

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES February 25, 1997

PRESENT:

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald
Deputy Mayor Jack Greenough
Councillors: Bill Dooks
Gordon R. Snow
David Hendsbee
Ron Cooper
Harry McInroy
Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Graham L. Downey
Larry Uteck
Howard Epstein
Russell Walker
Bill Stone
Ron Hanson
Stephen Adams
Barry Barnet
Bob Harvey
Peter Kelly
Reg Rankin
Jack Mitchell

REGRETS:

Councillor Clint Schofield

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. Ken Meech, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Patti Halliday, Assistant Municipal Clerk

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INVOCATION	4
2.	PROCLAMATIONS - None	4
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None	4
4.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	4
5.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None	5
6.	MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - None	5
7.	MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - None	5
8.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS	5
8.1	Proposed New Street Lighting Guidelines (deferred Feb. 18/97)	5
8.2	Public Participation Program for Municipal Planning Strategy Amendments (deferred Feb. 18/97)	7
9.	PUBLIC HEARINGS - None	7
10.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS	7
10.1	Presentations	7
10.1.1	Downtown Halifax Business Commission - Kate Carmichael, Executive Director (Ref. Item 11.3.10)	7
10.1.2	Kingswood Ratepayers Association - Steven Tasker, Chairman re: Tax Structure (oral)	8
10.1.3	Timberlea Residents - Diane Webster - re: Tax Structure (oral)	8
10.2	Correspondence	10
10.2.1	Request for Support - CBC	10
10.3	Petitions	10
10.3.1	Councillor Walker - Encroachment License - Pennington Avenue, Halifax	11
10.3.2	Councillor Cunningham - Ferry Terminal Building	11
10.3.3	Mr. Steven Tasker - Tax Structure	11
11.	REPORTS	11
11.1	MEMBERS OF COUNCIL	11
11.1.1	Change Order of Business for Council Agenda - Councillor Stone	11

11.1.2	Mainland Common - Major Facility - Councillor Stone	11
11.2	NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL	12
11.2.1	Atlantic Sea Products Property, Hubbards Cove - Proposal From Hubbards Cove Waterfront Development Association	12
11.2.2	Bedford Waters Advisory Committee	13
11.3	CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	13
11.3.1	Police Move to New Fire Station Facility - Bedford Area	13
11.3.2	Encroachment License - Pennington Avenue, Halifax	14
11.3.3	Neptune Theatre Request for Funds	15
11.3.4	FCM 20% Club	15
11.3.5	Local Improvement Project - Wren Street	16
11.3.6	Easement Acquisition - Dartmouth Cove Outfall Extension	16
11.3.7	Award of Tender 97-010 for Five (5) - 4 Door Sedans	16
11.3.8	Award of Tender 97-002, Highway 101 Landfill - Leachate Tank Upgrade	17
11.3.9	RCMP Request for Additional Staffing	17
11.3.10	Request for Independent Appraisal of the Facade of 1572 Barrington Street	17
11.3.11	Amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Planning Districts 14 and 17 (Shubenacadie Lakes) to allow for the Development of Bed and Breakfast	18
11.3.12	Status of Planning Advisory Committees	18
11.3.13	Deed Transfer Tax - Filing and Collection	18
12.	MOTIONS	18
12.1	Councillor Hendsbee	18
12.2	Councillor Kelly	19
13.	ADDED ITEMS	19
13.1	Regulation of Pesticides	19
13.2	Land Matter - Highway 101 Sale of Properties	19
13.3	Legal Matter - Heritage Housing	20
13.4	Update on Cumberland County Landfill	20
14.	NOTICES OF MOTION	20
14.1	Councillor Snow	20
14.2	Councillor Snow	20
14.3	Deputy Mayor Greenough	21
15.	ADJOURNMENT	21

1. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with an Invocation.

2. **PROCLAMATIONS - None**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None**

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

Council agreed to add the following items to the agenda:

Additions

13.1 Councillor Epstein - Regulation of Pesticides

13.2 Land Matter - Highway 101 Sale of Properties (In Camera Item)

13.3 Legal Matter - Heritage Housing (In Camera Item)

Councillor Walker requested Information Item #4 - Management Agreements for Recreation Centres to be added to the March 4, 1997 agenda.

