. -
SECOND READING

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Walker it was moved that the Policy Re Attendance at Conference, Seminars, etc, as circulated, be received for Second Reading.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly it was moved that Clause one of this Policy be amended whereby a maximum of two persons shall be eligible to attend annual meetings of the FCM with expenses to be borne by the Town.

There being no response to three calls by Mayor Christie for a seconder, the Motion was declared **INVALID**.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Deputy Mayor Huntington it was moved that Clause 5(d) clearly indicate that the cost of alcoholic beverages may not be included in the items to be covered by the per diem allowance. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly it was moved that the Motion be amended whereby the amount of \$5,000 will be eliminated from Clause 7 and it shall be indicated that the Council/Senior Staff two day Corporate Planning Retreat must be held within Town owned property.

There being no seconder to the Motion in response to three calls from the Mayor, the Motion was declared **INVALID**.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Councillor Cosgrove it was moved that the Motion be amended whereby it will be indicated that any member of Council will be limited to the attendance of two conferences during any one year, the cost to be borne by the Town of Bedford.

During the ensuing discussion the opinion was expressed by several members of Council that this amendment is not required as the Policy already provides for a funding limitation for such activities to any member of Council. It was suggested that if a member of Council could manage to attend three or four seminars within the funding allocation he/she should be permitted to do so.

The Motion to amend was put to the meeting and was **DEFEATED**. Deputy Mayor Huntington, Councillor Walker, Councillor Cosgrove, Councillor Goucher and Councillor Draper voted against the Motion.

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On the suggestion of Councillor Walker it was agreed that Clause 3 should be amended to indicate reference to the metro Halifax area rather than just the City of Halifax, and that Clause 6 should be amended by the addition of the words within fourteen (14) days at the end of the Clause.

The Motion was put to the meeting and was **APPROVED** unanimously.

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

12.1 **CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SPECIAL LEGISLATION RE AUGUST MUNICIPAL HOLIDAY**

By memorandum Dan R. English, Chief Administrative Officer, advised Council with respect to a proposal to designate the first Monday of August as a Municipal Holiday. He noted that currently the Town of Bedford does not have the authority to designate a particular day as a Municipal Holiday, but draft Enabling Legislation has been prepared and forwarded to the Provincial Legislature with a view to it being considered as soon as possible.

He requested the consideration of Town Council to the ratification of this Legislation.

ON MOTION of Councillor Kelly and Councillor Goucher it was moved that the Town Council of the Town of Bedford ratify the proposed Special Legislation which would provide the enabling authority for the designation of the first Monday of August as a Municipal Holiday by the Town Council of the Town of Bedford. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

12.2 **STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS - MONARCH DRIVE - CONSIDERATION - AWARD OF TENDER**

By memorandum Rick Paynter, Director of Engineering and Works, advised Council of the response to Tender 90-12 for Storm Drainage Improvement Works on Monarch Drive. Four (4) responses were received with the lowest being submitted by Sackville Trenching Limited in an amount of \$9,944.

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12.2 CON'T

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Goucher it was moved that Town Council approve the awarding of Tender 90-12 for Storm Drainage Improvement Works - Monarch Drive to Sackville Trenching Limited in an amount not to exceed \$9,944 plus an allocation of \$1,000 contingency allowance for site survey works, field inspections operations and engineering costs. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

12.3 PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF BULK FUEL STORAGE TANKS - WORKS COMPOUND

By memorandum Ron Singer, Director of Finance, reviewed details with respect to the possibility of the installation of an underground fuelling station to be located at the new Works Compound site. In particular, it was noted by Mr. Singer that, if the Town was to proceed with the concept of bulk fuel storage, considerable savings would be realized annually and it is projected that these savings would recover the Capital costs within a two year period. Mr. English noted this was an effort on the part of staff to determine more cost effective ways of providing services.

ON MOTION of Councillor Walker and Councillor Cosgrove it moved that the Director of Engineering and Works be authorized to call tenders for the cost of the installation of two underground fuel storage tanks to be constructed at the new Works Compound site with the results of the Tender Call to be subsequently brought back to Council for ratification. **MOTION APPROVED.**

12.4 RETAIL BUSINESS UNIFORM CLOSING DAY ACT

Councillor Kelly addressed Council expressing his concern with respect to the most recent legislation approved by the Province relative to the Retail Uniform Closing Day Act, whereby retail stores with a square footage not exceeding 4,000 square feet are now permitted to remain open on Sundays and some other holidays. He requested consideration of Town Council to the obtaining of legal advice with respect to whether or not the Town could pass a By-Law prohibiting the opening of these retail stores on such days.

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ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Kelly it was moved that legal advice be sought with respect to the probability of the Town of Bedford being successful in drafting a By-Law which would result in total closure of most retail stores on Uniform Closing Days. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

12.5 PERSONNEL POLICY - CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS

By memorandum Dan R. English, Chief Administrative Officer, circulated copies of the revised Town of Bedford Employees' Personnel Policy. He noted that this Policy has already been reviewed by members of Town Council and the requested amendments have now been incorporated. He recommended the approval by Council of the document as the revised Personnel Policy for employees of the Town of Bedford with the exception of those employees whose services are covered by the Police Department Personnel Policy or the Fire Department Union Contract with the IAFF.

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Kelly it was moved that the Town of Bedford Employees' Personnel Policy, as circulated, be approved as the revised Personnel Policy for employees of the Town of Bedford as recommended by the Chief Administrative Officer. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.

12.6 PROPOSED POLICY RE COURT PROSECUTIONS AND ACTIONS

By memorandum the Chief Administrative Officer circulated copies of a proposed Policy re Court Prosecutions and Actions and recommended that the Policies be forwarded to the By-Law/Policy Advisory Committee for consideration and recommendation.

ON MOTION of Deputy Mayor Huntington and Councillor Goucher it was moved that the proposed Policy re Court Prosecutions and Actions, as circulated, be forwarded to the By-Law/Policy Advisory Committee for consideration and recommendation. **MOTION APPROVED** unanimously.