


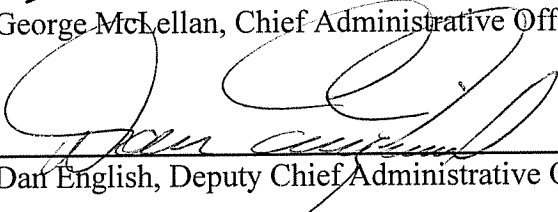
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Halifax Regional Council
January 18, 2005

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer

Dan English, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: January 13, 2005

SUBJECT: Extension of Services to Lively Subdivision

ORIGIN

Provincial offer of assistance (December '04) towards work related to extending infrastructure to Lively Subdivision in Upper Sackville.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. HRM accept the Province's offer of \$250,000 for work related to extending wastewater, water, and sidewalk infrastructure to the Lively Subdivision in Upper Sackville.
2. Approve an increase to the gross budget for Capital Account No. CG100610 in the amount of \$250,000 to reflect the funding from the Province as outlined in the Budget Implication section of this report.

BACKGROUND

The Lively Subdivision is located in Upper Sackville and is serviced by a local wastewater collection and treatment system and a local water supply and distribution system. There are issues associated with both of these systems.

The wastewater collection system and treatment plant was constructed in 1968. The plant effluent is discharged directly to a ditch which creates a potential health hazard. In 2003 Environmental Engineering Services, Halifax Regional Water Commission (HRWC), and a private developer developed a plan to extend central servicing to the Lively Subdivision. This would have resulted in the elimination of this treatment plant and the conveyance of wastewater from Lively to the Bedford/Sackville wastewater trunk main. This plan did not proceed as the developer withdrew their funding offer.

Where it is economically feasible to do so, staff's intention is to eliminate small treatment plants such as the Lively plant. Staff's draft long-term capital plan is to decommission the Lively wastewater treatment plant within the next four years.

The water distribution and groundwater well supply system which services the subdivision is owned by the Halifax Regional Water Commission. There are water quality issues with this system and the HRWC has been mandated by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board to explore options to rectify this problem. The extension of the regional water supply, to eliminate the use of the local groundwater supply, is the preferred and most practical option. There are cost savings if both water and sewer are extended at the same time as opposed to separate projects.

DISCUSSION

In mid December 2004, Environmental Management Services was approached by the Department of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations with an offer of funding related to the Lively Subdivision. The Province indicated that \$250,000 could be made available to HRM through the Provincial Capital Assistance Program (CAP) to facilitate the extension of central wastewater, water, and sidewalk infrastructure to the Lively Subdivision. One covenant was that the related work must be completed by March 31, 2005. Another covenant was that HRM must match the funding in accordance with the guidelines for the CAP. It has been confirmed that the Province does not expect HRM to match these funds at this time and that HRM will fulfill this obligation when the actual construction of services proceeds, subject to Regional Council approval.

Staff reviewed this opportunity and determined that the funding could be directed at two specific projects, as follows: 1) Engage a consultant to undertake the engineering design for the extension of services (wastewater, water, and sidewalk) to the Lively Subdivision; and 2) Undertake analysis/capacity improvements to the Bedford/Sackville wastewater trunk main. Presently there

are capacity issues with this trunk wastewater main during periods of wet weather flow and upgrading is required prior to the actual physical interconnection of Lively to this system. The work would include consultant services as well as a construction contract to implement those measures which can be completed within the \$250,000 budget.

The HRWC has been consulted and has advised that this project is consistent with their program and that they wish to work toward extending central water servicing to the Lively Subdivision.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Acceptance of this funding will reduce future expenditures by residents, HRM and/or HRWC. If the funding is refused, the residents, HRM and/or HRWC will incur these costs at such time that this work does proceed.

Budget Summary: Capital Account No. CG100610, Bedford/Sackville Trunk Sewer

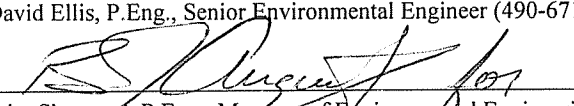
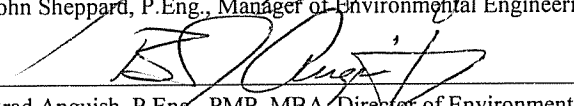
Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$287,015
Add: Cost Sharing from the Province	<u>\$250,000</u>
	\$537,015

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

Council could refuse this offer of funding. Staff does not recommend this alternative.

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.	
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