13.4 Councillor Kelly requested an update on the Cumberland County Landfill

Deferral

Councillor Kelly requested that Item 12.2 Motion - Councillor Kelly, be deferred for two weeks.

Deletion

Councillor Mitchell requested that Item 11.2.1 Atlantic Sea Products Property, Hubbards Cove - Proposal from Hubbards Cove Waterfront Development Association, be deleted as alternative funding has been found.

MOVED by Councillors Mitchell and Hetherington that the Agenda and Order of Business be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Hetherington made the following motion with respect to Councillor Schofield's illness.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Deputy Mayor Greenough that Councillor Schofield be granted a leave of absence for as much time as required to recuperate. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - None

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - None

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - None

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

8.1 Proposed New Street Lighting Guidelines (deferred Feb. 18/97)

! This item was deferred from the February 18, 1997 Council Session. A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, was circulated at that time.

Councillor Kelly inquired if HRM will continue to pay for street light service for private lanes and/or roads. His understanding of the report is that this service will now be billed back to those who live on the streets, whereas before it was always paid for by the municipality. Mr. Quinn replied the recommendation from staff is that where street lights are found not to be on municipal property, the owner of the property where the light is located will be given the opportunity to assume the bill at some fixed time in the year; or, if they wish not to pay for the light, the light will be removed from the pole and deleted from the municipal billing.

Councillor Kelly expressed concern with this change in service levels. Mr. Quinn replied staff is only recommending that Council authorize payment of lights on municipal property. If Council should wish to amend that, or adopt a policy of leaving the existing lights up, staff will certainly follow that direction.

Councillor Kelly asked if this issue could be deferred pending a report of the cost aspect of continuing the current level of service. He suggested if the policy is going to change, there should be a grandfather clause for those already receiving the service and change the policy henceforth. Councillor Kelly stated there are probably other areas within the municipality, other than the former Town of Bedford, for which this service has always been paid, and staff's recommendation would affect those service levels as well.

With respect to cost implications, Mr. Quinn stated staff anticipate it will be mid-summer before they finish the review of all the billing accounts which they are currently doing in consultation with the NSPC. Mr. Quinn explained that at the time of amalgamation, the NSPC put all of the bills for the municipality under one new accounting system, but not all

of the bills were cross-referenced to pre-amalgamation days. Basically, staff of HRM and NSPC are physically driving up and down streets matching up lights with billings and accounts.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Mitchell that the report be passed with the exception of Item #5, and that this service will not be billed to the adjoining property owners until the issue comes back to Council with a staff report.

Speaking on the motion, Councillor Hendsbee made the following points:

- ▶ Why should people who live on private roads be disadvantaged by having their street lights removed?
- ▶ There are areas where street lights should be installed for safety purposes such as mailbox locations and bridges.
- ▶ Councillors should be consulted when the audit is done as to which lights they believe can be removed.
- ▶ There are some private lights paid by the residents that should be on the public bill.

Councillor Snow stated he has a lot of concern with the policy and suggested it be deferred until such a time that Mr. Quinn can go with him through District 2 as there are a lot of areas that need lights, and there are some where lights may be removed.

Councillor Dooks agreed with Councillor Snow and stated he believed it is necessary for staff to also visit his District to address the situation. He did not agree with paying for this service through an area rate due to the size of his District. Councillor Dooks stated he would like the opportunity to meet with staff to discuss the light problem in the area and develop a District 1 street light proposal which he will be requesting.

Councillor Adams suggested #5 should be eliminated altogether and everyone treated the same. If the report is deferred, developments occurring in the HRM now would have the lighting issue put on hold and this would create safety and security problems.

Councillor Barnet suggested Issue #3 would require a public hearing and requested that this be deferred.

MOVED by Councillor Barnet that consideration of Issue #3 be deferred until such time that a public hearing or series of public hearings are held.

There was no seconder to this motion.

