

# **HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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## **BEDFORD WATERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 20, 2003**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Don Lowther, Chair  
Mr. Richard Hattin  
Mr. Victor Li  
Mr. Kevin Dean  
Mr. Lawrence White  
Mr. Doug Murray  
Councillor Goucher  
Dr. S. Ray

**ABSENT:** Ms. Deborah Gillis (regrets)  
Mr. Brad Gibb  
Mr. William Matheson (regrets)  
Mr. Lem Murphy (regrets)  
Mr. Cedric Pilkington (regrets)  
Mr. Angus Schaffenburg (regrets)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ms. Lynne Le Boutillier, Legislative Assistant

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., LeBrun Centre.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

An error was noted in the minutes related to item 6.4 - Election of Officers. Third sentence to read "While Mr. Li was nominated for Chair, he declined the nomination".

**MOVED BY Mr. Li and seconded by Dr. Ray that the January 8, 2003 minutes, as amended, be adopted. MOTION PUT AND CARRIED.**

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

It was decided to move items 4.6 - Brison Development: Detailed Stormwater Management Plan up on the agenda. Similarly, Item 4.5 Water Resource Management Study.

The agenda, as amended was adopted by consensus.

4. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STATUS SHEET**

4.6 **BRISON DEVELOPMENT: DETAILED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

- C Letter from Mr. Glenn Woodford, Wallace Macdonald & Lively dated February 19, 2003 re Basinview Ridge - Detailed Storm Drainage Design and accompanying map.

Ms. Jenifer Tsang and Mr. Woodford, Wallace Macdonald & Lively were in attendance for this item. Mr. Woodford reviewed the Storm Drainage Plan and answered queries from the members.

**MOVED BY Mr. White and Mr. Hattin that BWAC approve the project based on the Preliminary Post-Development Storm Drainage Plan presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4.5 **WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STUDY**

- C Hard copies or CDs of the HRM Water Resource Management Study Report, dated December 2002 from Dillon Consulting had been previously provided.

- C Draft minutes of the Joint WAB meeting held January 16, 2003. (Circulated at the meeting was an amended page 10, which corrected an error identified by Mr. Mandaville in the last line of the third paragraph.)

The Chair noted that a meeting has been scheduled tomorrow for the three WAB chairs to meet with Austin French and John Sheppard on a strategy for providing input on the draft report. The Chair was encouraged to stress to staff that the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline may not be practical.

Mr. White related to the members that at last evenings H/HCWAB meeting it was decided to hold a special session March 3<sup>rd</sup> to deal with this one item. In the interim members were to provide their comments via e-mail or fax to the Municipal Clerk's Office. These would be provided to the members in their agenda package for the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

The Committee debated the best approach for reviewing the document. Dr. Ray and Mr. Dean had drafted some written comments. At the conclusion of the meeting Dr. Ray provided his general comments to the Secretary for circulation.

Councillor Goucher proposed holding a 'think tank' some morning or evening at Smitty's. The members would be encouraged to submit their comments via e-mail before the meeting. No decision was made on this approach. The Chair will await the outcome of tomorrow's meeting.

During discussion the following points were raised:

- C It appears the document was prepared to drive the Planning process.

Councillor Goucher indicated that this report will no doubt be an integral part of the Regional Planning process currently underway.

- C The document did not seem focused. For instance, objectives not detailed.

The Chair will endeavour to obtain a copy of the terms of reference, to determine what the objectives of the study were, when he attends tomorrow's meeting.

- C No definition of the water resources HRM has.

- C Items missing from the List of Tables, which need to be figured out first, ie. inventory of potable water, ground water, etc.

- C No mention of coastal waters.

- C No Action Plan indicated. It was noted a Work Plan is developed from the Action Plan.
- C The documents has flaws, but there is some good content. A number of things missing, for example.
- C In addition to commenting on their recommendations, the Committee could generate its own.
- C The lack of reference to domestic water. This was raised at the joint meeting of WABs in January. The response from the consultants was basically there is lots of water.

The area around the Pockwock Watershed should be surveyed to see where groundwater flows.

- C No reference to sewers. Baseline information needed. It was noted that 70% of water entering the Harbour, or to be treated before entering the harbour, is stormwater.
- C Areas of the report the Committee may wish to concentrate on, i.e. Executive Summary, Section 5.

Referring to the Riparian Buffers, one member felt that too much discretionary power was given when words such as 'where appropriate' are used.

Mr. Hattin felt these buffers are not a water resource management issue. They should be dealt with in subsequent regulations. He noted that the reasons for buffers differ depending on whether it is a fresh water or a salt water location.

- C The document could be eventually used as a Guideline book.

