

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 29, 2008

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter Kelly
Deputy Mayor Stephen Adams
Councillors: Steve Streach
Krista Snow
David Hendsbee
Harry McInroy
Gloria McCluskey
Andrew Younger
Bill Karsten
Jackie Barkhouse
Jim Smith
Mary Wile
Patrick Murphy
Dawn Sloane
Sue Uteck
Sheila Fougere
Russell Walker
Debbie Hum
Linda Mosher
Brad Johns
Robert Harvey
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade

STAFF:

Mr. Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. **INVOCATION**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., with the Invocation being led by Councillor McCluskey.

2. **SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Deputy Mayor Adams advised that there had been a fire at the Boys and Girls Club of Spryfield several weeks prior and that they had lost ninety five (95) percent of their belongings. He requested donations of arts and crafts, educational toys and electronics. He also advised that the Club was receiving donations in the form of gift cards from Loomis and Tole, Future Shop, Staples and Grand and Toy and that the Royal Bank was also taking donations. In closing, Deputy Mayor Adams indicated that monetary submissions could be sent to the Boys and Girls Club of Spryfield, 10 Kidston Row, care of the Captain William Spry Centre, B3R 2J7 and that this information would also be available in the Councillor's Office.

Councillor Hum congratulated the Ednac Lacrosse team, which her son is a member of, on winning a bronze medal in the international tournament in the Czech Republic that had taken place the week prior. Councillor Hum also congratulated the Pictou County Junior A Crushers, which her son and other HRM youth are members of, as they had won the Fred Page Cup which had taken place the week prior. She requested that the Mayor send a letter of congratulations to all of the local team members. Councillor Hum sent her condolences to the family of the late Ms. Mary Ludwick from Birch Cove and advised that she had attended her funeral that afternoon. She requested that the Mayor send a letter to Ms. Ludwick's family on behalf of Council to commemorate her contribution to the Rockingham Heritage Society as well as throughout her community.

Councillor Mosher indicated that she had attended a dinner in honour of the Halifax to Saint Pierre and Miquelon Ocean Race. She noted that the race would commence on July 13 and 14, 2008 and that additional information would soon be coming to Council. Councillor Mosher also advised that, regarding the Memorial (Dingle) Tower, a federal researcher had been sent from Ottawa to meet with HRM staff and that her visit had gone quite well. She gave thanks to Minister Clarke, Minister Goucher, Minister MacLeod and Minister Dooks for working so well with HRM staff and for aiding in presenting the significance of this municipal structure which also supports the two hundred and fiftieth (250) anniversary of democracy.

Councillor Mosher requested that the Mayor send a letter to the Honourable John Baird, Minister of the Environment, indicating Halifax Regional Council's support of the Memorial (Dingle) Tower attaining National Historic Monument status.

Councillor Wile wished Sister Ann Timmins of the Sisters of Charity a happy one hundred and fifth (105) birthday.

Councillor McCluskey thanked orthopaedic surgeons Dr. LeGay, Dr. Logan and Dr. Steele as well as the nurses at the Dartmouth General Hospital for all of their care during her stay there. She also acknowledged how well the Regional Hockey Tournament which had been held on the Eastern Shore had been run and stated that her grandson's team, the Cole Harbour Sharks, had won gold.

Councillor Sloane thanked Mayor Kelly and all of the children who participated in the Make Yourself Famous Event on Thursday, April 24, 2008 at the North End Library.

Councillor Streach reminded residents that a Tax Reform public consultation would be taking place on April 30, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sheet Harbour Lions Centre.

Councillor Harvey reminded residents that a Tax Reform public consultation would be taking place on May 5, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fennerty Room at the Sackville Library.

Councillor Hendsbee congratulated the Halifax Mooseheads on a great season and wished Team Canada luck at the IHF Hockey Tournament.

Councillor Barkhouse indicated that she would like to take a moment to recognize the National Day of Mourning for those Injured or Killed in the Workplace which took place on April 28, 2008. She advised that this day provided an opportunity to become more aware of hazards in the workplace. In closing, Councillor Barkhouse wished to acknowledge those families within HRM and in Nova Scotia who have suffered from an injury or death in the workplace.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 15, 2008

MOVED BY Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Karsten, that the minutes of April 15, 2008 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 12.1 Review of Taxi Fares - Councillor Smith
- 12.2 Western Region Community Council - Urban Design - Planning Districts 1 & 3 (St. Margarets Bay)
- 12.3 2008/2009 Operating and Capital Budget

12.4 Contractual Matter: Lease Agreement - Lot R, Upper Water Street, Halifax

Changes:

Deputy Mayor Adams requested that item 10.1.7 be dealt with after item 6.

Councillor Rankin requested that item 10.1.5 be dealt with after item 4.

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Adams , seconded by Councillor Karsten, that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.5 Case 01121 - Amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Timberlea / Lakeside / Beechville and Halifax

C A report dated April 14, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED BY Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Wile, that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Authorize staff to initiate the process to amend the Regional Plan, Regional Subdivision By-law, and the Timberlea/Lakeside/Beechville and Halifax Municipal Planning Strategies to allow for amendments to the Business/Industrial Park Sub-Designation, planning district boundaries, service area boundaries, and land use by-laws; and
2. Adopt the public participation process outlined in Attachment "A".

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

6. **MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE**

10.1.7 Approval of 2008 / 2009 Capital & Operating Budgets

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Adams, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Halifax Regional Council approve:

- b) the Operating Budget in the amount of \$680,745,914 gross expenditures (which includes \$549,949,175 in municipal expenditures), \$592,152,546 non-departmental revenues, and \$88,593,368 departmental revenues be approved;
- c) the Capital Budget in the amount of \$209,130,000 consisting of \$200,430,000 for Halifax Regional Municipality and \$8,700,000 for Halifax Regional Water Commission, be approved;
- d) the general rates of taxation on commercial and business occupancy be set at
 - (i) \$3.087 for the urban area;
 - (ii) \$3.087 for the suburban area; and
 - (iii) \$2.683 for the rural areaapplied to the full assessed value of the property;
- a) the general rates of taxation on residential and resource property be set at
 - (i) \$0.833 for the urban area;
 - (ii) \$0.730 for the suburban area; and
 - (iii) \$0.724 for the rural areaapplied to the full assessed value of the property (adjusted for the assessment cap);
- e) the boundary of the urban, suburban and rural areas is as delineated in the attached "Tax Structure Map";
- f) the final tax bills will become due on Tuesday, September 30, 2008;
- g) the interest rate on the Special Events Reserve Funds, designated as requiring interest under Section 100 (2) of the Municipal Government Act, be set at the rate of return on funds invested by HRM for the period April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009;
- h) the interest rate on the Pollution Control Reserves be set at the rate of return on funds invested by HRM for the period April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009;
- i) the interest rate on all reserves except for those identified in g) and h) will be set at the rate of return on funds invested by HRM for the period April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009; and
- j) the interest rate on trust funds will be set at the annual rate of return on specific investments held by the trusts.

MOVED BY Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Uteck, that the parking lot be voted on separate from the main motion. MOTION DEFEATED.

Councillor Fougere requested that the record reflect her opposition to the Chebucto Road Project despite her approval of the budget.

A recorded vote was taken on the motion.

Those voting in favor were Mayor Kelly, Deputy Mayor Adams and Councillors Streach, Hendsbee, Barkhouse, Wile, Murphy, Fougere, Walker, Hum, Mosher, Johns, Harvey, Rankin and Meade.

Those voting against the motion were Councillors Snow, McInroy, McCluskey, Younger, Karsten, Smith, Sloane and Uteck.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - April 8, 2008

8.1 By-Law C-800, Respecting Regional Capital Cost Charges for Solid Waste Facilities (Supplementary Report)

C An extract of the April 8, 2008 Regional Council minutes was before Council.

C A Power Point presentation was before Council.

C A supplementary report dated April 14, 2008 was before Council.

C A report dated January 8, 2008 was before Council.

C An information report dated February 21, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED BY Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Streach, that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt Revised Bylaw C-800, "A Bylaw Respecting Capital Cost Charges for Solid Waste Facilities", as shown in Attachment A, which includes amendments to exempt primary resource based development; and**
- 2. Approve the amendments to the attached Reserve Business Case for Q137, Regional Capital Cost Charges Reserve.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

9.1 Correspondence - None

9.2 Petitions - None

10. REPORTS

10.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

10.1.1 Request for Proposal 08-150 - Dutch Settlement Fire Station, Architectural Consulting Services

C A report dated April 16, 2008 was before Council.