In response to a question posed by Councillor Stone regarding the money involved with the street lights, Mr. Quinn replied the report recommends that standards be adopted

throughout the municipality within a set of criteria. The only actual money expenditure at the moment that this report is recommending is that Council adopt a policy of implementing these standards on main and collector roads over the next few years. As requests come in, they will be judged uniformly throughout the HRM on the basis of technical considerations. It will be up to Council to determine how these will be funded. Staff's estimate to complete street lighting for all of the main arteries, approximately 2,000 lights, would be around \$500,000 - \$600,000.

Councillor Stone noted passing this report tonight would not preclude any suggestions made by Councillors as it just sets criteria for going forward with lights that have to be done on main arteries.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Rankin acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the 1st Timberlea Scout Troop.

8.2 Public Participation Program for Municipal Planning Strategy Amendments (deferred Feb. 18/97)

! This item was deferred from the February 18, 1997 Council Session. A staff report prepared for Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, was circulated at that time.

**MOVED by Councillor Uteck and Deputy Mayor Greenough that Council adopt the public participation program for Municipal Planning Strategy Amendments.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

10.1 Presentations

10.1.1 Downtown Halifax Business Commission - Kate Carmichael, Executive Director (Ref. Item 11.3.10)

! At the February 4, 1997, Council Session, Council approved an independent appraisal of the status of the facade of 1572 Barrington Street. At that time, staff were in the process of preparing a report regarding the cost of this appraisal, and it was agreed when this report came back to Council, that Ms. Kate Carmichael, Downtown Halifax Business Commission, would be permitted to address Council.

Ms. Kate Carmichael was unable to attend the meeting this evening. A letter to Council was circulated on her behalf.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Blumenthal that the letter from Ms. Kate Carmichael, Executive Director, Downtown Halifax Business Commission, regarding 1572 Barrington Street be tabled. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.1.2 Kingswood Ratepayers Association - Steven Tasker, Chairman - re: Tax Structure (oral)

Mr. Steven Tasker, Chairman, Kingswood Ratepayers Association, made a presentation to Council regarding the tax structure on behalf of the residents of the subdivisions making up the Kingswood area, the residents of the Waverley area, and some residents of the Timberlea area. Mr. Tasker introduced Mr. Dennis Cochrane and Mr. Bill Lockhart, representatives for the Waverley residents, and Ms. Diane Webster, representative for the Timberlea residents.

Copies of Mr. Tasker's presentation were circulated to Council. In his presentation, Mr. Tasker proposed two potential solutions which were as follows:

- 1) Establish a flat rate for all of HRM for necessary administrative and other common costs, and charge each area for services delivered. (This is the residents' preferable solution.)
- 2) Central sewer be the determining factor for the urban/rural boundary as it is easy to identify.

The residents recommend that Council put forward and pass a motion that will remove them from the urban core, place them in the rural core and charge them a fair and just amount for the services they receive.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Tasker submitted a petition from the residents of that portion of Hammonds Plains which includes the Kingswood, Kingswood West, Kingswood South, Queenswood, and the Blue Mountain Estates Sub-divisions and the immediate surrounding areas. The petition requests Regional Council to reverse its decision and to include this area of Hammonds Plains in the area of the municipality declared to be "rural."

In closing, Mr. Tasker stated if Council needs help from the residents with its negotiations with the Provincial government, they would be willing to provide this support.

10.1.3 Timberlea Residents - Diane Webster - re: Tax Structure (oral)

Ms. Diane Webster made a presentation to Council, on behalf of the residents of Timberlea, regarding the Tax Structure. Copies of Ms. Webster's presentation were circulated to Council.

