

**Joint Meeting of
Harbour Solutions Advisory Committee
&
Energy and Underground Services Advisory Committee**

July 4, 2006

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Kelly, Co-Chair
Councillor Linda Mosher, Co-Chair
Councillor Becky Kent
Councillor Steve Streach
Councillor Debbie Hum
Councillor Dawn Sloane

ABSENT: Councillor Sue Uteck
Councillor Jim Smith
Councillor Stephen Adams (regrets)
Councillor Andrew Younger (regrets)

STAFF & OTHERS: Mr. Brad Anguish, Director,
Environmental Management Services
Mr. Mike Kroger, Manager of Construction,
Harbour Solutions Project
Mr. Stephen King, Manager, Environmental Performance,
Environmental Management Services
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Jackie Hamilton, Project Manager, Capital District
Ms. Carol Macomber, A/Director, Community Culture and
Economic Development
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant
Councillor Gloria McCluskey

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1. Call to Order

A joint meeting of the Harbour Solutions Advisory Committee and the Energy and Underground Services Advisory Committee was called to order by the Co-Chairs, Mayor Kelly and Councillor Mosher at 11:00 a.m. in the Media Room, City Hall.

2. Undergrounding Power to Dartmouth Sewage Treatment Plant

Mr. Anguish advised that community residents and Councillor Kent have requested the wires along the access road to the Dartmouth Sewage Treatment Plant be placed underground. He explained that there is some urgency to this decision as the underground piping this will tie into will happen between now and August 1, 2006. Therefore, staff is looking for direction as to whether the scope of the Harbour Solutions Project is to be changed to include this and, if so, how will it be funded. Mr. Anguish noted that due to the critical timelines, a decision of this Committee is required today, and depending on the outcome, staff can take it to the Regional Council meeting scheduled for this evening.

Mr. Anguish circulated cost estimates and photocopied pictures of the power poles that are currently located along the access road and advised that the proposal is to place the wires underground from Tupper Street to the Plant. He explained that there is currently an open trench along this area for piping, and this provides an opportunity to place the wires underground.

Mr. Anguish advised that the estimated cost of this project is \$411,000 plus tax. He added that, should the Committee decide to approve this project today, staff would recommend an increase to the budget of the Harbour Solutions Project be approved, up to \$500,000 for underground wiring on the Dartmouth Sewage Treatment Plant Access Road. Further to this, staff will need direction as to where the funds are to come from. He suggested there were two options, i.e funds can come from the Harbour Solutions Contingency Fund, which has approximately \$2.87 million that is uncommitted, or from Capital District Funds CDD000736 which has \$725,000 remaining. He noted that these funds were from a project last year in the south end which did not proceed.

In response to a question by Mayor Kelly, Mr. Anguish advised that his understanding is that the law requires a separate trench for the underground wiring and that it can not be placed in the same trench with the piping.

Mayor Kelly pointed out that the documentation circulated in regard to the cost estimates indicate upgrading from Pleasant Street to Parker Street, however, this has nothing to do with the project.

In response, Mr. Anguish advised that staff received the cost estimates only recently and for this reason he was recommending approval of up to \$500,000, and staff will carry out the due diligence on this matter. He also pointed out that this project is unique because it has to go under railroad tracks, and this brings a whole other level of difficulty. Mr. Anguish indicated that to the level of degree that Parker Street is affected by this project, staff will get the answers.

The Committee entered a discussion and Mr. Anguish and Mr. Kroger responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the Harbour Solutions/Energy and Underground Services Committee approve the scope of the Harbour Solutions Project to include undergrounding a portion along the Dartmouth Sewage Treatment Plant Access Road for a cost not to exceed \$500,000, with the funds coming from the Harbour Solutions Contingency Fund.

Mr. Anguish and Ms. Donovan responded to further questions.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.

3. Halifax CLC - Proceeding with changes to MGA to enable Community Development Committee

Mr. Anguish circulated a memorandum dated June 6, 2006 from Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor.

Mr. Anguish, referring to the memo, advised that it outlines the Municipal Solicitor's opinion with regard to the Halifax Community Liaison Committee's desire to use their one million dollars of Community Integration Fund on forming a Community Development Corporation. He indicated that the Municipal Government Act, which outlines what Council is permitted to spend money on does not permit the expenditure of funds in the way the CLC wishes.

Mr. Anguish advised that the CLC met on June 24, 2006 and have decided that their next move will be to try and have the Municipal Government Act amended. The local MLA is supportive of the group and has advised that she would do what she could to get this through the Legislature.

Mr. Anguish suggested that this Committee request the CLC provide a presentation on their concept of a Community Development Committee at a future meeting. This Committee could then recommend they proceed or not to Regional Council with the idea.

Councillor Sloane spoke in support of the concept of the Community Development Corporation advising that the group wants to upgrade Gottingen Street and noted that this is being modelled after the New Dawn concept in Cape Breton.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Kent that the Halifax Community Liaison Committee be invited to present their concept of a Community Development Corporation.

A discussion ensued and Ms. Donovan pointed out that approximately 20 years ago, a Gottingen Street Development Fund was established with a similar idea. She pointed out that eventually it fell apart, and cautioned against the possibility of repeating past mistakes.

Councillor Mosher advised that prior to the Committee making its presentation, she would like the following information:

- background information on the Community Liaison Committee
- a detailed report explaining what *New Dawn* is
- how much CLC's trail proposal will cost and, if implemented, explain where the funds would come from.

Councillor Mosher also suggested that someone from the Provincial Community Development department be invited to attend the meeting as well to provide information on the provincial programs that are currently available.


Councillor Sloane suggested that Maureen MacDonald, the local MLA be invited as well as representatives of the Greater Halifax Partnership and the Regional Development Agency.

Councillor Streach noted the amount of Mr. Anguish's time this matter has taken up and suggested and, **it was agreed**, that this matter be passed to Mr. Jim Donovan, Manager of Economic Strategy and Sharon Martin, Community Developer, Community Culture and Economic Development.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjournment at 11:45 a.m.


Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant