



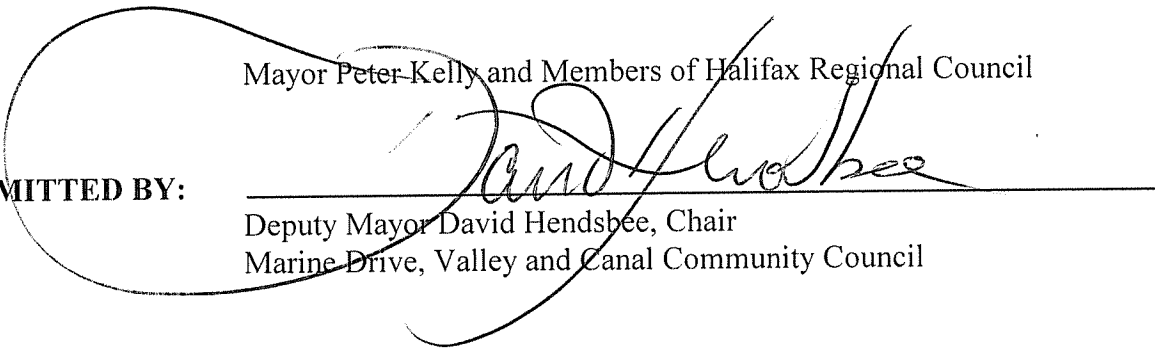
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**Item No. 11.3.1**

**Halifax Regional Council  
April 14, 2009**

**TO:** Mayor Peter Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

  
Deputy Mayor David Hendsbee, Chair  
Marine Drive, Valley and Canal Community Council

**DATE:** April 3, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Monarch Rivendale Water Service Boundary

**ORIGIN**

The April 2, 2009 Marine Drive, Valley and Canal Community Council.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Marine Drive, Valley, & Canal Community Council request Regional Council authorize HRM staff to initiate the process under current by-laws and amendments to enable the area commonly known as Monarch & Rivendale Subdivisions in Beaver Bank which include the new street and lots currently being sold and developed by Ramar Construction to be included in the Water Service Boundary.

**DISCUSSION**

The Monarch Rivendale Community Association provided a presentation to the Community Council regarding water quantity issues in the Community at the April 2, 2009 meeting.

Marine Drive, Valley and Canal Community Council considered this matter at their April 2, 2009 meeting and approved the recommendation noted above.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

**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**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Extract of Minutes - Marine Drive, Valley & Canal Community Council, April 2, 2009

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.

Report Prepared by: Melody Campbell, Legislative Assistant

**9.3            Presentations**

**9.3.1        Monarch-Rivendale Community Association**

Mr. Bradley Conrad, Monarch-Rivendale Community Association provided a presentation, City Water Solution, to Council.

Mr. Bradley Conrad, advised Council of the following issues:

- the well water is drastically reduced, due in part to development in the area
- this is a time sensitive issue, as 60 new lots are being developed
- there are 215 homes with 60 more that number will grow to 275
- the Monarch-Rivendale Community Association is representing the community at large
- there are currently twenty one board members on the Monarch-Rivendale Community Association, concerned with health, sustainability and the value of their homes
- the community relies on drilled wells
- many properties have drilled multiple wells, one as deep as 890 feet
- residents are using dynamite to create fishers for water, other residents are hydrofat, high pressure air to get water
- some residents currently do not have water, others are on the brink of running out
- the Association is aggressively pursuing the water issue
- a well report from the Province of Nova Scotia reports that the average well for the area is 339 feet, with the Nova Scotia average being 142 feet deep. Now it is at the point in order to drill a well, it is not dug less than 600 feet in Monarch-Rivendale
- 52% of the wells in the area are yielding 0 or less
- the average water flow in the area is 2.4 gallons per minute, CMHC requires 4 gallons per minute
- the Association is working with the Halifax Regional School Board, as the schools are having water issues as well
- it was noted that infrastructure (a water tower) is in place
- residents are willing to pay for service
- there was concern over the length of time for the process and the changing direction from HRM as the Association tries to move forward
- the water quantity issue is getting steadily worse
- the Association questioned if a survey is done, should it be done by the Association or HRM

Mr. Roger Wells, Supervisor, Regional & Community Planning provided the following information in regard to boundary changes:

- other areas of HRM have quantity water issues, a report will be going to Regional Council in the near future regarding these issues
- HRM staff have been in consultation with the Nova Scotia Department of

Environment, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and the Halifax Regional Water Commission to identify hotspots and green field sites

- Boundary changes have to go through Regional Council
- In order for a boundary change, it goes through due process, needs to meet criteria and needs to meet quality or quantity issues and the area needs to abut a water district
- A qualified person will have to do testing and provide a qualified report to HRM regarding the water status
- If a boundary change is recommended, a public information meeting will be held in the area where residents can have their input and a report will be sent to Council, and a public hearing held. Council will then make a decision on the boundary change.

Discussion ensued on what qualifications are required to be considered a “qualified person” or a “qualified report” to HRM. Mr. Wells and Mr. Hannam will look further into this and advise the Association. The question was raised whether the well report would meet the criteria of a qualified report.

Councillor Dalrymple advised that he received only one call from a resident not in support of the extension of the water boundary. All other correspondence he received was in support of the process.

Mr. Jamie Hannam, Director, Engineering and Information Services, Halifax Regional Water Commission, provided information regarding the Local Improvement Charge process advising the following point:

- Once the water service boundary has been approved, the LIC process begins
- This is a joint process between HRM and the Halifax Regional Water Commission
- A public information meeting will be held
- The Municipality will manage the process, pay the bills, and recover fees through the LIC
- Council will give direction to the LIC process, the costs will be determined, a survey done, then staff will make recommendation to Council to process the project funded by a LIC, then it will go for approval by Council
- If the LIC is approved, the Halifax Regional Water Commission is the agent to deliver and manage water services.

**MOVED BY Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Deputy Mayor Hendsbee that Marine Drive, Valley, & Canal Community Council request Regional Council authorize HRM staff to initiate the process under current by-laws and amendments to enable the area commonly known as Monarch & Rivendale Subdivisions in Beaver Bank which include the new street and lots currently being sold and developed by Ramar Construction to be included in the Water Service Boundary. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

In response to a query by Councillor Dalrymple, Mr. Wells advised that the feasibility and costing study for Fall River Road will proceed as approved by a motion of Council.

In response to a query by Deputy Mayor Hendsbee regarding the Fall River Visioning and its Watershed Study, Mr. Wells advised that the final draft of the Shubenacadie Lakes Watershed Study has been received and the steering committee is scheduled to meet to go over the report. He added that this report will provide valuable information with respect to the request from Regional Council.