Following these presentations regarding the tax structure, Councillor Rankin circulated the following draft resolution which he requested be referred to a future Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Be it Resolved that Regional Council approve in principle and refer to the Committee of the Whole for consideration of the incorporation into the proposed new tax structure from the Committee of the Whole January 20, 1997, meeting, the following amendments:

- 1) *create a suburban service area, being that part of the currently defined urban area of the Regional Municipality lying between the DOT/HRM Highway Maintenance Boundary and a line lying one kilometre beyond the external transit boundary;*
- 2) *the level of taxation within the suburban area to be \$1.22 being 10% less than the proposed urban rate to account for the general absence of transit, sidewalk and hydrant services;*
- 3) *those parts of the suburban area which actually enjoy transit, sidewalk and hydrant services are to be charged area rates over and above the foregoing base rates to cover the costs of these services.*

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Mitchell that the draft resolution be referred to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Several members of Council congratulated Mr. Tasker and Ms. Webster on their presentations. Other comments made during the discussion were as follows:

- ▶ Councillor Hanson noted there are unique circumstances for this area that need to be considered.
- ▶ Councillor Snow stated Council must fulfil its promises and not give rural areas an urban designation which would make them pay for services they do not receive.
- ▶ Councillor McInroy stated the Cow Bay area is in the same situation as the areas discussed and should not be designated urban.
- ▶ Councillor Hetherington suggested the resolution should be forwarded to staff for cost ramifications on the whole municipality.

- ▶ Councillor Hendsbee suggested other issues need to be included such as cross walk guards, discretionary school funding and recreational facilities.
- ▶ Councillor Cooper suggested when this issue goes to a COW meeting, the development boundary should be considered which clearly defines one level of service and the road boundary that defines other level, and beyond that is clearly a rural level of service.
- ▶ Councillor Blumenthal stated service exchange needs to be considered and the costs to residents.
- ▶ Councillor Stone supported the suggestion of a single rate.
- ▶ Councillor Dooks supported the motion noting the commercial tax rate needs to be examined as well.
- ▶ Deputy Mayor Greenough spoke in favour of the motion noting the residents could help HRM in dealing with the Province by lobbying their MLA's with respect to taking over the costs of Social Services, giving HRM an HST exemption and sharing the revenue from fuel and gasoline tax, registration fees, etc.
- ▶ Councillor Adams requested a staff report on why the current tax levels cannot be frozen and the tax payment used as a base rate and work from there. Taxes should be a reflection of services received and not ability to pay.

In discussion of the resolution, Councillor Rankin agreed the following comments made by Councillors should be incorporated into the draft resolution: taxes would be proportionate to the rural and the urban in relative weight, the crosswalks can be added and the alignment of the boundary. He requested that the essence of the draft resolution be kept intact and brought forward to the Committee of the Whole. However, this does not prevent staff from bringing forward other options.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

In closing, Mr. Tasker stated the residents do not support Information Item #5 - Tax Structure - Option 2C with Interim Credit.

10.2 Correspondence

10.2.1 Request for Support - CBC

- ! A letter dated February 13, 1997, addressed to Mayor Fitzgerald from The "Ours to Keep" campaign, seeking support for the CBC, was before Council for

discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Blumenthal that the letter from the "Ours to Keep" campaign be received and filed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.3 Petitions

10.3.1 Councillor Walker - Encroachment License - Pennington Ave., Halifax

In relation to Item 11.3.2 Encroachment License - Pennington Avenue, Halifax, Councillor Walker submitted a petition from 73 Bayers Road Shopping Centre store owners in support of a sign.

10.3.2 Councillor Cunningham - Ferry Terminal Building, Alderney Dr., Dartmouth

Councillor Cunningham submitted a petition regarding the Ferry Terminal Building, Alderney Drive, Dartmouth, requesting a report on what improvements will be done to make this worksite safe as it has been found to be a sick building.

10.3.3 Mr. Steven Tasker - Tax Structure

A petition regarding the above was presented earlier in the meeting under Item 10.1.2 Kingswood Ratepayers Association - Steven Tasker, Chairman - re: Tax Structure Item.

11. REPORTS

11.1 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

11.1.1 Change Order of Business for Council Agenda - Councillor Stone

- ! A memo from Councillor Stone, proposing changes to the Council Agenda order, was before Council for discussion. The proposed changes are as follows: Council Item 11 Reports: Mayor, Members of Council and Chief Administrative Officer to follow Item 8 Consideration of Deferred Business. Items 9 and 10 Public Hearings and Presentations will be heard after Item 11 at approximately 8:15 p.m. Possible speakers would be notified of the time.

