

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES December 1, 1998

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Councillors Ron Hanson (Regrets)
Bill Stone

STAFF MEMBERS:

Mr. George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Vi Carmichael, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Patti Halliday, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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1. **INVOCATION**

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

2. **PROCLAMATIONS**

2.1 **Fourteen Days in December - December 1-14, 1998**

Mayor Fitzgerald proclaimed December 1-14, 1998 as "Fourteen Days in December."

2.2 **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women**

Mayor Fitzgerald proclaimed December 6, 1998 as the Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

Mayor Fitzgerald reminded Council that today was World Aids Day, as proclaimed at the November 24, 1998 Regional Council meeting.

Councillor Blumenthal noted December 6th is also the anniversary of the Halifax Explosion.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: November 17 & 24, 1998**

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Hetherington that the minutes of November 17 & 24, 1998 be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

The following items were requested to be added to the agenda:

- 12.1 Land Matter - Recreational Opportunities (P3 Schools)
- 12.2 Legal Matter - Garden View Taxes
- 12.3 Legal Matter - Ferry Terminal Concessions
- 12.4 Legal Matter - Wormwoods Theatre
- 12.5 Councillor Adams - Recent Comments in Daily News Regarding Spryfield

Councillor Hetherington requested that the following item be deferred for one month:

- 10.2.8 Policy on Tax Exemption for Nursing Homes

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Schofield that Item 10.2.8 - Policy on Tax Exemption for Nursing Homes be deferred for one month.

Councillor Hendsbee expressed concern with deferring this matter, stating it should be discussed before an upcoming Bill is introduced in the Provincial Legislature regarding Oakwood Terrace.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal and Deputy Mayor Uteck that the Order of Business be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - None

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - None

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS

9.1 Petitions

No petitions were submitted.

10. REPORTS

10.1 MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

10.1.1 Councillor Dooks - Distribution of Green Carts - District 1

In response to comments of Councillor Dooks regarding the distribution of green carts in District 1, Mr. Mark Bernard, Manager, Waste Resources, stated it has been brought to staff's attention that there are some concerns and misunderstandings in District 1 respecting the cart program. Mr. Bernard noted part of the reason for this could be due to the fact that the communication/education program in District 1 is not yet complete, as there are three workshops remaining. For Council's information, Mr. Bernard noted some of the concerns in District 1 have to deal with camps receiving carts, animals, long driveways, and fines if the carts are not used. To respond to these concerns, Mr. Bernard advised that staff is preparing a letter to the residents of District 1. Councillor Dooks

suggested residents may be more at ease to start the program if clarity is brought to it through this letter.

Councillor Schofield reported a senior citizen in Dartmouth was injured when one of the carts fell over and hit her on the forehead. The Councillor suggested the safety issue should be monitored to see if there are many more cases like this in the future.

Councillor Walker suggested staff should examine the possibility of using the green cone in Districts 1 and 23. In response to a question from the Councillor regarding the two different carts currently being used, Mr. Bernard stated staff was given the direction by Council to use two suppliers for the carts when the RFP was approved. Mr. Bernard noted both carts meet the design standards. Councillor Walker requested that staff provide a comparison of the Rehig Pacific Company carts and the Quebec carts, which were lower in price.

Responding to questions from Mr. George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Bernard stated the roll out program was completed last week, ahead of schedule, with a .7 percent rate of refusal, which was much better than expected.

Councillor Cooper advised he has had several reports of animals being attracted to the carts as a source of food, and it appears that some of the bear population has been driven into the suburban area. The Councillor inquired if staff is aware of any such complaints. Mr. Bernard replied staff has received calls expressing concern about this issue, but did not receive any reports regarding actual incidents. Councillor Cooper requested that staff monitor this issue in the future. Mr. Bernard noted this issue was examined by staff in other areas which have experience using the carts, and it was not determined to be a problem. However, he agreed to monitor this issue.

Councillor Snow inquired about Oakfield Park Road, noting carts have been delivered to residents on this street, but there is no pick up being provided due to the bridge. Mr. Bernard agreed to look into this matter.

Councillor Greenough inquired if staff is considering the possibility of offering two sizes of carts to accommodate smaller households. Mr. Bernard replied there is no intention at this time to change the size of the cart. Councillor Greenough suggested this may be an item for a future agenda for discussion. Mr. McLellan noted smaller carts are more accessible to rodents, which was a concern previously raised.

Councillor Rankin noted of the 98,000 carts that were rolled out, only 780 were refused or rejected, which is less than 1 percent. The Councillor stated initial surveys indicated that over 90 percent of households were using the carts. Councillor Rankin acknowledged the tremendous effort of staff during the roll-out program. The Councillor noted this program

will result in 40,000 tonnes of organic waste being diverted from the landfill. Councillor Rankin stated, although there are isolated incidents being reported, overall the program has been a success.

Councillor Mitchell echoed Councillor Rankin's comments regarding staff's work in this program, and extended appreciation to Councillor Rankin for Chairing the Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee. Councillor Mitchell stated he is working with the green cone as an alternative for seniors in his District, and offered to assist any Councillors wanting to do the same.

With respect to the concern expressed earlier regarding bears, Councillor Hendsbee noted in three areas of his District, there were reports of bears before the carts were delivered. The Councillor suggested this may have been a coincidence rather than a problem with the carts. Councillor Hendsbee noted he did receive some complaints with the roll-out, particularly with carts being delivered to cabins and cottages. The Councillor suggested HRM may want to recoup these extra carts. Councillor Hendsbee supported the idea of offering the green cone in the future as an alternative for those not using the cart.

Councillor Dooks reiterated his concerns with respect to the green carts in District 1, noting many residents are using them for other purposes, rather than returning them. The Councillor expressed concern with numbers quoted respecting acceptance of the carts, stating they do not accurately reflect the situation in District 1.

Councillor Harvey stated the concerns expressed are exceptions to an extremely successful program. The Councillor noted a similar program has been successful in another rural area, namely, Lunenburg County.

10.1.2 Councillor Kelly - Police Services - Current Service Levels

Councillor Kelly reviewed concerns he previously raised at Committee of the Whole with respect to current service levels in terms of policing, and made the following points:

- Police officers are concerned with safety factors in terms of response times when extra help is required.
- There are concerns with morale in Police Services and with the overall operation of policing in HRM.
- A couple of members of the Board of Police Commissioners have expressed concern with the reduction in Police Services.
- Three Superintendents have been hired recently which were not included in the budget this year.
- The Board of Police Commissioners needs to come forward and provide a set ratio or degree of policing standards.

- There is concern in the community regarding the low level of general police presence.
- There are other factors to take into consideration when stating the total Police Service complement of sworn officers, such as vacation leave, sick leave, LTD, and course leave.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Walker that Council approve the replacement of all current fourteen vacancies, based on the complement of 403 sworn officers, to take effect immediately; further, that vacancies be replaced as they come forward due to retirements, long term disabilities and/or other replacement situations.

Mayor Fitzgerald ruled the motion **Out of Order**, as it involves an additional expenditure and requires a Notice of Motion. At a later point in the meeting, Councillor Kelly served a Notice of Motion on this matter (see Page 19).

10.2 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

10.2.1 First Reading - By-Law S-301, Amendment to By-Law S-300, Streets By-Law

Motion - Councillor Greenough - Move First Reading

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Sarto that By-Law S-300, Streets By-Law, be given First Reading. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2.2 Multi-Year Financial Strategy - Phase 2

- A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.
- Copies of the presentation "Taking Care of Business, building a Multi-Year Financial Strategy" were circulated to Council.

Mr. George McLellan, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, provided opening comments regarding the presentation of Phase 2 of the Multi-Year Financial Strategy, stating Council's support is being requested for the proposed Principles of Financial Management and Reserve Policy.

With the use of overheads, Ms. Stephanie Coldwell, Financial Consultant, presented the report "Taking Care of Business, Building a Multi-Year Financial Strategy." The presentation included the following topics:

- The Future of Our Business
- Financial Benchmarking
- Background
- Expenditure Patterns
- Sources of Operating Funds
- Sources of Capital Funding
- Net Long-Term Debt
- Net Long-Term Debt Trends
- Reserves
- Next Steps
- Principles of Financial Management
- Ground Rules for the Future
- Reserves - Saving for the Future

In closing the presentation, Mr. McLellan reviewed the last overhead, entitled "Taking Care of Business", December 1, 1999, which stated the following:

If:

- no projected deficit

Then:

- extra \$12 million
- service and savings choices
- accelerate cross-over of capital to operating
- tax reduction

Mr. McLellan stated the budget process next year will commence with this overhead.

Deputy Mayor Uteck spoke in support of the presentation stating it gives Council the stability and perspective it has been seeking. The Deputy Mayor congratulated staff for their work on this report.

Councillor Greenough also extended appreciation to staff for the presentation, stating it is clear if Council adopts the multi-year plan it will put HRM on the right path to a solid financial footing.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Mitchell that Regional Council approve the "Principles of Financial Management" and the "Reserve Policy" as set out in the staff report dated November 27, 1998.

Responding to questions of Councillor Kelly, Mr. McLellan stated it is staff's intention to continue to provide Council with the documents that will ultimately form the financial strategy. Mr. McLellan stated if some issue, such as adding police officers, is determined to be a priority, then something else will have to be eliminated to provide the funding for this additional expense. Councillor Kelly suggested the \$175,000 being received from the

Ports Corporation could be considered as the balancing factor to add something else to the budget.

In response to a question of Councillor Kelly as to why a zero based budgeting process based on need was not considered, Mr. McLellan stated it is staff's intention this year to identify internal and external customers and what services they consume. Services will then be amended based on service priorities, which will ultimately lead to the creation of "envelopes", which will, on aggregate, match the total budget figure.

Responding to a question of Councillor Kelly regarding contracting out, Ms. Coldwell stated the principles do not prevent this from occurring. In response to a further question of the Councillor, Mr. McLellan stated staff would like to move in the direction of fully billing out one service to another as it will assist in determining the total service cost. However, he cautioned if one department believes the cost of another is too much, that department should have the right to consider another service. Mr. McLellan stated the impact of this on staff and overall confidence of the community in terms of continuity of service needs would need to be examined before any decision is made.

(Deputy Mayor Uteck assumed the Chair at 7:20 p.m.)

Councillor Rankin spoke in support of Phase 2, stating it will provide a discipline to arrive at HRM's target of a balanced budget. In response to a question of Councillor Rankin, Mr. McLellan stated it is staff's intention to develop a business case for each service in place this year, if not, next year. The business plan will be set in terms of HRM's corporate goals, which will be determined by senior management and Council.

Councillor Sarto inquired if municipalities in Western Canada collect taxes from universities and smaller institutions. Ms. Coldwell agreed to look into this matter.

In response to a question of Councillor Sarto inquiring how other municipalities fund capital projects, Mr. McLellan replied some obtain additional grants from other levels of government. Also, a lot of other municipalities have a higher operating fund burden for capital expenditures.

Councillor Blumenthal congratulated staff on the report, noting capital projects should be funded through reserves, as was done in the former City of Halifax. The Councillor stated safety needs to be considered in the philosophy of the Municipality in terms of timely replacement of infrastructure.

Councillor Cooper stated the residents want to know what the baseline service levels will be; therefore, Council needs information regarding the departmental service priorities. Mr. McLellan stated it is staff's intent to rationalize services and establish them on a priority

basis this year. However, Council has to make the final decision with respect to the priorities.

