

Dartmouth, N. S.

October 6/87.

Regularly called meeting of City Council
held this date at 7:45 p.m.

Present - Mayor Savage

Ald. Sarto	Thompson
Billard	MacFarlane
Connors	Levandier
Withers	McCluskey
Pye	Woods
Hawley	Greenough
Hetherington	
City Solicitor, M. Moreash	
City Administrator, J. Burke	
City Clerk-Treasurer, Bruce S. Smith.	

MINUTES

On motion of Ald. Hetherington and McCluskey, Council approved the minutes of meetings held on Sept. 8, 15, 22 and 29.

At a later point in the meeting, Council also ratified action taken at an in camera meeting held on this date, just prior to the regular meeting. The action taken in camera was ratified, on motion of Ald. Greenough and Hetherington.

An item added to the agenda was Contract 87-15, to award the tender for overhead crosswalk installations at several locations throughout the City.

SIDEWALK REQUEST:
CRICHTON AVE.

A letter was before Council from Mr. H. W. Colquhoun of 92 Crichton Ave., requesting sidewalk on the east side of Crichton Ave., from the road to Oakwood House to Oakdale Crescent. On motion of Ald. Greenough and Levandier, the letter was referred to the Engineering Dept. staff for assessment, including a cost estimate.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough & Levandier that a letter from Mr. H. W. Colquhoun re sidewalk installation on a section of Crichton Ave., be referred to the Engineering Dept. staff for assessment, including a cost estimate.

PROPOSAL FROM
DART. TITANS

A proposal has been received from the Dartmouth Titans Gymnastic Club for a multi-sport facility, which they would share in the use of with other sports, such as boxing, weight training, fencing, wrestling, etc.

Ald. Hawley spoke on behalf of the Titans organization, explaining some of the difficulties they have had in finding suitable accommodations, and he

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asked permission to have Lt. Cmdr. Ray Kerr address Council at this point.

Council was willing to hear Lt. Cmdr. Kerr, Vice President of the Titans Club. He has been associated with the Club for ten years, and he outlined to Council the problems they have experienced in finding a facility that is adequate and meets the requirements for gymnastic training. A ceiling height of 20 feet is required, an open floor area 45 ft. by 45 ft., etc. The floor area required to meet all the requirements noted, is a minimum of 80 ft. by 100 ft.

(Ald. Thompson was present from this point onward in the meeting.)

Slides were presented to show a layout of the floor area that would be suitable to meet the needs of the Club, plus other related uses such as offices and changing rooms. Also shown were areas for spectator seating, the idea being that revenue would be realized through admission charge to sporting events held in a multi-sport facility. Also, revenue would be generated through rental charges to organizations and clubs making use of the facility. It is suggested that the facility could become self-supporting through these sources of revenue income.

Following the presentation by Lt. Cmdr. Kerr, Ald. Hawley and Connors moved that Council agree to the setting up of a committee to study the feasibility of developing a multi-sport facility, the committee to be comprised of:

- the City Administrator
- one member of the Titans Club
- two Aldermen
- one representative of Sports Nova Scotia
- one representative from the Rec. Dept.
- one representative of a local architectural firm
- one representative from the Phys. Ed. Dept., City schools

Ald. Levandier felt that rather than thinking about a new facility, it would be preferable to look at possible expansion of the Sportsplex to provide the space that is being requested. Ald. Greenough agreed

that the Sportsplex Commission should be consulted, and Ald. Hawley said the committee proposed would take the point under advisement.

There were other points that members wanted to have the committee look at; these included:

- 1) a comparison with other sports in terms of City priorities - ie. as compared with tennis, rowing, swimming, etc.
- 2) the question of whether or not such a facility would be maintained and operated by the City, or would the Titans assume these areas of responsibility.
- 3) would this facility be in competition with the Sportsplex and would it take gymnasts out of school programs.

Generally, Council was willing to have a committee formed to give further consideration to the feasibility of a multi-sport facility, and the motion carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Hawley and Connors that Council agree to the setting up of a committee to study the feasibility of developing a multi-sport facility, the committee to be composed of representation outlined on page 2 of these minutes.

MPS UPDATE

Mr. Kent Robinson, Chairman of the M.P.S. Review Committee, was in attendance to give an update report to Council on the status of the review process; his last update report to Council was given in March.

Mr. Lukan assisted in the presentation with slides. Mr. Robinson provided information on the series of 13 public meetings held after the March update, and the steps that have taken place since, as the Committee moves toward the adoption of policy recommendations. The first policy recommendation was adopted in August, and the Commercial section of the report is now complete.

The draft M.P.S. and Land Use By-law are in the process of being prepared, and should be ready for public review by January/February of 1988, when a second round of public meetings will take place. The public hearing before Council is scheduled for June, 1988.

Mr. Robinson went on to comment on the hours of volunteer time that have gone into the review process. He said it has become more than a review of the old

plan; an altogether new plan is being written and it contains sections that were not even in the former one.

The final budget request for the M.P.S. will be made this fall, and Mr. Robinson said it is important for Council to continue its financial commitment so the review can be completed as projected. Members of staff who have worked on the project were commended by Mr. Robinson for their dedication and for measuring up to the expectations that have been placed upon them.

After Mr. Robinson finished speaking, he was commended, along with the other volunteers taking part in the review, by members of Council.

Ald. Woods and Hetherington asked about the establishment of a Planning Advisory Committee, and Mr. Robinson said there will be recommendations on this item made to Council. The Mayor asked Mr. Robinson what is expected of Council at this point. He said the involvement of Council would be anticipated at the second round of public meetings, in order for members to become informed on the major issues within the M.P.S. before it comes to a public hearing in June.

Mr. Robinson is planning to make another report prior to the public meetings and said he would remind Council of them again at that time.

RAPID AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION 87-39

Members have received copies of the proposed agreement between the City of Halifax, City of Dartmouth and Town of Bedford, with respect to the Regionally Applied Police Information Delivery System, accompanied by Resolution 87-39, authorizing the execution of the Rapid Agreement. The Solicitor has recommended approval of this resolution.

Ins. Fraser and Mr. Oldham were present for this item, but Council proceeded with the adoption of Resolution 87-39 without hearing a presentation from them. The resolution was adopted, on motion of Ald. Greenough and Pye.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough & Pye that Council adopt Resolution 87-39, authorizing the execution of the Rapid Agreement.

SUMMARY OF REVENUE
& EXPENDITURES

A Summary of Revenue & Expenditures to Aug. 28th, with attached summary of variances, where identified, has been circulated to all members of Council. The year-end deficit forecast at this point in the year is \$1,124,800., if the present trend continues.

Mr. Burke advised Council that he has spoken to all of the department heads in an effort to identify areas where adjustments can be made before the year-end, to reduce the deficit. Between two and three hundred thousand dollars in adjustments will be suggested, but the items involved will still have to be funded at some later point in time. At one of the upcoming Council meetings, the financial picture to Sept. 30th, with updated information, will be available.

The general response of Council to the projected deficit figure was one of concern. There were questions about specific individual items, as follows:

- 1) where all of the surplus funds have gone, from the beginning of 1985.
- 2) concerning the figure shown in the Revenue Summary for Taxes, which is lower than the figure shown for this same item on July 1st. Also, as of Aug. 1st, the figure for Grant in lieu of Taxes was higher than the figure shown in the August 29th Summary of Revenue.
- 3) the variance figure for Taxes is shown at \$227,978., but on page 4 of the accompanying information, a total figure of \$300,000. under budget is indicated for residential taxes plus business occupancy taxes. Why is there this discrepancy?
- 4) where is the over-expenditure for Natal Day reflected in the information provided? Should it not have been included under Other Services, in the amount of \$25,000.?
- 5) Under Rents & Concessions, what percentage of increase was being sought; what was budgeted for and what were we able to get?
- 6) comments requested from Mr. Burke on the user-pay concept, proposed initially in the '20% or . . .' report.

There were other questions that were answered by Mr. Smith and Mr. Burke, and these did not require a further response from staff.

Ald. Connors introduced a motion, seconded by Ald. Greenough, directing that Mr. Burke be asked to

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consult with senior staff and prepare a list of recommendations as to how we might balance the budget by the end of this fiscal year, and return to Council within two weeks, with those recommendations.