MOVED by Councillor Stone and Deputy Mayor Greenough that the following proposed changes to the Council Agenda order be approved for a four month trial period: Council Item 11 Reports: Mayor, Members of Council and Chief Administrative Officer to follow Item 8 Consideration of Deferred Business. Items

9 and 10 Public Hearings and Presentations will be heard after Item 11 at approximately 8:15 p.m. Possible speakers would be notified of the time.

Councillor Cooper stressed there needs to be a commitment that the public will be heard at 8:15 p.m. Councillor Hendsbee also stated that the public should be not moved up earlier on the agenda unless business up to that point has been completed.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.1.2 Mainland Common - Major Facility - Councillor Stone

! A memo from Councillor Stone requesting a staff report regarding the Mainland Common - Major Facility, was before Council for consideration.

Councillor Stone noted the former City of Halifax spent time assembling a large acreage of land for a Mainland Common. The purpose of having this item on the agenda was to request a staff report regarding the Mainland Common. Councillor Stone stated the report should examine the possibility of a new major recreational facility for the Mainland Common. In describing the facility, Councillor Stone made the following points:

- ▶ The facility would be an aquatic and fitness centre and would include a swimming pool, fitness centre, squash court, multi-purpose rooms and an ice rink, similar to Cole Harbour Place, Dartmouth Sportsplex and the Sackville Sports Centre.
- ▶ Other municipal services could also be included in the centre such as a tourist bureau, a police centre and storefront operations.
- ▶ The facility would probably cost in the range of \$8-10 million and could be considered as part of the infrastructure program.
- ▶ Public and private partnerships need to be considered. Councillor Stone would like corporate staff to examine the possibility of these partnerships.

In closing, Councillor Stone requested that staff review the report presented to Halifax City Council from Robert Parker Associates in regards to the Mainland Common Master Plan.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Adams that this item be referred to staff for a report investigating the possibility of this major recreational facility on the Mainland Common.

Councillor Kelly noted he has also met with staff on this issue, and the area of the Mainland Common, as well as Bedford and Timberlea, is already under review as to the best placement for this. Staff are now going through this process, and there will be a

report coming forward in the next two to three months for Council's consideration.

Councillor Hendsbee stated it was important to have the assessment of the parkland inventories and the infrastructure list before any decisions are made. He stressed the importance of not looking at this particular proposal in isolation of other facilities in the surrounding area. He suggested Policy and Planning and the Department of Recreation and Facilities should look at all the proposed projects for recreational facilities and set priorities for these projects.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.2 NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

11.2.1 Atlantic Sea Products Property, Hubbards Cove - Proposal from Hubbards Cove Waterfront Development Association

- ! A report from the North West Community Council recommending funding in the 1997/98 Operating Budget in the amount of \$25,000 for the Phase II study, was before Council for consideration.

This item was deleted from the agenda earlier in the meeting as funding has already been obtained.

11.2.2 Bedford Waters Advisory Committee

- ! A report from the Bedford Waters Advisory Committee recommending that Council arrange for advertisements to obtain replacement members for the Bedford Waters Advisory Committee, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Mitchell that this item be tabled pending a report from the former County Waters Advisory Committee and the Committee Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

11.3.1 Police Move to New Fire Station Facility - Bedford Area

- ! At the February 18, 1997, session of Council, Councillor Kelly requested a report entitled "Police Move to New Fire Station Facility - Bedford Area" from the Information Items Agenda be referred to the February 26, 1997, Council Agenda.
- ! A letter dated February 21, 1997, from Mr. Jim Lord, Community Policing Advisory Board, supporting the police move to the new Fire Station facility in the Bedford

area, was circulated to Council.

- ! A letter dated February 20, 1997, from Captain Donald McCarthy, Bedford Station 8 Volunteer Firefighters, opposing the police move to the new Fire Station facility in the Bedford area, was circulated to Council.