Councillor Hetherington also extended congratulations to staff for the presentation, stating a lot of residents would like to see a tax reduction. However, the down side to this is there will be a reduction in service of some type. The Councillor stated information being provided to the public with respect to the base service received for the taxes they pay will be the key to the success of this initiative.

Councillors Schofield and Hendsbee spoke in support of the proposal, noting the policies should put HRM on the right track towards financial stability. Councillor Hendsbee stated the budget is only a framework and there needs to be some flexibility to allow for unexpected items such as Y2K problems.

(Mayor Fitzgerald returned to the Chair at 7:45 p.m.)

Councillor Barnet spoke in support of the policies, noting the double entry system is the framework for this type of plan. The Councillor inquired about HRM's position in the Province with respect to per capita transfers from the Provincial government. Councillor Barnet requested that staff examine this, in particular, the Cape Breton Regional Municipality, to ensure HRM is getting a fair deal. Mr. McLellan replied staff can explore this and provide the information to Council.

Councillor Cooper inquired if staff has considered setting and reviewing the debt servicing levels every three years rather than annually. Ms. Coldwell explained the reason for annual review is to allow staff the opportunity to deal with issues on a more timely basis. Responding to an additional question of the Councillor, Mr. McLellan stated staff will be looking for opportunities to create reserves. This process will include regular reports to Council as to the balances of these reserves, and Council will be involved in any expenditures. Councillor Cooper inquired if these reserves will be immediate or phased, to which Mr. McLellan replied reserves will not be created at the sake of essential services.

Councillor Cooper stated he had several more questions to ask about the proposed policies, and placed the following motion on the floor.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Hendsbee that Council adjourn and meet as Committee of the Whole to discuss this matter further. MOTION DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillors Cooper and Hendsbee that this matter be referred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting. MOTION DEFEATED.

In light of the motions being defeated, Mr. McLellan advised Councillor Cooper that staff would be willing to discuss directly with him any additional questions he may have regarding this matter, if required.

Councillor Cooper expressed concern with the day-to-day use of reserves and suggested the reporting policy should be quarterly rather than yearly.

Councillor Greenough noted, in the future, funds currently being spent on principal and debt charges will be reallocated towards services and programs.

The vote was then taken on the motion to adopt the Principles of Financial Management” and the “Reserve Policy” as set out in the staff report dated November 27, 1998.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2.3 Award of Tender 98-183 Halifax Police Station 1975 Gottingen Street - Entry Renovations

- A **REVISED** staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Downey and Uteck that Tender 98-183 Halifax Police Station, 1975 Gottingen Street - Entry Renovations, be awarded to the low bid of \$145,241.00 (including taxes) from Blunden Construction. Blunden Construction has asked to withdraw their bid based on an alleged error in their submission. In the event that Blunden Construction does not enter into a contract with HRM, staff recommends the award of the contract to the next low bid of \$218,385.00 (including taxes) from Duron Atlantic Ltd. Construction, and that a contingency of \$30,000.00 be approved if required.

Responding to a question of Councillor Walker, Mr. Phil Townsend, Capital Projects Co-ordinator, Works and Natural Services, stated there are currently two capital accounts established to cover this work, one from the 1997-98 budget and the other from the 1998-99 budget. Funding for the anticipated overages is available from the remaining funds allocated for the repairs to the City Hall clock tower.

In response to questions of Councillor Adams, Mr. Townsend stated staff has been advised by Legal Services to recommend the award of the tender to the lowest bid, Blunden Construction, and Legal Services will deal with any incidents arising from that award. Councillor Adams stated he will not support the motion, as Blunden Construction made an error in its tender bid in the amount of \$38,000 and have requested that the bid be withdrawn. The Councillor noted negotiations have taken place and Duron Atlantic's

bid has been reduced by \$19,550 resulting in a revised bid. Councillor Adams stated it is his understanding that HRM Procurement has contacted Blunden Construction's bond company directly rather than through Legal Services, and questioned this process. The Councillor stated Blunden Construction has an excellent relationship with HRM and stated it would be unfair to proceed with this motion.

Councillor Greenough suggested if the Regional Museum of Cultural History was to remain open, the Police Museum contents could be preserved at that Museum.

In response to a question of Councillor Barnet, Mr. Townsend stated Blunden Construction notified staff of its intent to withdraw several days after the opening of the other two bids. The third bid was from Coastal Restoration and Masonry for \$251,982.25, taxes included. Councillor Barnet expressed concern with allowing businesses to withdraw bids after the tender has been opened and the competitors' bids have been disclosed. Mr. McLellan stated this is a reasonable concern and allowing this to occur could discredit the integrity of HRM's bidding process.

Councillor Hetherington spoke against the motion, expressing concern about the additional capital costs that may be incurred in the future with respect to the Gottingen Street Police building. The Councillor suggested consideration should be given to consolidating the two Police Services buildings and locating all of Police Services in the Eric Spicer Building in Woodside. Mr. McLellan asked Mr. Townsend if it would be possible to only complete the work required to repair the leaks at the Gottingen Street building until the utilization of this property and the Woodside property can be discussed further. Mr. Townsend replied the repairs covered in this tender relate to the integrity of the building and do not directly address staff relocations. These are items that would have to be repaired, regardless of the future use of the building.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested an analysis should be conducted to determine which location would be the best place for Police Services. The Councillor further suggested the Gottingen Street building would be an appropriate high profile location for a museum.

Responding to a question of Councillor Hendsbee, Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor, stated Legal Services reviewed the tender document and there was no indication on the face of the document that the low bidder did not bid in accordance with the instructions. Also, the bid spread, in comparison to a number of other bids submitted over the last year or so, was not unusual. Mr. Anstey stated, unless there is a mistake on the face of the document, then the policy is to hold the low bidder to the bid, and the purpose of the bid bond is to ensure the bid is followed through. This policy is not unlike what was done in the former cities of Halifax and Dartmouth.

In response to a question of Councillor Adams regarding the format of the tender, Mr. Anstey stated the tender document was straightforward and not ambiguous.

In closing the debate, Councillor Adams reiterated his earlier comments noting Council has the option of not necessarily accepting the lowest tender. Responding to a question of the Councillor, Mr. Townsend stated the original submission did not clearly indicate that an error had been made. Councillor Adams stated Blunden Construction is a reputable company that has indicated it made a mistake and cannot do the work. Therefore, he suggested it would be an injustice to proceed with that bid.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

At a later point in the meeting, Councillor Adams served a NOTICE OF MOTION OF RECONSIDERATION on this matter (see Page 19).

10.2.4 Award of Tender No. 98-361, Millwood Drive Upgrade - Central Region

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Barnet and Mitchell that Tender No. 98-361, Millwood Drive Street Upgrade be awarded to Dexter Construction Co. Ltd. for materials and services specified at the unit prices quoted for Total Tender Price of \$91,540.00 and a Total Project Cost of \$105,271.00 with funding availability as outlined in the Budget Implications of the staff report dated November 23, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2.5 1999 Council Meeting Schedule

- A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Greenough that Council adopt the 1999 Regional Council Meeting Scheduled attached as Appendix A to the staff report dated November 23, 1998.

Councillor Cunningham suggested when five Council meetings are scheduled in one month, the fifth should be eliminated.

MOVED by Councillors Cunningham and Walker that the motion be amended to eliminate the fifth scheduled regular Council meeting in any one month. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The vote was then taken on the main motion, as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.6 Master Planning Studies

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Rankin and Sarto that a master planning exercise, as presented in the discussion section of the staff report dated November 23, 1998, be initiated for each of the four areas.

Responding to a question of Councillor Hendsbee, Ms. Donna Davis-Lohnes, General Manager, Planning Services, stated it is staff's intention to immediately focus on the four master planning areas referred to in the staff report, primarily as a result of interest being shown by a variety of landowners in those areas. Ms. Davis-Lohnes stated staff is attempting to avoid a series of piece meal amendments, and to look at this issue comprehensively. Ms. Davis-Lohnes further stated staff will be bringing forward a settlement analysis project to Council, hopefully in the new year, which will be a much larger regional exercise, of which these four areas will form a portion.

In response to a question of Councillor Cooper regarding the integrated management study, Ms. Davis-Lohnes stated the results this study will form a key part of the information source for these master plan areas. The consultants have been requested to pay particular attention to these four areas and provide more detailed information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2.7 By-Law Number L-101 - Respecting Local Improvement Charges - Cow Bay Road Sewer and Water

- A staff report prepared for Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors McInroy and Hetherington that Regional Council proceed through the normal approval process for By-Law Number L-101 - Respecting Local Improvement Charges and a Notice of Motion be presented at the Halifax Regional Council meeting of December 8, 1998. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2.8 Policy of Tax Exemption for Nursing Homes

- A staff report prepared for Valerie Spencer, Director, Priority and Policy Group, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

During the Approval of the Order of Business, this item was deferred for one month.

10.2.9 1. Administrative Order #14 Respecting the Application of Interest Charges on Outstanding Accounts not related to Taxes, Solid Waste and Local Improvement Charges

2. Non-sufficient Funds Policy Statement (NSF)

- A staff report prepared for George McLellan, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, regarding the above, was before Council for consideration.

MOVED by Councillors Snow and Mitchell that:

- 1. Council approve Administrative Order #14 Respecting the Application of Interest on Outstanding Accounts.**
- 2. Council approve the “Non-sufficient Funds (NSF) on Returned Payments and Credit Privileges” Policy. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11. MOTIONS

11.1 Councillor Fougere

MOVED by Councillors Fougere and Blumenthal that Administrative Order Number Nine Respecting the Creation of Halifax Peninsula Community Council be repealed, thereby abolishing the said Community Council.

Councillor Fougere noted it has come to her attention that many residents of the Peninsula area are not aware of the nature and function of the Community Council. The Councillor expressed concern with the composition of the Peninsula Community Council only consisting of three members, therefore, permitting two Councillors to make a decision affecting approximately 45,000 residents. Councillor Fougere suggested the Councillors of the Peninsula area could join the Chebucto Community Council, making a composition of eight, similar to the Harbour East Community Council.

Deputy Mayor Uteck spoke in support of the motion, noting there was very low public attendance at the Peninsula Community Council meetings. The Deputy Mayor suggested

the motion should also include the disbandment of Halifax Peninsula Planning Advisory Committee as it served under the umbrella of the Community Council.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Uteck and Councillor Blumenthal that the motion be amended to include the disbandment of the Halifax Peninsula Planning Advisory Committee.

Deputy Mayor Uteck and Councillor Blumenthal supported Councillor Fougere in her suggestion of a larger Community Council and in joining the Chebucto Community Council, along with Councillors Rankin and Mitchell.

Councillors Dooks and Barnet spoke in support of the two smaller Community Councils stating they are working effectively. Councillor Barnet noted if the Peninsula does not have representation on a Community Council, additional items will have to come before Regional Council. The Councillor suggested the opportunities for the Peninsula Councillors to join an existing Community Council should be examined.

Councillor Cooper stated the value of a Community Council is that it provides additional opportunity for residents to have input. Responding to a question of Councillor Cooper, Mr. Anstey stated there is no legal requirement to have a Planning Advisory Committee.

Councillor Hendsbee suggested it may be time for all Community Councils to review their mandates, and a realignment to mirror the administrative boundaries of Eastern, Western and Central regions may be more simplistic and effective.

Councillors Harvey and Hetherington spoke in support of Community Councils. Councillor Hetherington agreed with the suggestion of a larger Community Council consisting of Districts 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22 and 23.

Councillor Adams expressed concern with enlarging the Chebucto Community Council as it would lengthen the meetings as there would be more issues. The Councillor stated the Peninsula Councillors have the opportunity to have their own Community Council and have chosen not to do so.

Councillor Rankin expressed concern with the number of local items from areas that have Community Councils unnecessarily coming before Regional Council, as they could be dealt with at the Community Council level.

In closing the debate, Councillor Fougere stated she is not against the idea of Community Councils, but would prefer to belong to one that consists of more than three members. The Councillor noted the cost savings, in terms of staff time, that would be achieved with one less Community Council.

The vote was taken on the amendment.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The vote was then taken on the main motion as amended which read as follows:

MOVED by Councillors Fougere and Blumenthal that Administrative Order Number Nine Respecting the Creation of Halifax Peninsula Community Council be repealed, thereby abolishing the said Community Council and the Halifax Peninsula Planning Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was agreed that the issue of the Peninsula Councillors joining another Community Council would be examined if the Councillors wish to do so.

12. ADDED ITEMS

12.1 Land Matter - Recreational Opportunities (P3 Schools)

- This item was discussed during an In Camera Session held on November 24, 1998.

MOVED by Councillors Greenough and Blumenthal that Council endorse the recommendation received from the Halifax Regional Library Board; namely, that the proposed Tantallon Branch Library not be located in a P3 School and that Municipal Armoyan and the Halifax Regional School Board be so informed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 Legal Matter - Graden View Taxes

- This item was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the public session.

MOVED by Councillors Hetherington and Schofield that the recommendation adopted In Camera be ratified by Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12.3 Legal Matter - Ferry Terminal Concessions

- This item was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the public session.

MOVED by Councillors Sarto and Greenough that the recommendation adopted In Camera be ratified by Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

In addition to Mayor Fitzgerald, the following Councillors requested that they be recorded as voting in opposition to the motion: Councillors Blumenthal, Downey, Adams, Cunningham, Walker and Fougere.

12.4 Legal Matter - Wormwoods Theatre

- This item was discussed during an In Camera Session held prior to the public session.

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

12.5 Councillor Adams - Recent Comments in Daily News Regarding Spryfield

Councillor Adams addressed a recent article in the Daily News regarding the community of Spryfield. The Councillor stated he met with Mr. David Swick, the author of the article, yesterday and gave him a tour of Spryfield. Councillor Adams stated it is his understanding that the intent of Mr. Swick's article was to illustrate the perceived perception of Spryfield. The Councillor commended Mr. Swick for returning all the phone calls he received from residents regarding the article. Councillor Adams spoke in support of the Spryfield community detailing some of the community events that are held in that area. In closing, Councillor Adams encouraged the media to report the good and the bad, but to report it accurately.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

13.1 Councillor Kelly

Take Notice that at the next regular meeting of the Halifax Regional Council to be held on Tuesday, December 8, 1998, I intend to introduce a motion to replace all current 14 vacancies based on a sworn officer complement of the HRM Police Force of 403 as approved by Council in the 1998/99 Operating Budget; and,

The vacancies be hired from the existing and available 33 trained graduates of the Provincial Training Program; and, further,

Replace all vacancies as they occur due to retirements, Long Term Disabilities, and/or other replacement situations.

13.2 Councillor Adams

Councillor Adams served a **Notice of Motion of Reconsideration**, seconded by Councillor Hetherington, regarding Item 10.2.3 Award of Tender 98-183 Halifax Police Station, 1975 Gottingen St. - Entry Renovations for December 8 (see Item 10.2.3 on Page 14)

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillors Blumenthal and Hetherington that the meeting adjourn at 9:20 p.m. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vi Carmichael
Municipal Clerk