In the debate that followed, members had various points of view about responsibility for the deficit and how it should be approached. Ald. Pye felt that the Province is shifting financial burdens onto the municipalities, and we are now starting to see the result of that move. Ald. Greenough considered the provincial policy of requiring a 100% reserve for uncollected taxes to be an onerous expectation on the municipalities. In Dartmouth's case, it means that 3.6 million dollars has to be set aside for this purpose, and these are funds we do not have available for use in emergency situations such as the deficit position we face this year. He felt a strong representation should be made to the Province, to have this policy modified from 100% to a lower percentage.

Ald. McCluskey suggested that another way of approaching this problem would be to reduce the collection time from three years to one year, after which properties would go up for tax sale. In this way, the amount of uncollected taxes at any one time would be reduced and our reserve requirement lowered accordingly. She felt this idea should be looked at further. She also felt the City should not continue to rely on the Assessment Dept. for business occupancy information, in view of the continuing delay in receiving updated information. She preferred to see a City staff person assigned to make a comprehensive tour of business premises, including the Burnside Park, to prepare an accurate list of tenants who should appear on the assessment roll.

Ald. McCluskey was also concerned about the amount of money owed to Dartmouth by other municipalities for social assistance recipients (\$300,000.), and wanted to see a more aggressive approach taken in trying to collect some of this money.

Ald. Woods questioned the summer operation of the Grey Arena and the resulting revenue loss when the Sportsplex operated a summer ice program as well. He felt a decision should not have been taken to put ice in the Grey Arena when it was known that the Sportsplex planned to do the same thing and there were not enough users of summer-ice time to make both operations pay.

Ald. Billard did not agree with the motion, suggesting that members of Council will not make cuts when recommendations come back to them at this late point in the year, especially in the case of projects that have been promised to their constituents.

There were differing opinions expressed as to where budget cuts should be made, either as decisions of Council or on the basis of departmental recommendations. Ald. Hetherington felt the department heads are better able to assess where they can be made, since they are involved in the day-to-day operations of their departments. Some other members felt it is Council's responsibility to make such decisions. Ald. MacFarlane said he would not be prepared to approve any cuts without first being appraised of the ramifications of them. His assessment of the situation was that 'our expectations are finally beginning to exceed our financial capabilities'.

Ald. Hawley pointed out that three of the major items that have produced a deficit position are not the fault of Council or staff. He referred to over-expenditures in the Social Services budget, costs associated with the Findlay School asbestos problem, and the transit deficit, in which the City is asked to share in the amount of \$146,000. He noted that a total of these three items comprises a large percentage of the deficit figure. He also referred to areas where Council could be improving the City's financial picture, such as a user-pay concept for Recreation Dept. programs, less demands on the Solicitor's Dept. and fewer requests for legal services, a lower level of snow and ice removal services, etc.

The Mayor agreed to communicate Ald. Greenough's point about the reserve for uncollected taxes, as he requested, but he noted that the policy is applicable to all municipalities and the province could not lower the percentage requirement for Dartmouth without doing it for all the others.

(On motion of Ald. McCluskey and Thompson, Council agreed to continue meeting beyond the hour of 11:00 p.m.)

Mr. Burke asked if the motion is applicable to Boards and Commissions, which are not in the same jurisdictional category as City departments. Ald. Connors said he could see no difficulty in going back to the Boards and Commissions as well.

The vote was taken on the motion and it carried with Ald. Billard voting against.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Connors and Greenough that Mr. Burke be asked to consult with senior staff and prepare a list of recommendations as to how we might balance the budget by the end of this fiscal year, and return to Council within two weeks, with those recommendations.

AWARD TENDER:
CONTRACT 87-14
QUEEN STREET
PARK EXTENSION

Tenders have been received as follows for Contract 87-14, Queen Street Park Extension, in which the Provincial Dept. of Development shares the cost, as a Mainstreet project:

Edmonds Bros. Landscaping	\$17,500.
Terra Nova Landscaping Ltd.	17,545.
Lorraine Landscaping Ltd.	19,444.

Acceptance of the low bid, submitted by Edmonds Bros. Landscaping Services (1979) Ltd., has been recommended, with 50% of the cost to be provided from the 1987 Mainstreet Program allocation from the Province, and 50% from the City's 1983 Capital Budget.

The tender was awarded as recommended, on motion of Ald. Hetherington and Withers (Ald. Billard voting against).

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Hetherington & Withers that Contract 87-14 be awarded to the low bidder, Edmonds Bros. Landscaping Services (1979) Ltd., as recommended.

PROCLAMATION:
NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

On motion of Ald. Hawley and Hetherington, Council adopted the proclamation presented by Mayor Savage, declaring the week of October 5-11, 1987, as Family Week in Dartmouth. Copies of the proclamation were circulated with the agenda.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Hawley & Hetherington that Council adopt the proclamation of October 5-11, 1987, as Family Week in Dartmouth. The proclamation was presented by Mayor Savage.

CONTRACT 87-15:
OVERHEAD CROSSWALK
LIGHTS

Quotations have been received as follows for the installation of overhead crosswalk lights at various locations throughout the City, as per the list circulated with the report from the Traffic Coordinator:

Black and MacDonald	\$32,216.
Portland Electrics	29,550.

Mr. Burke has concurred in the recommendation from Mr. Connors that the tender be awarded to Portland Electrics Ltd., and Ald. Sarto and Thompson moved that the recommendation be adopted.

Ald. Woods asked to have an additional installation included for Windmill and Courtney Road. At the suggestion of Ald. Billard, and on motion of Ald. Woods and Pye, it was moved in amendment that the lights proposed for Canal Street at the Medical Centre be deleted and the ones for Windmill/Courtney Road be substituted in the list circulated. The amendment carried and the amended motion carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Sarto & Thompson that the tender for overhead crosswalk installations, be awarded to Portland Electrics, as recommended.

AMENDMENT: Moved in amendment by Ald. Woods and Pye that the lights proposed for Canal Street at the Medical Centre, be replaced with lights at Windmill and Courtney Road.

SPECIAL CONSTABLE:
RESOLUTION 87-42

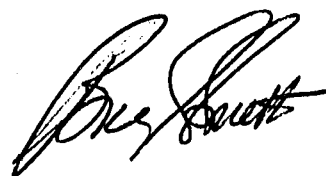
On motion of Ald. Connors and Sarto, Council approved Resolution 87-42, appointing George Mingle as Special Constable for twelve months, to issue parking tickets in the downtown area.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Connors and Sarto that Council approve Resolution 87-42, appointing George Mingle as Special Cst.

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Meeting adjourned.



Bruce S. Smith,
City Clerk-Treasurer.

City Council, Oct. 6/87

ITEMS:

- 1) Sidewalk request: Crichton Ave., page 1.
- 2) Proposal from Dartmouth Titans, page 1 to 3.
- 3) MPS Update, page 3 & 4.
- 4) Rapid Agreement, page 4.
Resolution 87-39.
- 5) Summary of Revenue & Expenditures, page 5 to 8.
- 6) Award tender: Contract 87-14, Queen St. Park Ext., pg. 8.
- 7) Proclamation: National Family Week, page 9.
- 8) Contract 87-15: Overhead Crosswalk Lights, page 9.
- 9) Special Constable: Resolution 87-42, page 9.

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Dartmouth, N. S.

October 13/87.

Regularly called meeting of City Council
held this date at 8:00 p.m.

Present - Mayor Savage

Ald. Sarto	Thompson
Billard	MacFarlane
Connors	Levandier
Withers	McCluskey
Pye	Woods
Hawley	Greenough
Bregante	Hetherington
City Solicitor, S. Hood	
City Administrator, J. Burke	
Deputy City Clerk, G. D. Brady.	

Council met to continue the October 6th agenda,
and to deal with several additional items.

WITHDRAWAL:
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND
RESOLUTION 87-41

Council has approved a \$13,000. allocation from
the Special Reserve Fund toward the purchase of playground
equipment for the John MacNeil school grounds. Resolut-
ion 87-41 has been recommended to Council to accomplish
this withdrawal of funds.

Resolution 87-41 was approved, as recommended,
on motion of Ald. Pye and Woods.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Pye and Woods that
Council approve Resolution 87-41,
authorizing the withdrawal of \$13,000.
from the Special Reserve Fund, toward
the purchase of playground equipment
for the John MacNeil school grounds.

SNOW & ICE
CONTROL POLICY

As requested, the Engineering Dept. has prepared
a number of service options on snow and ice control,
for Council's consideration, prior to the 1987/88 winter
season. A report on this subject has been circulated,
and Mr. Burke explained the basics of the report, after
which Mr. Fougere presented it. Mr. John Murray was
also present for the item.