Councillor Kelly reviewed the correspondence received from the Bedford Volunteer Firefighters. Councillor Kelly stated the volunteer fire service is a very cost effective operation as volunteers save HRM \$500,000 - \$700,000 per year. The volunteer fire fighters are asking for \$25,000 to compensate for the loss of their station.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Walker that if it is the intention of HRM to proceed as planned in the February 12, 1997 report, than the volunteer fire department be compensated \$25,000 for the loss of their fire station to raise funds.

Councillor Cooper expressed support for the volunteer fire departments.

Councillors Hendsbee and Blumenthal expressed concern with this motion setting a precedent. Councillor Hendsbee suggested additional money could be provided in the form of training or equipment. He also questioned from where the \$25,000 would come.

Several Councillors expressed concern with giving money for this type of social activity stating there are other locations available to hold fundraising events.

Mr. Gary Greene, Commissioner of Fire Services, stated he did not believe a lot of money would be generated from using the fire hall and, as stated in the report, there are other fundraising opportunities. He agreed that passing this motion would set a dangerous precedent.

Councillor Walker spoke in favour of the motion noting \$25,000 is not a lot of money compared to what it would cost to provide this service with paid personnel.

Councillor Kelly expressed concern with the lack of communication in this matter and noted this needs to be addressed.

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Hetherington that staff's recommendation of the police function as described in the information report be housed in the Bedford Fire Station. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.3.2 Encroachment License - Pennington Avenue, Halifax

! A staff report prepared for Dan English, Commissioner, Community Services, regarding an application from Anicom Signs to construct an encroaching illuminated free-standing sign for the Bayers Road Shopping Centre on Pennington Avenue, Halifax, was before Council for discussion. The report recommended that the license not be granted.

At an earlier point in the meeting, Councillor Walker presented a petition from 73 Bayers Road Shopping Centre store owners in support of the proposed sign.

Councillor Walker made a motion to approve Alternative 2 rather than the staff's recommendation.

MOVED by Councillors Walker and Stone that an encroachment license be granted to Anicom Signs for the purpose of constructing an encroaching illuminated free-standing sign for Bayers Road Shopping Centre on Pennington Avenue, Halifax. License and annual rental fees are applicable as well as sign permit fees. An agreement would be executed which would contain a clause which would allow the Municipality to remove the sign if street widening or realignment was required at no charge to the Municipality.

Councillor Cooper questioned if the shopping centre could enlarge signage on their own property. Mr. Bill Campbell replied the shopping centre has commissioned a sign study and the results were the sign was needed. The staff report reflects the fact that if the sign is granted, it could result in requests from others.

Councillor Hendsbee spoke in favour of the motion as he did not see anything wrong with the proposal. Councillor Cunningham spoke against the motion stating it could create an influx of signs across the area.

Councillor Blumenthal asked if the residents in the area have been consulted. Mr. Campbell replied there is no mandated public process for this. Councillor Harvey agreed the residents should be asked if they have any objection to the sign.

Councillor Uteck noted the sign does not necessarily have to be commercial if it is a safety issue.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

RECESS

Council recessed at 8:15 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

11.3.3 Neptune Theatre Request for Funds (oral)

! At the February 18, 1997, Council Session, the request for funds for Neptune Theatre was referred to staff and the Grants Committee.

MOVED by Councillors Uteck and Downey that this item be deferred until March 25, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.4 FCM 20% Club

! A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, regarding the FCM 20% Club, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Epstein that Council adopt the resolution proposed by FCM to join the 20% Club, attached to the staff report dated February 14, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.5 Local Improvement Project - Wren Street

! A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, recommending that Council delete Capital Project Account No. 95486, the installation of new paving, concrete curb and gutter (both sides) and concrete sidewalk (one side) on Wren Street from Starling Street to Forest Hills Drive due to the abutters' petition against this project, was before Council for consideration.

Councillor Stone noted there is a large need for improvements to Pioneer Avenue for the safety of children going to and from school.