#### 4.1 **LIST OF ONGOING AND NEW PROJECTS**

In absence of Mr. Schaffenburg, deferred.

#### 4.2 **INFILLING OF MOIRS POND**

In his update, the Chair noted the following:

- C Ms.Gillis is conducting title searches. She has studied the document related to the granting of a right-of-way and easement between Sobeys and the Town of Bedford.

Copies provided with the information items. This may be important in relation to saving the pond.

- C He spoke to Peter Christie and was advised that the meeting with Mr. Martin of Sobeys has yet to be set up.
- C A meeting with Ron Russell, Minister of Environment is still desired, especially since the Ports Authority has indicated they have no jurisdiction. It is important to determine what jurisdiction, if any, the Province has in this area as a result.
- C Mr. Dean is in the process of drafting a further letter to the Minister of Fisheries.
- C They are endeavouring to obtain information from the Department of Fisheries related to destruction of habitat.
- C Whether DFO has completed its work on this matter isn't known.

#### 4.3 **STATUS SHEET**

During the review of the Status Sheet, it was decided that the first item related to **Synoptic Water Quality Survey** could be deleted given its connection to the Water Resource Management Study.

The Chair reported that Angus Schaffenburg has spoken to Mr. Riles re the **Testing Results Paper Mill Lake** item. Results are supposed to be forthcoming. Mr. Dean once again questioned whether any mention was made to clarifying what the contract stated in this regard. He reiterated that the issue is not testing but compliance. It was noted they contend that no further testing is required, given no development is taking place around the lake.

**Kearney, Quarry and Paper Mill Lake Dams** - Mr. Dean is trying to have a meeting with Mr. Russell to determine what the terms of the agreement are with Annapolis for 2003, i.e. what Annapolis' responsibilities are. He would like to know that the Department of Environment's position is if the dams have to be removed.

**Sobeys Pyritic Slate Disposal** - Can be removed from Status Sheet.

**Parkers Brook Development** - It was reported that Angus Schaffenburg has discussed obtaining these test results with Kurt Pyle, a new Development Officer. Mr. Pyle is pursuing.

#### 4.4 **WATER TESTING SITES AND PARAMETERS**

This item has been combined with Item 5.

#### 4.7 **PARKERS BROOK DEVELOPMENT - TEST RESULTS**

Refer item 4.3 - Status Sheet.

#### 5. **UPDATE FROM WATER QUALITY INVENTORY SUB-COMMITTEE**

- C e-mail dated January 23, 2003 re Water Inventory and Quality Measurement Project included with agenda.

The Chair noted that Dr. Jack Burney is looking for projects for his students. He and his students would be more than happy to do work on the lakes. The first step would be identify what needs to be done. It was noted that there are some hazards involved with doing this work and liability would have to be addressed. The Chair noted that these are fourth year students, so they have some experience.

Mr. Hattin will provide Dr. Burney with a map identifying the sites. Over forty (40) water bodies have been identified in the Committee's jurisdiction. He did not know whether the Sackville River should be included. The Chair noted it is very well taken care of by the SRA, who have just hired a full time person.

Referring to Dr. Ray and his work on the water testing sites and parameters, Mr. Li sought direction from the Committee on what they actually want tested. He explained if one is looking for the impact of acid rain versus industrial pollution or residences on a water body, different chemicals would be tested for. The Committee concluded that what tests are needed are best left with people with experience in this field, i.e. Dr. Ray and Mr. Li.

#### 6. **UPDATE FROM PAPER MILL LAKE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Murray noted that a meeting was held February 4, 2003 at the HRM facility, Acadia School, Sackville. He reviewed with the members the minutes of the November 4, 2002 meeting.

He concluded that there appears not to be too much else for the Advisory Committee to do and he felt it might disband. Their next meeting is likely to be in April. It was noted that a commercial development in the vicinity of the Hammonds Plains Road may proceed in six months.

#### 7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **HYDROTECHNICAL STUDY OF THE SACKVILLE RIVER**

- C Memorandum dated February 12, 2003 from Angus Schaffenburg, attaching summary of study.

7.2 **REGIONAL PLANNING PROPOSAL**

Councillor Goucher referred to a proposal for a regional plan coming to Regional Council next week. The area in question is very large, i.e. 26,000 acres, a portion of which is Bedford West. Staff is trying to look at the larger picture when designing infrastructure and planning transportation and sewer services. A citizens committee is to be appointed of which four members are to be from the former Town of Bedford. He canvassed the members to determine if anyone on BWAC would be interested in an appointment.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, March 12, 2003.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Lynne Le Boutillier  
Legislative Assistant