The thrust of the recommendations is to maintain
salting and street plowing activities as closely as
possible to their present service levels, but to curtail
sidewalk plowing and snow removal to some extent, in
order to achieve cost savings. Stated in terms of the
options presented, the recommendations are:

- 1) Option 5 for Salting (\$700,000.)
- 2) Option 4 for Plowing (\$600,000.)
- 3) Option 4 for Sidewalk Plowing (\$170,000.)
- 4) Option 3 for Snow Removal (\$200,000.)

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The Snow Removal option recommended does not include provision for clearing of bus stops, since it is felt that this should be an expense of the Metro Transit operation, not the City.

Before any motions were introduced, the Mayor allowed members of Council to discuss the report and ask questions about it. One of the main points of concern, expressed by all of the speakers, was about the proposed reduction in sidewalk plowing services. It was felt that sidewalks have to be kept open for the protection of children travelling to and from school, so that they are not forced to walk on the streets. Ald. Levandier also noted the importance of this service to senior citizens.

There was not the same degree of concern about a reduced level of service for snow removal, although Ald. Greenough felt it is important to keep major intersections clear, especially when there is an accumulation of snow, such as we had last winter. It was suggested that perhaps streets in the downtown business district do not require the same degree of attention they received last winter, however.

Council generally recognized the importance of keeping major arterial routes open as a priority, and Mr. Murray provided information on streets designated as the Snow Route for purposes of priority clearing. There were also questions to him about 'Special Requests' (201 locations), referred to on page 9 of the report circulated. Mr. Murray agreed to provide a listing of these locations, as requested by Ald. Woods.

Ald. Levandier made the suggestion that the Police Dept. could assist more effectively in snow clearing services by enforcing the regulations that apply to vehicles left on City streets after a storm has been in progress for a period of time. He felt this point should be taken up further with the Department.

There were several questions about overtime costs and ways in which they could be reduced. Ald.

Connors asked if it would not be possible to bring in casual workers for overtime, rather than using regular employees who have to be paid according to union rates. There was some question as to whether or not the use of casual employees would be contrary to contract provisions, and Ald. Connors asked to have this point clarified. The hiring of able-bodied unemployed welfare recipients was also suggested as an alternative source of manpower.

Another staffing aspect discussed was the need for additional supervision during snow clearing operations. Mr. Murray advised that there will be more supervisors on duty this year to oversee operations.

Several members agreed that the clearing of bus stops should be the responsibility of Metro Transit, and Ald. Sarto said the funding provision should be included in the 'Transfer to Other Agencies' budget item instead of the Works Dept. budget.

Ald. Hetherington suggested that employees working overtime should be required to accept payment rather than being permitted to take time in lieu of hours worked. He said the advantage of the overtime is lost when the employee is able to take time off for hours worked.

Following the question and discussion period, Ald. Connors moved the following:

Acceptance of option 5 for Salting
Acceptance of option 4 for Plowing
Option 5 for Sidewalk Plowing (\$250,000.)
Option 3 (plus) for Snow Removal (\$230,000.)
for a total saving of \$470,000.

Further, that the City Administrator determine whether we can hire part-time workers, rather than paying overtime to regular workers, as a means of additional saving, and report back to Council.

The motion was seconded by Ald. Sarto.

Ald. Greenough felt Council should have a complete staff report on the overtime figure, indicating specifically what can and cannot be done about the cost.

Ald. Billard also suggested that some thought be given to the creation of a specialized team of snow clearing

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employees, trained to work in specific areas such as bus stops, fire hydrants, etc.; then, regular employees would be relieved of these duties and free for the main snow clearing operation. The specialized employees could be hired on a part-time basis.

Ald. Hetherington did not feel that any cuts in service should be made and he did not support the motion. Ald. Levandier proposed the motion be referred back to staff for evaluation, but he did not present a motion to refer.

When the vote was taken on the motion, it carried with Ald. Levandier, Pye, MacFarlane and Hetherington voting against.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Connors and Sarto:
for text of motion, see page 3 of
these minutes.

GRAND PRIX RACES

A letter has been circulated from Mr. Bill Young, Chairman of the Dartmouth Grand Prix Hydroplane Regatta Society, seeking the support and endorsement of Council to continue the Dartmouth Hydroplane Races for the next three years, and seeking a financial commitment from the City in the amount of \$25,000. per year in each of the next three years.

Mr. Young was present to address Council, and he began by thanking the City of the assistance with this year's Races; he also acknowledged the assistance of City staff and the two Council members who participated on the organizing Committee. He went on to explain the plans to make this a bigger and better event as time goes on, and the need for a three or four-year commitment at this time if the Races are to be scheduled in Dartmouth as an annual event.

Ald. Connors commended the work of staff members, especially Mr. Smith and Mr. Muzzin, and the many volunteers from the community who have worked to insure the success of the Races. He called them a first-class world event and a good example of what can be done in the way of major attractions to our waterfront. He moved that

Council express thanks and appreciation to the organizing Committee and especially, to the Chairman, Mr. Young. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hawley and it carried.

Ald. Connors presented a second motion, to the effect that Council support and endorse this project, for the next three years, by approving a financial commitment of \$25,000. in each of the three years. The motion was seconded by Ald. MacFarlane.

Ald. Pye noted that he has been contacted by several disabled people about the designation of locations for viewing of the races by them. Mr. Young said steps will be taken next year to insure better viewing locations, as Ald. Pye has requested.

The motion carried.

MOTIONS: Moved by Ald. Connors & Hawley that Council express thanks and appreciation to the organizing Committee for the Dartmouth Hydroplane Races, and especially, to the Chairman, Mr. Bill Young.

Moved by Ald. Connors and MacFarlane that Council support and endorse this project, for the next three years, by approving a financial commitment of \$25,000. in each of the three years.

MONTHLY REPORTS

The regular monthly reports were approved as follows:

- 1) Social Services (Sept.): adopted on motion of Ald. Withers and Sarto.

Ald. Withers had a question about the anticipated deficit for Social Services, and in clarifying the actual City figure, Mr. McNeil advised that it is presently about \$80,000. This is likely to increase if the present trend continues. The rest of the deficit, over and above the \$80,000., will be picked up by other levels of government.

Ald. Billard asked how this department can be expected to make budget cuts when they have a deficit already. Mr. Burke said he will not be recommending adjustments that are not achievable.

Reference was made to reductions that have been accomplished in Special Home Care costs. The Mayor said Mr. McNeil and Mr. Cleary are to be commended for innovative programs that have allowed people to remain in their own homes instead of having to be placed in Special Care Homes, thereby saving the City a considerable amount of money.

- 2) Development Officer (Sept.): adopted on motion of Ald. McCluskey and Bregante.

In response to a question from Ald. Thompson about the Regal Road rezoning application, recently denied by Council, Mr. L'Esperance advised that it has been appealed to the Municipal Board. He agreed to advise members of the appeal date.

- 3) Building Inspection (Sept.): adopted on motion of Ald. Sarto and Levandier.

Ald. McCluskey asked for and received information from Mr. Turner on the five mandatory inspections carried out on building projects. She proposed that the City be informed of the various projects under construction and their stage of completion in November, in time for assessment purposes.

- 4) Minimum Standards (Sept.): adopted on motion of Ald. Hetherington and Sarto.

Ald. Levandier asked that attention be given by Building Inspection to the properties at 80 Fairbanks Street, and at the corner of Windmill Road and Mott Street, where a building was partially destroyed by fire and children are getting into the part of the building that is still standing.

Ald. Billard requested an inspection of the City building at Prince Albert Road and Nowlan Street.

- 5) Fire Chief (Sept.): adopted on motion of Ald. Sarto and Levandier.

Ald. Hetherington asked if the committee he requested has been formed and called to meet. The Mayor said he will be doing this as soon as he has time.

- 6) Dog Control (Sept.): adopted on motion of Ald. Sarto and Greenough.

MOTIONS: To approve monthly reports, as detailed above and on page 5 of these minutes.

BY-LAW C-552:
LAKE SAFETY

By-law C-552 (Lake Safety By-law) has been deferred from a previous meeting, in second reading, for additional input from interested parties, before it receives third reading.

A letter from Sandy MacDougall of 169 Braemar Drive, with a number of questions and requests for amendment, has been circulated.

Ald. Levandier and Pye moved referral of the by-law back to the Lake Safety Committee for discussion with the group Mr. MacDougall represents, plus any other groups wishing to make representation. Recommendations would then come back to Council from the Committee.

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Ald. Billard felt the points raised in the letter could be dealt with by Council at this time instead, and he preferred to hear from representatives present and to inform Council of the discussions he has already had with them.

Ald. Hawley noted that the Lake Safety Committee has not even seen the letter that members of Council received, and it would be unfair to debate the points in it without the Committee first having looked at them. He had two further questions for the Committee: what will be the cost of a special event permit, and secondly, what is the area of jurisdiction with respect to planes landing on one of the lakes.

The motion to refer carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Levandier & Pye that that By0law C-552 be referred back to the Lake Safety Committee for further discussion with interested groups and recommendation back to Council, prior to third reading.

SYMONDS ST.:
NORTHBROOK RAVINE

A report from the Solicitor was before Council on the subject of City-owned lands known as the Northbrook Ravine, which abut residential properties fronting on Symonds and Moira Streets. Some of the abutting land owners have inquired about the acquisition of portions of this land for addition to their own residential lots, and the Solicitor has set out three options by which these abutters could be accommodated; these are:

- 1) to sell the land at fair actual value.
- 2) to lease the land at fair rental value.
- 3) to grant licenses to the abutters to use the land, at a license fee to cover costs incurred by the City.

The recommendation is that Council consider alternative #3, the suggestion being that a license of occupation be for a renewable term of one year. The license should contain a requirement for the owner to provide liability insurance, which names the City as an insured party. If Council wishes to pursue the alternative being recommended, it is further recommended that staff be instructed to determine the costs involved and enter

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discussions with abutters, to find out whether they would be prepared to enter license agreements. The matter would then be brought back to Council for approval.

Ald. Sarto and Greenough moved the adoption of the recommendation, but Ald. Withers and McCluskey were concerned about undue costs the residents may incur, which are not known to Council at this time. Mr. Burke explained why it is first necessary to have Council's agreement with the license option, before attempting to determine what costs are involved, and before any discussions are started with the residents.

The Mayor suggested that while staff is in the process of investigating option 3, they might also look at the feasibility of letting the residents have the land outright. He asked to have this alternative included in the motion and it was added.

The motion carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Sarto and Greenough that the Solicitor's recommendation with respect to the disposition of City-owned land known as the Northbrook Ravine, be adopted. The recommendation is as noted above and on page 7 of these minutes.

MOTIONS:

Motions, for which notice was previously given, were presented at this time, as follows:

ALD. WOODS

1) Ald. Woods moved, seconded by Ald. Hetherington, that:

WHEREAS many of the students of John MacNeil School cross the intersection of Leaman Dr. and Crystal Drive, on their way to and from school;

AND WHEREAS both the parents and the principal have expressed concern about the number of cars, buses and trucks that pass through this intersection;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Police Dept. be directed to conduct a student/vehicle survey, and provide a recommendation on the necessity for a school crossing guard at this intersection.

The motion carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Woods & Hetherington: text as above.

ALD. PYE

2) Ald. Pye moved, seconded by Ald. Thompson,

that:

WHEREAS Courtney Road is in serious need of upgrading;

AND WHEREAS Courtney Road is a route to and from school for children in the area below Windmill Road;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Engineering Dept. prepare a cost estimate on upgrading Courtney Road, with the consideration of having it placed within the 1988 Capital Budget.

The motion carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Pye & Thompson: text as above.

Ald. Billard indicated that he wished to withdraw his motion pertaining to the Shubie Campground, and Ald. Connors asked to have his motion (clean up of downtown area) deferred until the first regular November meeting.

NOTICES OF MOTION:

The following notices of motion were given for the first regular Council meeting in November:

ALD. LEVANDIER

1) Ald. Levandier

WHEREAS snow and ice control budgets are hard to predict from year to year;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City obtain the needed approvals, to retain in a special account fund budgeted for snow and ice control

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funds be retained as reserve funds in this account, should a surplus arise, in order to help offset any unusually harsh winters.

ALD. CONNORS

2) Ald. Connors

WHEREAS the intersection of Ochterloney and Maple Streets is very busy, being used by high numbers of vehicular and pedestrian traffic;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff prepare and include in the 1988 Capital Budget, proposal estimates for the installation of 'Walk/Don't Walk' lights, governing pedestrian traffic crossing Maple Street at this intersection.

ALD. PYE

3) Ald. Pye

WHEREAS there are no facilities for skateboarding in Dartmouth;

AND WHEREAS children are not allowed to skateboard on school property;

AND WHEREAS it appears the only place left for children to skateboard on City streets;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Parks & Recreation Dept. look into the matter and prepare a report on how the matter should be resolved.

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ALD. BILLARD

4) Ald. Billard

WHEREAS the City of Dartmouth is eager to foster tourism;

AND WHEREAS many visitors to this area come to our downtown looking to enjoy our pleasant harbour-side park, only to find limited parking;

AND WHEREAS the revenue generated from parking tickets paid by our out-of-province visitors is minor anyway;

BE IT RESOLVED that 'Welcome' tickets be placed on vehicles which are found at time-expired parking meters during the months of June through September.

ALD. MCCLUSKEY

5) Ald. McCluskey

- (a) WHEREAS Thompson's Transfer is located in an area adjacent to residential properties;
AND WHEREAS the moving and running of these large trucks creates a noise and is a nuisance to residents;

AND WHEREAS these large trucks must travel over residential streets to get to the highways;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that representatives of the City of Dartmouth meet with Thompson's to discuss the relocation of their business to the Burnside Industrial Park.

- (b) WHEREAS the N. S. Assessment Act sets time restraints for residents when appealing their assessments, returning requested information, etc.;

AND WHEREAS when residents appeal their assessment, there is no onus on the assessor to deal with the appeal within a certain time frame;

AND WHEREAS this causes hardship for rate-payers who have been over-assessed;

AND WHEREAS this also causes hardship for the municipal unit in budgeting, when appeals are carried forward to another year;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs to amend the Assessment Act by implementing a section stating that assessors deal with appeals in a forthright manner.

- (c) WHEREAS the assessment of properties, as well as the business occupancy assessments for the City of Dartmouth, is the responsibility of the Dept. of Municipal Affairs;

AND WHEREAS the main source of revenue for the City is from real property taxes, as well as business occupancy assessments;

AND WHEREAS the City of Dartmouth at the present time does not carry out a check to determine if all real property is added and if all business occupancy assessments are added or deleted at the time of opening or closing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City appoint a staff member to be responsible for checking at regular intervals to ensure that all new businesses are added, and out-of-business tenants, deleted.

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ALD. MACFARLANE

6) Ald. MacFarlane

WHEREAS it is acknowledged that traffic on Portland Street is extremely heavy;

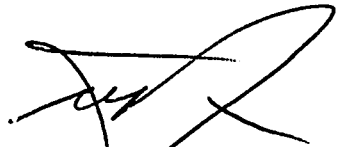
AND WHEREAS a number in excess of 100 students must presently cross Portland Street at one guarded location;

AND WHEREAS it is agreed by parents and police officials that this location is not as safe as it should be, since elementary-age students must cross three parking lots, as well as Hastings Drive, amidst parked and moving vehicles;

BE IT RESOLVED that the crosswalk guard currently at the Lakefront location, be moved to the Prince Arthur and Portland intersection, where children can cross and continue to school by sidewalk;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the services of an additional guard be procured for the Maynard, Portland intersection, so that children from this area, attending Southdale School, will be able to avoid various dangerous and heavily-travelled intersections, which feed into Portland Street.

At the hour of 11:00 p.m. the meeting adjourned.



G. D. Brady,
Deputy City Clerk.

City Council, Oct. 13/87

ITEMS:

- 1) Withdrawal: Special Reserve Fund, page 1.
Resolution 87-41, page 1.
- 2) Snow & Ice Control Policy, page 1 to 4 incl.
- 3) Grand Prix Races, page 4.
- 4) Monthly reports, page 5 & 6.
- 5) By-law C-552: Lake Safety, page 6.
- 6) Symonds Street: Northbrook Ravine, page 7.
- 7) Motions: Ald. Woods, page 8.
Pye, page 9.
- 8) Notices of Motion: Ald. Levandier)
Connors) page 9.
Pye)
Billard)
McCluskey) page 10
MacFarlane, page 11.

Dartmouth, N. S.

October 20/87.

Regularly called meeting of City Council
held this date at 7:45 p.m.

Present - Mayor Savage

Ald. Sarto	Thompson
Connors	Levandier
Withers	McCluskey
Pye	Woods
Hawley	Greenough
Bregante	Hetherington
MacFarlane	
City Solicitor, S. Hood	
City Administrator, J. Burke	
Deputy City Clerk, G. D. Brady.	

PROCLAMATION:
SMALL BUSINESS
WEEK

At the opening of the meeting, Mayor Savage brought to Council's attention, the proclamation of Small Business Week. A second proclamation was also circulated for the week of October 26 to 30th for 'Drive With your Lights on Week' in the City of Dartmouth.

NEIGHBOURHOOD
INFORMATION
MEETINGS

Planning Dept. reports were before Council in connection with a motion presented some time ago, calling for neighbourhood information meetings at an earlier stage in the planning process, when applications for Development Agreements are received.

Ald. Connors said he was disappointed with the reports; he did not feel that they have addressed the intent of the original motion which was meant to be applicable to Development Agreements and not to zoning applications. It was intended that the proposed meetings would be held at the point right after staff have gathered information initially on a given application, and any interested persons within the community would be invited to attend, along with staff members.

With regard to the format of the meeting, Ald. Connors suggested that meetings could be chaired by Aldermen, and the matter of aldermanic participation would be left up to the decision of members themselves. Basically, he saw the meeting as an attempt to resolve potential problems at an early point in the planning process. If a developer does not want to change his proposal after the meeting, he can still submit it

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as originally planned. The opportunity is provided, however, for the developer and citizens to negotiate changes in the interests of both, before the proposal goes any further.

Ald. Connors went on to comment on the legal opinions the Solicitor has submitted in connection with the information meeting process that is proposed. He then moved that a committee of two Aldermen be formed to meet with staff and to draft a specific policy, in keeping with the original motion of April, 1987, which will come back to Council for consideration. The motion was seconded by Ald. Hawley.

Ald. Pye and Greenough were in favour of referral to the M.P.S. Review Committee, as recommended by Mr. Lukan. Ald. Woods did not agree with the recommendation and supported the motion.

When the vote was taken, the motion carried by a vote of 9 to 4. Ald. Woods and Connors were the two Aldermen named to meet with staff as called for in the motion.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Connors & Hawley that a committee of two Aldermen be formed to meet with staff and to draft a specific policy, in keeping with the original motion of April, 1987, which will come back to Council for consideration.

ZONING APPLICATION:
11 & 13 MIDDLE STREET

On motion of Ald. Levandier and Connors, Council directed that staff not proceed with a neighbourhood information meeting in connection with an application to amend the Land Use By-law, to permit construction of an apartment building at 11 and 13 Middle Street. The Planning Dept. has recommended against this request and in directing that staff not proceed with the meeting, Council has in effect, denied the application.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Levandier & Connors that Council direct staff not to proceed with a neighbourhood information meeting in connection with an application to amend the Land Use By-law, which would have permitted construction of an apartment building at 11 and 13 Middle Street.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS:
ALBRO LAKE ROAD

Following meetings between the T.M.G. and the Aldermen for Wards 4 and 5, to discuss the matter of 'No Parking' signs on Albro Lake Road, the Acting Chairman of the T.M.G., Mr. Fougere, has submitted a report recommending that the existing 'No Parking' zone on the south side of Albro Lake Road, east of Wyse Road, be extended from 60' in length to 100' from the intersection, to promote a smoother, safer flow of traffic through the area. It is noted that the T.M.G. would not object to a further extension of this zone if it is the wish of Council to have it extended.

Mr. Fougere explained the recommendation of the T.M.G. in more detail, with the aid of a street plan shown on the overhead projector. Members of Council have previously received a submission from Robert G. Brown on behalf of the Anderson Brown Co. & Century 21 A.B.C. Realty Ltd., asking that the parking on Albro Lake Road be left as it was in the past.

Ald. McCluskey favoured a compromise that she and Ald. Withers have worked out with area residents, and she moved that there be no parking on Albro Lake Road on the side of the street that includes civic numbers 38 to 46 inclusive, and only that area. The motion was seconded by Ald. Withers.

Ald. Withers commented on the present difficulty that large trucks have in navigating the Wyse Road/Albro Lake Road intersection. The compromise proposed in the motion would address that situation and would be acceptable to residents at the same time. Ald. Woods and Pye, the other two Aldermen concerned, because of the fact that half of the street is in their ward as well, supported the T.M.G. recommendation and not the motion.

After considerable debate, the vote was taken on the motion and it was defeated by a vote of 7 to 6.

Ald. Woods and Pye then moved the adoption of the T.M.G. recommendation and this motion carried.

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MOTION: Moved by Ald. Woods and Pye that the T.M.G. recommendation on the 'No Parking' zone on the south side of Albro Lake Road (detailed on page 3) be adopted.

NAME: CHARMAN'S CORNER

On motion of Ald. Levandier and Thompson, Council received and filed a report on behalf of the Heritage Advisory Committee, advising that the Committee will be giving further consideration to the naming of areas around Sullivan's Pond, including the Park that had been previously named 'Charman's Corner'; the name was subsequently withdrawn by Council.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Levandier & Thompson that Council receive and file a report from the Heritage Advisory Committee on the subject of naming areas around Sullivan's Pond, including the park at the corner of Hawthorne Street and Prince Albert Road.

FERRY REPORT: AUGUST

On motion of Ald. Greenough and MacFarlane, Council approved the ferry operation report for the month of August, referred from the Transit Advisory Board. Ald. Levandier requested that the Board give consideration to an extension of the hours of ferry operation on Friday and Saturday nights, during the months from May to September.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough & MacFarlane that Council approve the ferry operation report for the month of August.

NAMING OF STREET

The Industrial Commission has recommended the designation of the connecting street between Brownlow Ave. and Eileen Stubbs Ave. as John Savage Ave.

Several members felt that a longer street, of more significance, should be named John Savage Ave., and that another name should be given to the short connecting street in question. On motion of Ald. Sarto and Greenough, the item was therefore deferred for one week so another name can be recommended in the meantime.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Sarto and Greenough that the naming of a connecting street in the City of Lakes Business Park, be deferred for one week, so that a name other than John Savage Ave. can be recommended.

FISCAL YEAR

On motion of Ald. Greenough and Sarto, Council approved a motion recommended by the Finance & Program

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Review Committee

to the effect that no change in the City's fiscal year can be expected because of the Provincial implications and the fact that this is a Provincial jurisdiction. Further information on this subject has been circulated with the Committee report. The Committee had been requested by Council to study the feasibility of changing the City's fiscal year to correspond with that of the Province.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough and Sarto that Council approve a motion recommended by the Finance & Program Review Committee on the feasibility of changing the City's fiscal year to correspond with that of the Province; this matter is a Provincial jurisdiction and therefore no change can be expected.

ARRELL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY APPEAL

A further update has gone to the Finance & Program Review Committee on the status of the Farrell Benevolent Society appeal, and the Committee has adopted a motion to accept the information and to request a continuation of the monitoring by the Solicitor for the Society.

Council approved the motion adopted by the Committee, on motion of Ald. Pye and Sarto. Ald. Hetherington asked if some kind of deadline could not be imposed on the Society, since this matter has been outstanding now for two years. Ald. McCluskey asked how the building and property belonging to the Society is shown on the assessment roll at the present time. The Mayor agreed to have the Solicitor look into this question further and update Council on the entire subject.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Pye and Sarto that Council adopt the motion approved by the Finance & Review Committee, with regard to the status of the Farrell Benevolent Society appeal, as noted above.

BUDGETARY IMPROVEMENTS

On motion of Ald. Greenough and Sarto, Council adopted the following recommendation on an item dealing with budgetary improvements:

That the Committee endorse the idea of a project Mr. Burke has outlined on a budget assessment project, and recommend the project to Council, but that further action beyond that be deferred until Mr. Burke has worked out a scenario for further report.

A report from Mr. Burke, dated Oct. 9/87, on

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the subject of Budgetary Improvements & Performance Measurement, has been circulated to members of Council since the Finance & Program Review Committee meeting, providing additional information on the budget assessment project recommended.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough and Sarto that Council adopt a recommendation from the Finance & Program Review Committee, on budgetary improvements, as noted at the bottom of page 5 of these minutes.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

As directed by Council, budgetary adjustments totalling \$661,492. have been submitted, with accompanying reports from Mr. Burke and the various City department heads. Also included with the material circulated was a summary of revenues & expenditures to Oct. 3/87, with a year-end forecast. The year-end forecast for 1987, at this point, shows a deficit of \$1,144,897.

Included also are Library Board adjustments to their budget, but there are no adjustments as yet from the School Board. Ald. Connors later explained that the Board will be discussing a response at its next meeting in November, following which a report will come to Council.

In making his presentation to Council, Mr. Burke explained the procedure that was followed in arriving at the adjustment figures before Council, which, if approved in total, will still leave a shortfall for 1987 in the amount of \$482,000. He said that at this point in a year, he did not feel it would be desirable to begin laying off full-time staff to accomplish reductions in expenditures. Such decision should be made, he said, at the beginning of a budget year and not when we are over three-quarters of the way through a year. He indicated to Council the three areas where he has not made a full recommendation of department alternatives; these are:

- 1) Police Dept.: he is recommending only the postponement of hiring ten cadets now in training, and nothing beyond that item. Saving for this one item would be \$26,891.70.

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- 2) Engineering Dept: he is recommending the reduction of only \$45,000. and not the entire amount of \$111,300., which would involve laying off staff.
- 3) Fire Dept.: No reductions are recommended in the Fire Dept., since they could not be achieved without laying off staff.

Mr. Burke later pointed out that the Fire Dept. has very few funds remaining in their budget that have not been committed, except for those involving salaries and staff-related items.

The other information provided in Mr. Burke's report, as Council requested, was the analysis of the City's Revenue Fund Surplus from Dec. 31/84 to the position of the surplus as at Dec. 31/86.

He has recommended that Council accept his report and the recommended budget adjustments totalling \$661,492.

Ald. Connors and Hawley moved the adoption of the recommendation. While Council concurred with most of the adjustments, the majority of members were not in agreement with the proposed postponement in hiring the police cadets. Members felt that a commitment, if not legal, then moral, has been made to the cadets, and some members, such as Ald. McCluskey, felt their services are needed as soon as possible, especially to carry out the patrol duties promised for the Burnside Park. Ald. Hawley said he was not convinced that the commencement of their service could not have been delayed until January of next year, and Ald. Connors did not feel that taking on additional police staff is the way to deal with crime; he felt that more impact is made with a good crime prevention program in the community.

Items that members wished to have looked at further were:

- 1) the interpretation of Council's directive on a staff freeze, as it was understood at the time of the 1987 budget discussions.
- 2) time being taken in lieu of overtime worked, as an option permitted instead of requiring staff to take payment for overtime.
- 3) a streamlining of the Winter Carnival budget for the 1988 program.

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- 4) a correlation of information on what has been spent to date in the regular financial statement to increase its effectiveness in keeping Council on top of the City's financial situation at an earlier point in the year.
- 5) the 10% annual reduction in the non-mandatory amount that goes to the School Board, proposed to be implemented some time ago, at budget time.
- 6) the increasing Water Utility surplus, and the hydrant rate transfer charge in this connection.
- 7) points raised by Ald. McCluskey about revenue the City may be losing because of assessment and occupancy permit information that is not up-to-date, such as new construction that does not get included before the November cut-off date.

All of the department heads were present to respond to individual questions from Council about the adjustments they have listed. Mr. Smith provided details on the items contained in the General Government list. Two items singled out from this list for further consideration were the Commissionaire services and the services of the part-time Recording Secretary, for the months of November and December. The general feeling was that both should be retained because of the fact that notices of meetings have to be delivered, if not by the Commissionaire, then by some other staff, such as the police, and the fact that minutes should be kept from the various Boards and Committee meetings. Together, these items total \$3,900.

Another item considered for retention, from the Parks & Recreation list, was the \$14,200. item for the fall renovation to athletic fields. Mr. Atkinson was asked to comment on the cost next year if this work is not done in the fall, and he advised that it will be about double this amount.

Ald. Pye proposed that \$2,000. be retained from the Engineering Dept. adjustments for Streets (Gravel) Grade & Gravel (23410). Other members did not appear to consider this a priority item and it was not included for reinstatement when the final vote was taken.

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Ald. Hetherington and Greenough proposed the amendment that would exclude the police cadets (\$26,891.70) the Commissionaire's services (\$2,500.), and the services of a part-time Recording Secretary (\$1,400.) from the budget adjustments, and to this Ald. Connors asked to add the \$14,200. item for fall renovation to athletic fields. The \$2,000. item requested by Ald. Pye for gravel streets was also added.

(During debate on the amendment, Council agreed to continue meeting beyond 11:00 p.m., on motion of Ald. Hetherington and Sarto.)

The vote was taken separately on each of the items proposed for reinstatement. The only item not approved in this vote was the \$2,000. for gravel streets. With the four items noted, the revised total for budget adjustments, comes to \$616,501.

The vote was taken on the amended motion and it carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Connors and Hawley that recommended budget adjustments, totalling \$661,492., be approved.

AMENDMENT: Moved in amendment by Ald. Hetherington and Greenough that four items be excluded from the list of budget cuts and reinstated for funding; these are:
1) 10 police cadets (\$26,891.70)
2) Commissionaire's services (\$2,500.)
3) Part-time Recording Secretary (\$1,400.)
4) Fall renovation: Playing fields (\$14,200.)
- for a revised total of \$616,501.

AWARD TENDER:
PENHORN PARK
RENOVATIONS

Tenders have been received as follows for Penhorn Park renovations:

Lorraine Landscaping Ltd.	\$22,899.80
Creative Landscaping Ltd.	23,910.00
Edmonds Bros. Landscaping	26,727.00
Terra Nova Landscaping Ltd.	29,839.50

Acceptance of the low bid, received from Lorraine Landscaping Ltd., has been recommended by Mr. Purdy, with the concurrence of the City Administrator.

The tender was awarded, as recommended, on motion of Ald. Hetherington and MacFarlane.

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MOTION: Moved by Ald. Hetherington & MacFarlane that the tender for the Penhorn Park renovations be awarded to the low bidder, Lorraine Landscaping Ltd., as recommended.

AWARD TENDER:
HEATING SYSTEM
FINDLAY COMM.
CENTRE

Tenders were received as follows for a new heating system in the Findlay Community Centre:

Black & MacDonald	\$93,909.00
Urban Construction	83,295.00
J. A. Moulton & Son	75,000.00
Western Plumbing	65,457.00
N. S. Armature Works Ltd.	61,350.00

It has been recommended that the tender be awarded to the low bidder, Nova Scotia Armature Works Ltd., and in concurring with this recommendation, Mr. Burke has explained the funding provision for this expenditure, by amending the 1987 Capital Budget, necessitated by the fact that the tender was higher than funding provided.


Ald. Greenough and Thompson moved the awarding of the tender, as recommended, but Ald. Woods felt the expenditure is totally unjustified and involves a policy decision that is unacceptable. He discussed his concerns further with Mr. Rix, who was present for this item, and with Mr. Burke.

Ald. Hawley's concern was about the involvement of School Maintenance staff during the summer, and as Chairman of the School Board, Ald. Connors explained why there were School Maintenance staff working in the building. Ald. Hawley later took this matter up further with Ald. Connors.

When the vote was taken, the motion carried with Ald. Levandier voting against.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough & Thompson that the tender for a new heating system, Findlay Community Centre, be awarded to the low bidder, N. S. Armature Works Ltd., as recommended.

Meeting adjourned.


G. D. Brady,
Deputy City Clerk.

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City Council, Oct. 20/87

ITEMS:

- 1) Neighbourhood Information Meetings, page 1.
- 2) Rezoning application: 11 & 13 Middle St., page 2.
- 3) Parking restrictions: Albro Lake Rd., page 3.
- 4) Name: Charman's Corner, page 4.
- 5) Ferry report: August, page 4.
- 6) Naming of street, page 4.
- 7) Fiscal year, page 4.
- 8) Farrell Benevolent Society appeal, page 5.
- 9) Budgetary improvements, page 5.
- 10) Budget adjustments, page 6 to 9 incl.
- 11) Award tender: Penhorn Park renovations, page 9.
- 12) Award tender: Heating system, Findlay Comm.
Centre, page 10.

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Dartmouth, N. S.

October 27/87.

Regularly called meeting of City Council
held this date at 7:30 p.m.

Present - Mayor Savage

Ald. Sarto	Thompson
Billard	Levandier
Withers	McCluskey
Pye	Woods
Hawley	Greenough
Bregante	Hetherington
City Solicitor, M. Moreash	
City Administrator, J. Burke	
City Clerk-Treasurer, Bruce S. Smith.	

Rising on a point of privilege, Ald. McCluskey asked that a letter of congratulations be sent from Council to the new City of Lakes Kiwanis Club, on their formation.

Former Mayor Dan Brownlow, Mrs. Connie Wenaus, and other representatives of the Senior Citizens Service Centre, were in the Chamber to make a presentation to the City. Mr. Brownlow presented to Mayor Savage, a cheque in the amount of \$80,000. toward the \$500,000. pledge made by the senior citizens to assist in funding the capital cost of the service centre. The \$80,000. amount represents this year's contribution; last year's donation was in the amount of \$150,000.

In presenting the cheque, Mr. Brownlow acknowledged the cooperation of Council and the citizens of Dartmouth in the success the senior citizens organization has had with their fund-raising efforts. Mayor Savage thanked the organization for their contribution and campaign efforts.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:
TAXES & WATER

A report from Mr. Smith was before Council on outstanding accounts receivable owed to the City for taxes (both real and business occupancy) and for water services. The accounts included for purposes of this report are considered to be uncollectable, and the recommendation to Council is that they be written off the books of the City. The accounts total \$183,958.87.

Mr. Corrigan presented an overview perspective on the collection of City taxes, for Council's general information. The graphs he showed to Council indicated

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that only about 5% of City taxpayers were delinquent in paying their taxes for the years 1984 to 1986 inclusive. As of this date, we have about 6.3 million dollars outstanding in taxes for 1987, and Mr. Corrigan pointed out to Council that in both the ^{case of} real property taxes owed and business occupancy taxes owed, almost 30% of the total amounts are tied up in ten major accounts. In other words, the majority of taxpayers are paying their bills, and it is only a small minority who are making it difficult to get tax receivable balances down to a reasonable level.

Ald. Sarto and Greenough moved the adoption of the recommendation to write off \$183,958.87 in outstanding accounts receivable.

Ald. Withers was concerned about writing off these accounts when the companies and people involved have received City services and then not paid for them. Ald. Levandier felt it is more worthwhile for staff to concentrate on the major outstanding accounts, rather than concentrating their efforts on the smaller amounts represented here. Mr. Smith noted that collection efforts will still continue in the case of these accounts, even though they may be written off by Council.

Ald. Levandier asked about the possible release of funds that have been put aside in the tax reserve, if we are able to get below the 3.6 million dollars that has been allocated for this purpose. He was advised that any funds collected below the 3.6 million-dollar provision could be made available for application against this year's projected deficit. It was also pointed out, however, that taxes over the 3.6 million-dollar reserve that are not able to be collected, will have to be rated for to make up the difference between 3.6 million dollars and the amount represented.

Ald. McCluskey said it is time to ask the Province for a change in the Assessment Act so municipalities have a better opportunity to collect business occupancy taxes

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that are owing. The Solicitor noted that in cases where bankruptcy has been declared, the Bankruptcy Act is a Federal jurisdiction which supercedes provisions of the Assessment Act, which is Provincial legislation.

Ald. Pye had questions about a penalty requirement for late payment of business occupancy taxes, and was advised by the Solicitor that we do not have authority to levy a further penalty on these taxes, over and above charging interest, which we are now doing.

Ald. McCluskey suggested that consideration be given to adding the name of the person responsible to the assessment roll, along with the names of non-limited companies, and this might be some help in future in collecting from the person whose name appears on the assessment roll. Mr. Smith made a note of this suggestion. Ald. Billard agreed that the idea is worth pursuing further, although any liability would only be applicable in the case of non-limited companies.

Mr. Smith responded to a number of questions about tax collection practices and the adequacy of staff assigned to this work. He felt that we have adequate staff at present, but the question of extra staff members, in relation to the possibility of being able to collect additional taxes, is being looked at and considered.

The motion carried with Ald. Withers voting against.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Sarto and Greenough that Council approve the writing off of \$183,958.87 in uncollectible taxes, as recommended.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:
SOCIAL SERVICES
BILLINGS

A second report from Mr. Smith was presented on the subject of uncollectible accountsreceivable, in the category of Social Services billings to other municipalities, amounting in total to \$163,125.55.

The recommendation is that Council authorize the write-off of these accounts, as per the list that accompanied Mr. Smith's report of Oct. 13/87.

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Ald. Hetherington and Woods moved the adoption of the recommendation, but Ald. McCluskey and other members preferred to take steps, including legal action, to try and collect money owed to the City by other municipalities, especially in the case of the large accounts.

Mr. Smith explained what happened last year when legal action was initiated and subsequently staff were directed not to proceed further with it. He noted that a considerable amount of legal work and staff time are required for these cases, and by the time legal costs are paid, the financial return may be minimal.

Members felt the Province should be taking the lead in trying to establish a dialogue among the municipalities, whereby these financial obligations can be discharged without the recourse of having to go to court over them. Ald. Greenough did not think the City of Dartmouth should be subsidizing the provincial welfare system, which is in effect what is happening when we are expected to write off \$163,000. and then expect our own taxpayers to come up with this amount. A suggestion was made by Ald. Greenough about provincial withholding of grants to municipalities, in the amount they owe to a municipality such as Dartmouth in social service billings, but Mr. Smith noted that this idea was already pursued with the Province and it was their opinion that this is a problem between municipalities.

Mr. Burke was asked to comment and his response was that these are legitimate receivables the City should take action to collect. He considered that court action is warranted in some of the accounts and would bring the matter to a head.

When the vote was taken on the motion, it was defeated.

Ald. Levandier and Withers then moved referral to the City Administrator for a firm recommendation on how Council should proceed next on this issue.

The motion to refer carried.

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MOTION: Moved by Ald. Levandier and Withers that the item on accounts receivable: Social Services billings, be referred to Mr. Burke for a firm recommendation as to how Council should proceed with the item, given the points discussed in debate about further collection efforts.

The item Terms of Reference: Dartmouth Housing Committee has been deleted from this agenda and will come back to Council at a later time.

EXPROPRIATION
& STREET TAKE-
OVER: PARKSTONE
TERRACE

RESOLUTIONS
87-44 & 87-45

The City Solicitor has recommended the adoption of Resolutions 87-44 and 87-45, expropriating and accepting Parkstone Terrace as a street. The land parcel to be expropriated is designated as Parcel "P", owner unknown.

Resolution 87-44 was adopted, on motion of Ald. Pye and Sarto.

Resolution 87-45 was adopted, on motion of Ald. Sarto and Woods.

MOTIONS: To adopt Resolutions 87-44 and 87-45, expropriating and accepting Parkstone Terrace as a street, as noted above.

SET DATE FOR
PUBLIC HEARING:
DEVELOPMENT
AGREEMENTS

Council has been requested to set the date for public hearing on Development Agreements for (a) commercial abutting residential and (b) expansion of non-conforming uses. A staff report has been submitted in this connection, with accompanying documentation.

Ald. Woods requested that the hearing not be scheduled until he and Ald. Connors have an opportunity to meet with Planning Dept. staff to discuss community participation procedures associated with development agreement proposals. Mr. Lukan noted that these are in fact separate issues, and the public hearing could still proceed. Members of Council felt that if the hearing were set for December, this would give Ald. Woods and Connors ample opportunity for a meeting with the Planning Dept. in the interim anyway.

Council therefore set Dec. 8th as the date for public hearing of the Development Agreements in the two categories noted, on motion of Ald. Withers and McCluskey.

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MOTION: Moved by Ald. Withers & McCluskey that Dec. 8th be set by Council as the date for public hearing on Development Agreements in the two categories noted - commercial abutting residential and expansion of non-conforming uses.

WDC LAND:
LANDSCAPING

The Waterfront Development Corp. proposes some landscaping and other work on three properties in the area of the Shubenacadie Canal Interpretation Centre downtown, and the Corporation is requesting that the City maintain these properties once they have been improved.

In his report to Council on this item, Mr. Lukan has recommended that the City accept the offer of the W.D.C. for landscaping, and accept responsibility for annual maintenance of the properties involved. Further, that the W.D.C. prepare the necessary legal and survey documentation for the lease. Estimated annual cost for the landscaping maintenance is \$7,500.

Ald. McCluskey and Thompson moved the adoption of the recommendation. There were questions about the maintenance cost to the City, and during this debate, Ald. Thompson suggested that efforts be made to secure additional students for the work under a summer employment program, thereby reducing the cost to the City.

The motion carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. McCluskey & Thompson that Mr. Lukan's recommendation on the City assuming responsibility for maintenance of landscaping by W.D.C., to be carried out on three downtown properties, be adopted.

NAMING OF STREET:
CITY OF LAKES
BUSINESS PARK

An alternate name has been recommended to Council for the short connecting street in the City of Lakes Business Park, between Brownlow Ave. and Eileen Stubbs Ave. Council was not in favour of naming this street after the incumbent Mayor, and requested that another name be chosen.

The name being recommended is MacLean Ave., after Charles MacLean who served as Mayor of the Town of Dartmouth from 1925 to 1928.

Council approved the name recommended by Mr. Rath, on motion of Ald. Greenough and Hetherington.

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MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough & Hetherington that the short connecting street between Brownlow Ave. and Eileen Stubbs Ave., in the City of Lakes Business Park, be named 'MacLean Ave.' after a former Mayor of the Town of Dartmouth.

LEASE OF SITE 50A:
WRIGHT AVE.

RESOLUTION 87-43

A report from Mr. Rath was considered, recommending that Council approve the leasing of Parcel C50A on Wright Ave. for a further one-year period, commencing on Sept. 1/87, at a rental rate of \$3,600., to Otis Engineering Co. Ltd.; this company has been leasing the land for the past three years at a rate of \$2,100.

The recommendation is to adopt Resolution 87-43, authorizing the lease agreement, subject to the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Council adopted Resolution 87-43, as recommended, on motion of Ald. Levandier and Greenough.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Levandier & Greenough that Council adopt Resolution 87-43, authorizing a lease agreement with Otis Engineering Co. Ltd., for Parcel C50A (Wright Ave.), for a further one-year period, as of Sept. 1/87, at a rental rate of \$3,600.

PRICE CHANGES:
BURNSIDE PARK
& CITY OF LAKES
BUSINESS PARK

The Industrial Commission has recommended an across-the-board price increase of approx. 10% for land in the Burnside Park and in the City of Lakes Business Park, for the reasons set out in Mr. Rath's report on this item, dated Oct. 14/87. Approval of proposed By-law C-636 has been recommended to accomplish the proposed price increase.

BY-LAW C-636

It was moved by Ald. Greenough and Sarto and carried that leave be given to introduce the said By-law C-636 and that it now be read a first time.

It was moved by Ald. Hetherington and Thompson and carried that By-law C-636 be read a second time.

Unanimous consent was given by Council for third reading of the by-law.

It was moved by Ald. Hetherington and Sarto and carried that By-law C-636 be read a third time, and that the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to sign and seal the said by-law on behalf of the City.

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MOTIONS: Three readings given by By-law C-636: price changes, Burnside Park and City of Lakes Business Park. Details on page 7 of these minutes.

RESIGNATIONS:
MPS SUB-COMMITTEE

On motion of Ald. Hetherington and Bregante, Council accepted the resignations of Scott McKnight and Brian Tapper from the M.P.S. Implementation & Regulations Sub-committee, as requested by the M.P.S. Review Committee.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Hetherington & Bregante that the resignations of Scott McKnight and Brian Tapper from the M.P.S. Implementation & Regulations Sub-committee, be accepted by Council.

METRO VOLUNTEER
RESOURCE CENTRE

The City has been asked to appoint a representative to the Board of Directors for the newly-formed Metro Volunteer Resource Centre.

There being no volunteers from Council wishing to represent the City, the Mayor agreed to make this appointment from outside Council. Ald. Greenough suggested that someone from the City Social Services Dept. should be appointed in this capacity. The Mayor will take this suggestion into account when making the appointment.

RETIREMENT:
SOCIAL SERVICES
DIRECTOR

Council has been advised of the resignation of Mr. McNeil as Director of Social Services for the City, effective as of Jan. 29/88. Mr. McNeil will be retiring, and Mr. Burke has recommended that his resignation be accepted with regret, and that a search for a replacement be commenced.

Council accepted Mr. McNeil's resignation with regret, on motion of Ald. Sarto and Thompson. and concurred with Mr. Burke's recommendation on a replacement search.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Sarto & Thompson that Council accept Mr. McNeil's resignation as Director of Social Services, with regret; further, that a replacement search for this position be commenced.

1987 DEBT ISSUE

Mr. Smith has requested that Council approve funding arrangements with the Municipal Finance Corp. for a debt issue, covering 1987 capital projects and an additional amount for the Water Utility; in total,

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an eight-million-dollar debt issue is being requested, as per the details provided in Mr. Smith's report of Oct. 22/87. The formal Issuing Resolution would be approved by Council at a later date.

Ald. Billard and Hetherington moved approval of the funding arrangements outlined, but Ald. Billard had some questions about the Temporary Borrowing Resolutions shown in Appendix A, and reconciliation of the figures in the column headed '1987 Funding Request from M.F.C.', as compared with the capital budget figures. Mr. Burke acknowledged that a works-in-progress schedule would be of assistance in reconciling these figures, and he advised that such a schedule will be prepared.

The motion carried.

MOTION: Moved by Ald. Billard & Hetherington that Council approve the funding arrangements outlined in Mr. Smith's report of Oct. 22/87, covering the eight-million-dollar debt issue for capital projects and the Water Utility.

SELECTION OF
EXTERNAL AUDITOR

The Mayor advised Council of Ald. Connors' request that the next item on the agenda be deferred until he can be present for it; Ald. Connors was absent from this meeting due to illness.

Ald. Greenough said he had also been contacted by Ald. Connors with the same request, but he felt the item should not be delayed further, especially since members of Council have had ample opportunity to be present for the External Auditor presentation, and to bring any concerns they might have forward, well in advance of this Council meeting.

Council therefore agreed to proceed with the item on the selection of External Auditors for the City.

The Finance & Program Review Committee has recommended the appointment of Doane Raymond as External Auditors for the City for the year 1988, audit fees not to exceed \$65,000. If the City continues to be satisfied with performance and fees thereafter, Doane Raymond may be re-appointed annually in each of

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the following four years.

Ald. Greenough and Withers moved the adoption of the recommendation from the Committee.

Ald. Billard favoured deferral of any decision on this item until there has been an opportunity to hear from the School Board, and did not consider that a one-week deferral would make any difference one way or the other. Ald. Woods asked about the fee for auditing services if it does not include the School Board audit. Ald. Greenough advised that \$9,000. will come off the bill if the School Board does not select the same auditors, and the Board's fee, if they accept the other auditing firm, will be in the amount of \$12,000.

Members who spoke on the motion were generally willing to support it and felt that a satisfactory review process has been followed by the Finance & Program Review Committee.

The motion carried with Ald. Billard voting against.

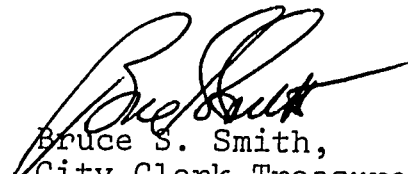
MOTION: Moved by Ald. Greenough and Withers that the recommendation of the Finance & Program Review Committee, on the appointment of Doane Raymond as External Auditors for the City, for the year 1988, be approved by Council.

MULTI-SPORT
FACILITY
COMMITTEE

On motion of Ald. Hetherington and Levandier, Council approved the appointment of the following members to serve on the Multi-Sport Facility Committee approved by Council at a recent meeting:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Mr. Burke | Ltd. Cmdr. Kerr |
| Ald. Hawley | Mr. Bill Mackie |
| McCluskey | Len Atkinson |
| | Drew Sperry |
| | Ms. Nora Adams |

Having completed the agenda for this date, Council adjourned at the hour of 10:00 p.m.


Bruce S. Smith,
City Clerk-Treasurer.

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ITEMS:

- 1) Accounts receivable: Taxes & Water, page 1 to 3 incl.
- 2) " " : Social Services billings, page 3 to 5 incl.
- 3) Expropriation & street take-over: Parkstone Tc., pg. 5 Resolutions 87-44 & 87-45, page 5.
- 4) Set date for public hearing: Development Agreements, page 5.
- 5) W.D.C. land: Landscaping, page 6.
- 6) Naming of street: City of Lakes Business Park, pg. 6.
- 7) Lease of Site 50A: Wright Ave., page 7. Resolution 87-43, page 7.
- 8) Price changes: Burnside Park & City of Lakes Business park, page 7. By-law C-636, page 7.
- 9) Resignations: MPS Sub-committee, page 8.
- 10) Metro Volunteer Resource Centre, page 8.
- 11) Retirement: Social Services Director, page 8.
- 12) 1987 debt issue, page 8.
- 13) Selection of External Auditors, page 9.
- 14) Multi-Sport Facility Committee, page 10.

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