MOVED by Councillors Stone and Epstein that Council delete Capital Project Account No. 95486, the installation of new paving, concrete curb and gutter (both sides) and concrete sidewalk (one side) on Wren Street from Starling Street to Forest Hills Drive due to the abutters' petition against the project, and that the funds be held pending a report on upgrading or improving Pioneer Avenue. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.6 Easement Acquisition - Dartmouth Cove Outfall Extension Project

! A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Commissioner of Regional Operations, regarding an easement acquisition - Dartmouth Cove Outfall Extension Project, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillor Cunningham and Deputy Mayor Greenough that Council approve the acquisition of service easements D-1447 and D-1449 over lands of Halifax Shipyards Ltd., as indicated on plan D-1447 measuring approximately 739.1

square meters (7,955 square feet), D-1449 measuring approximately 416 square meters (4,477 square feet), for the amount of \$43,720.65 as settlement in full plus applicable taxes. Such easements are detailed on Servant Dunbrack McKenzie & MacDonald survey plans, plan #'s 14-738-5 and 14-738-6 dated September 6, 1996. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.7 Award of Tender 97-010 for Five (5) - 4 Door Sedans

! A staff report prepared for Vincent MacDonald, Commissioner of Police Services, regarding the award of Tender 97-010 for Five (5) - 4 Door Sedans, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillors Mitchell and Stone that Tender 97-010, for Five (5) - 4 Door Sedans, be awarded to the lowest bidder, Forbes Chevrolet for a total price, including GST, of \$136,545.38. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.8 Award of Tender 97-002, Highway 101 Landfill - Leachate Tank Upgrade

! A staff report prepared for K. R. Meech, CAO, regarding the award of Tender 97-002, Highway 101 Landfill - Leachate Tank Upgrade, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Snow that Tender #97-002, Highway 101 Landfill - Leachate Tank #2 Upgrade, be awarded to the lowest evaluated bidder, J. Mason Contracting Limited, for a total bid price of \$59,171.00. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.9 RCMP Request for Additional Staffing

! A staff report prepared for Vincent J. MacDonald, Commissioner of Policing Services, regarding an RCMP request for additional staffing, was before Council for discussion.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee and Deputy Mayor Greenough that Council accept a modified version of the Municipal Board of Police Commissioner's recommendation as it relates to 1997/98. This would show an increase in staffing of five (5) officers part way through the year. Further, that the Board's recommendations for the two subsequent years be considered at budget deliberations for these two years. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.10 Request for Independent Appraisal of the Facade of 1572 Barrington Street

! A staff report prepared for Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services,

regarding the Heritage Advisory Committee's request for an independent appraisal of the facade of 1572 Barrington Street, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Harvey and Downey that Council (1) approve the expenditure of \$5000 for a consultant's report to provide an independent appraisal of the status of the registered heritage facade at 1572 Barrington Street to allow the committee to make an informed recommendation on the demolition application; and, (2) direct the Heritage Advisory Committee to prepare a policy for the funding of future appraisal studies and other matters related to requests for the demolition of registered heritage properties.

With the use of overheads, Mr. Dan Norris, Regional Heritage Coordinator, illustrated the location of 1572 Barrington Street.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.11 Amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Planning Districts 14 and 17 (Shubenacadie Lakes) to Allow for the Development of Bed and Breakfast

! A staff report prepared for Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, regarding Amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Planning Districts 14 and 17 (Shubenacadie Lakes) to allow for the Development of Bed and Breakfast, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Snow and Dooks that Council authorize proceeding with a request to amend the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law for Planning Districts 14 and 17 (Shubenacadie Lakes) by adopting the public participation resolution as attached as Appendix I to the staff report dated Feb. 18, 1997. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.12 Status of Planning Advisory Committees

! A staff report prepared for Dan English, Commissioner of Community Services, regarding the status of Planning Advisory Committees, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Epstein that Council appoint the Peninsula Community Council's Planning Advisory Committee to provide advice to Regional Council on planning and development matters within District 12, thereby rescinding its appointment of the Interim Halifax Planning Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11.3.13 Deed Transfer Tax - Filing and Collection

! A staff report prepared for Larry Corrigan, Commissioner of Corporate Services, regarding the filing and collection of the deed transfer tax, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Blumenthal that the Halifax Regional Municipality adopt the resolution to appoint the Registrar of Deeds as its agent and collector of the deed transfer tax, subject to approval by the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. MOTIONS

12.1 Councillor Hendsbee

MOVED by Councillors Hendsbee and Walker that Council authorize the Grants Committee to consider applications up to 50 percent of the amount approved in the 1996-97 grants budget, excluding capital grants.