Councillor Rankin left the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

MOVED BY Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Snow, that Halifax Regional Council approve the award of Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 08-150 to Envision Architecture for a Total RFP Price of \$135,491.99 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account CBJ00979 - Dutch Settlement-New Fire Station for architectural services for the design and construction phases of the new Dutch Settlement Fire Station as outlined in the Budget Implications section of this report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.2 Tender 08-219 - Paving & Sidewalk Renewal, King Street, Dartmouth - East Region

C A report dated April 21, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED BY Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Snow, that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 08-219, Paving & Sidewalk Renewal, King Street Dartmouth - East Region to Dexter Construction Company Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$163,314.39 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account Nos. CYU01081 - Paving Renewal Program, and CKU01084 - Sidewalk Renewals as outlined in the Budget Implications section of this report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.3 Tender 60134201 - Traffic Paint - Joint Tender with Province of Nova Scotia

C A report dated April 10, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED BY Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 60134201, Traffic Paint to Ibis Products Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$114,415.23 (net HST included) from Operating Account No. R747-6517 Traffic Signs, with funding as outlined in the Budget Implications section of this report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.4 Proposed By-Law S-425, An Amendment to By-Law S-400, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements

C A report dated April 7, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED BY Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. approve the new Local Improvement standard costs as per the attached Appendix "A",**
- 2. approve in principle the adoption of By-Law Number S-425, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements, attached, and also give notice of motion to begin the formal adoption process,**
- 3. apply the new standard cost applicable to all 2007/08 capital projects.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.5 Case 01121 - Amendments to the Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law for Timberlea / Lakeside / Beechville and Halifax

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting. See page 6.

10.1.6 Insurance for Volunteer Firefighters

C A report dated April 22, 2008 was before Council.

MOVED BY Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Wile, that Halifax Regional Council renew the existing contract for volunteer fire members accident and illness policy with American Home Assurance Company in the amount of \$70,885 plus HST for a one year period. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.7 Approval of 2008 / 2009 Capital & Operating Budgets

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting. See page 6.

11. **MOTIONS - NONE**

12. **ADDED ITEMS**

12.1 **Review of Taxi Fares - Councillor Smith**

Councillor Smith advised that taxi fares may have to be increased due to the rising cost of gas as it was lowering the wages of drivers. He noted that Regional Council was the regulator of the taxi industry and that it was their responsibility to look into this issue.

Several Councillors made the point that there had been no formal request from the taxi industry regarding a fare increase and, therefore, the matter should be referred to the Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee for direction.

MOVED BY Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor McCluskey, that Halifax Regional Council refer the decision of whether a staff report regarding a taxi fare increase is required to the Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 **Western Region Community Council - Urban Design - Planning Districts 1 & 3 (St. Margarets Bay)**

MOVED BY Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Harvey, that Halifax Regional Council initiate the process to amend the MPS for more immediate action in the issue of large format commercial development within the Mixed Use Designations of the Planning District 1 and 3. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 **2008/2009 Operating and Capital Budget**

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting. See page 6.

12.4 **CONTRACTUAL MATTER: Lease Agreement - Lot R, Upper Water Street, Halifax**

MOVED BY Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to enter into a Lease Agreement whereby the property located at Lot R, Upper Water Street, Halifax, be leased to Murphy's on the Water, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the Discussion section of the April 11, 2008 report.**

2. It is further recommended that this report be released to the public after the lease has been signed by all parties.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

Councillor Meade

Take notice that, at the next regular Regional Council meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 6th day of May, 2008, I propose to move First Reading of By-Law S-425, Respecting Charges for Street Improvements, the purpose of which is to amend By-Law S-400, The Street Improvement By-Law.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Julia Horncastle
Acting Municipal Clerk

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Proclamation - Asian Heritage Month - May 2008
2. Memorandum from Director, Community Development dated April 15, 2008
re: Regional Capital Cost Charges for Solid Waste Facilities - Brownfield Redevelopment
3. Memorandum from Director, Community Development dated April 17, 2008
re: Councillor Snow - Providing Sewer Services to Sidhu Drive, Beaver Bank
4. Memorandum from the Acting Municipal Clerk dated April 25, 2008
re: Requests for Presentation to Council - Friends of the Halifax Common & Bluenose Marathon