Councillor Stone stated the Committee should deal with the money they have now and this will need to be examined at budget time. Councillor Hendsbee noted this motion only states there will be a grant program of at least 50 percent of what was in place last year. Any recommended grants will still come back to Council for ratification.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 Councillor Kelly

Councillor Kelly deferred his motion for two weeks earlier in the meeting.

13. ADDED ITEMS

13.1 Councillor Epstein - Regulation of Pesticides

! A memo from Councillor Epstein regarding the regulation of pesticides was circulated to Council.

Councillor Epstein reviewed his memo with Council and moved the following motion.

MOVED by Councillors Epstein and Uteck that the Municipal Solicitor be requested to include in the package coming to Council next week regarding proposals to amend the HRM Act, a power that would allow the HRM to regulate the application of pesticides in the urban core.

Councillor Stone stated he believed this was a federal and provincial responsibility.

Councillor Hanson stated this is a serious situation and it needs more in-depth study.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 Land Matter - Highway 101 Sale of Properties

! This matter was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the public session.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Greenough and Councillor Barnet that the recommendation adopted In Camera, be ratified by Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.3 Legal Matter - Heritage Housing

! This matter was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the public session.

MOVED by Councilors Uteck and Hetherington that the recommendation adopted In Camera, be ratified by Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13.4 Councillor Kelly - Update on Cumberland County Landfill

Councillor Kelly asked that staff be requested to provide an update on the Cumberland County Landfill with respect to a tear in the lining and hot spots as soon as possible. Council agreed to his request.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1 Councillor Snow

TAKE NOTICE that at the meeting of Halifax Regional Council to be held on March 4, 1997, I intend to introduce the following motion:

WHEREAS in light of environmental concerns by society today, and with more people continually developing sensitivities to toxic pesticides and herbicides;

AND WHEREAS the cost of treating environmental illnesses and operating clinics which deal with these illnesses is significant;

AND WHEREAS the use of toxic chemicals and pesticides is potentially dangerous to our

waterways;

AND WHEREAS alternative methods exist to deal with pests that are harmful to vegetation and crops;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff be requested to prepare a report for the consideration of this Council which will lead to legislating a Ban on Toxic Pesticide and Herbicide Use By-Law in HRM.

14.2 Councillor Snow

TAKE NOTICE that at the March 4, 1997, meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to introduce the following Motion.

WHEREAS, a 16 year old Richmond County youth died recently as a result of massive head injuries he sustained in an accident while on a school ski trip in Nova Scotia;

AND WHEREAS, there was a similar accident on a Nova Scotia ski slope in November 1994, which claimed the life of a 12 year old girl;

AND WHEREAS, there is growing public concern over the safety of our students while on these school-sponsored ski trips because there are no requirements for them to wear protective head gear while on the ski hills;

AND WHEREAS, there are such mandatory requirements for the use of safety helmets for other school-sponsored events within the Halifax Region, such as for hockey and football games;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Halifax Regional Council go on record as supporting a policy of mandatory use of protective head gear for students in the Halifax Region who take part in school-sponsored ski trips; and urge the Halifax Regional School Board to implement such a policy as soon as possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor send a letter to the Premier of Nova Scotia urging his government to implement a similar mandatory ski safety policy for all School Boards across the Province.

14.3 Deputy Mayor Greenough

TAKE NOTICE that at the March 18, 1997, meeting of Halifax Regional Council, I intend to introduce a Motion to give First Reading to Amend By-Law P-408, the "City of Dartmouth Employees' Retirement Pension Plan."

The purpose of this amendment is to allow for adjustments in the required contribution levels to the City of Dartmouth Employee's Retirement Pension Plan by participating Employees and the Halifax Regional Municipality.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington that the meeting adjourn at 8:50 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk