

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
July 7, 2009

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter Kelly  
Deputy Mayor David Hendsbee  
Councillors: Steve Streach  
Barry Dalrymple  
Gloria McCluskey  
Lorelei Nicol  
Bill Karsten  
Jackie Barkhouse  
Jim Smith  
Mary Wile  
Jerry Blumenthal  
Dawn Sloane  
Sue Uteck  
Jennifer Watts  
Russell Walker  
Debbie Hum  
Linda Mosher  
Stephen Adams  
Brad Johns  
Robert Harvey  
Tim Outhit  
Reg Rankin  
Peter Lund

STAFF:

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

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**1. INVOCATION**

Deputy Mayor Hendsbee called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. with the Invocation being led by Councillor Nicoll.

**16. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 6.

**17. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 8.

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

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 8.

**19. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 9.

**20. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 9.

**21. MOTIONS OF RECISSION**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 9.

**22. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**8.1 2009 - 2010 Budgets and Business Plans for Area Rated Services - Area Rate for Sidewalk Snow Removal**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 15.

**23. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**9.1 By-Law L-131: An Amendment to By-Law L-100, Respecting Charges for Local Improvements - Clearwater Drive Bridge (Private Road) Timberlea**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 9.

**24. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELETIONS**

This item was dealt with later in the meeting. See page 10.

**25. REPORTS**

**11.1.1 Tender 09-239 - Paving Renewal and Water Main Renewal, Rankin Drive - Central Region**

- A report dated June 19, 2009 was before Council.

Councillors McCluskey and Sloane entered the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

**MOVED BY Councillor Johns, seconded by Councillor Walker that Halifax Regional Council:**

- 1. Approve a budget increase of \$309,978 (net HST included) to Capital Account No. CYU01081, Paving Renewal funded through cost sharing with Halifax Water.**
- 2. Award Tender No. 09-239, Paving Renewal and Water Main Renewal, Rankin Drive (Glendale Drive to Civic No. 91) - Central Region to Brycon Construction Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$739,517.35 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account No. CYU01081 - Paving Renewal, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the report dated June 19, 2009.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.2 Tender 09-256 - Pavement Resurfacing, Various Streets, West Region**

- A report dated June 16, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Wile that Halifax Regional Council award Tender No. 09-256, Pavement Resurfacing, Various Streets - West Region to Dexter Construction Company Limited for a Total Tender Price of \$555,000.01 (net HST included) with funding from Capital Account No. CZU01082 -**

Resurfacing Program, as outlined in the Budget Implications section of the report dated June 16, 2009. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

**11.1.3 Canada Games Centre Fundraising**

- A report dated June 22, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Smith that Halifax Regional Council authorize the Halifax 2011 Canada Games Host Society to negotiate, in consultation with HRM staff, a contract for the naming rights of the Canada Games Centre and for the draft contract to be brought back to Regional Council for approval. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.4 Outdoor Refrigerated Ice Skating Rinks**

- A report dated June 28, 2009 was before Council.
- A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was circulated to Council at this time.

Mr. Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Planning, presented the report.

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

- 1. Approve the development of a refrigerated long track speed skating oval for the 2011 Canada Winter Games funded through HRM's previously approved capital budget commitment to the Canada Games as per the Budget Implications Section of the report dated June 28, 2009, and subject to the participation of other funding partners in the purchase of three refrigerated ice plants;**
- 2. Instruct staff to return to Council with options regarding the design and location of a regional outdoor refrigerated ice skating rink; and**
- 3. Instruct staff to return to Council with options regarding potential locations for additional outdoor refrigerated ice skating rinks as part of the long term arena strategy.**

Without a vote being taken on the motion, Council recessed at 4:53 p.m. (See page 15 for continued discussion on this item.)

Council reconvened at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Kelly in the Chair.

Council agreed to deal with Item 2 at this time.

**2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Councillor McCluskey congratulated the six metro area paddlers who recently qualified for the Junior Worlds to be held in Moscow, Russia; the six paddlers will be part of the sixteen member Team Canada. She also congratulated the Dartmouth paddlers who recently won medals at the PanAm Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She encouraged everyone to vote online for the Mic Mac Aquatic Club, Dartmouth as part of the Kraft Celebration Community Tour. The winner would receive \$25,000 for facility upgrades along with a live broadcast by TSN from the winning community including a BBQ and recreational activities. Voting commences on July 13th at <http://kraftcelebrationtour.tsn.ca>

Councillor Sloane entered the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Councillors Hum and Lund entered the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Councillor Rankin expressed heartfelt condolences on behalf of Council to the Honourable Bill Estabrooks, MLA Timberlea - Prospect, and family, on the sudden death of his wife Carolyn Estabrooks. Council rose for a moment of silence in memory of Ms. Estabrooks.

Councillor Uteck entered the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Councillor Sloane noted the upcoming Paul McCartney Concert on the Commons and encouraged everyone to view the details at [www.halifax.ca](http://www.halifax.ca)

Councillor Watts announced the following upcoming events: the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Lebanese Festival at the Olympic Community Centre, corner of Cunard and Windsor Streets, from July 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>; Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> the Muslim Community will be hosting an all day event at the Muslim School on Chebucto Road at the site of their new Mosque near St. Mathias Street; July 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> the Quinpool Road Cruise would take place with the Business Association doing a presentation on Green Transportation options at noon near Monastery Lane; July 25<sup>th</sup> the Pride Day Parade.

Councillor Outhit thanked the Bedford Days Committee and staff for the Bedford Days Event. He also thanked those involved with organizing and assisting with the pancake breakfast and BBQ; thanks to Sunnyside II and Cellar restaurants.

Councillor Mosher advised that participants were starting to arrive for the bi-yearly Marblehead Yacht race noting that she and Mayor Kelly would be presenting the prizes on Thursday.

Councillor Dalrymple offered congratulations to the six Lockview High School students who recently made the Nova Scotia Rugby Team. He extended a welcome to the twelve Mosquito Baseball Teams participating in the LWF Tournament in Windsor Junction. Citizens on Patrol will be hosting an Information Meeting on Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Fall River Recreation Centre.

Councillor Blumenthal extended congratulations to the Nova Scotia Ham Radio operators who competed in a recent North American Event. He noted that Ham Radio operators work closely with the Emergency Measures Organization and their support is very much appreciated.

Deputy Mayor Hendsbee announced the following upcoming events: Lake Echo Fiesta Day on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> parade at 10:00 a.m. with Bingo and Fireworks on Sunday; Musquodoboit Harbour/Eastern Shore community parade on July 18<sup>th</sup>; the provincial Family Park Day will also be held on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor Barkhouse announced the Regatta for the Cure event being held at the Shearwater Yacht Club on July 11<sup>th</sup> and noted that she would be participating.

Councillor Lund noted the Annual World Tuna Flat Races with pancake breakfast and all day entertainment to be held in Hubbards on July 25<sup>th</sup>; races starting at noon. He advised that he would be participating in response to a challenge from the Chester Councillors to HRM Councillors.

Councillor Sloane noted the following upcoming events: Tall Ships 2009 starting on July 16<sup>th</sup>; KISS on the Commons Concert on July 18<sup>th</sup>; Halifax Pride event on July 25<sup>th</sup> and the Dykes and Diva Ball the week prior.

Councillor McCluskey announced the following upcoming events: Highland Games on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> on the Dartmouth Commons; the ManuLife Dragon Boat Races also being held on July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor Sloane thanked the Canada Day Committee and all participants/performers of the Halifax/Dartmouth events.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NONE**

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

- Additions:**
- 13.1 Highway 102 / Larry Uteck Boulevard Interchange Cost Sharing
  - 13.2 Contractual Matter - Alderney 5 Energy Project Completion



- 13.3 Personnel Matter - Citizen Appointments to Boards, Committees & Commissions
- 13.4 Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund Update

**Move:** 9.1 to be dealt with immediately following Item 7.  
11.3.1 to be dealt with immediately following the public hearing  
11.1.9 be dealt with immediately following 10.1.3.

**MOVED BY Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the order of business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION - NONE**

**7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION - NONE**

Council agreed to deal with Item 9. Public Hearings at this time.

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**9.1 By-Law L-131, An Amendment to By-Law L-100, Respecting Charges for Local Improvements - Clearwater Drive Bridge (Private Road) - Timberlea**

- A staff report dated May 22, 2009 was before Council.
- An extract of the June 16, 2009 Council minutes was before Council.
- A submission from Mr. Adrian Fuller, District Manager, DOT was circulated at this time.

A written submission, received on July 3, 2009 from Mr. Walter Regan, President, Sackville Rivers Association, was before Council.

Mr. Gordon Roussel, Financial Consultant, Budget and Financial Analysis, Finance, presented the report.

Mayor Kelly opened the public hearing calling for any speakers for or against the proposal.

The Mayor gave the third call for any further speakers; hearing none, it was **MOVED BY Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the public hearing be closed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

- 1. Approve By-Law L-131, Respecting Local Improvement Charges - Clearwater Drive Bridge (Private Road), Timberlea as shown in Attachment "A" of the May 22, 2009 staff report.**
- 2. Require that the property owners serviced by the bridge form a Society as defined under the Nova Scotia Societies Act and register with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies for the purpose of maintaining the bridge on an ongoing basis.**
- 3. Require that the property owners be responsible for all facets of the project including but not limited to relevant design, construction, inspection and permits, and that upon completion of the bridge repairs, require that the property owners provide certification from a professional engineer that the bridge meets the load requirements for the safe passage of heavy firefighting apparatus before full firefighting service is restored.**
- 4. Direct staff to return to Council at a later date with an analysis of costs, benefits and implications of providing financing assistance for the recapitalization of private roads and bridges, and a proposed policy to establish criteria and process for exceptional circumstances where involvement of the municipality may be warranted.**

Councillor Rankin commented that the proposal would serve the safety needs of the residents. A copy of the enabling permit had been received from the provincial Department of Environment in relation to the bridge work and protection of the fish habitat which would address concerns expressed by the Sackville Rivers Association.

Staff responded to questions of clarification from Council as follows:

- HRM's sole role would be to provide the financial mechanism to collect the financing from the residents and that any decision in regard to the scope of the private bridges entertaining active transportation options would have to be done through the residents association.
- Local Improvement Charges (LIC) would be applied to property owners on both sides of the bridge if those properties were subdivided.
- HRM's protection in case of a property owner defaulting on the LIC would be to place a lien on the property.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**10.1            Correspondence - None**

**10.2            Petitions**

**10.2.1        Councillor McCluskey**

Councillor McCluskey submitted a petition, signed by 51 residents of the Mount Pleasant Avenue area of Dartmouth, requesting that the sidewalk be included on the priority list of sidewalk renewals for 2010 due to the dangerous conditions.

**10.3            Delegations**

**10.3.1        Halifax International Airport Authority - Annual Presentation**

- A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was circulated to Council at this time.

Mr. Tom Ruth, President & CEO, Halifax International Airport Authority, and Ms. Joyce Carter, Vice-President Finance, Halifax International Airport Authority presented the annual Halifax International Airport Authority update. Mr. Ruth noted that a detailed presentation and tour of the airport was being planned for Members of Council.

Highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- 3,578,931 passengers recorded in 2008; the highest in the airport's history.
- A drop of 5% in passenger numbers is forecasted for 2009 due to the challenging global economic times.
- Over ½ of Atlantic Canada's passengers are serviced at Halifax Stanfield International Airport and 50% of the Atlantic region's air cargo.
- Economic Impact:
  - \$426 million in wages/salaries.
  - 12,180 full-time equivalent jobs; 5,530 employed directly at airport.
  - \$750 million impact from air tourism
- 18 major commercial and industrial tenants occupy airport lands; the largest being IMP, Air Canada and Air Canada Jazz.
- A potential ridership study was undertaken in regard to the feasibility of regular mass transit to and from the airport to protect the environment and to support employee recruitment. The airport is continuing to work with HRM and the municipality of East Hants in regard to mass transit opportunities.
- Awards/Recognition for Halifax Stanfield International Airport:
  - Placed first in overall passenger satisfaction for airports worldwide with under 5 million passengers for the sixth consecutive year in the Global Airport Service Quality Awards.
  - Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> among all North American airports.

- Overall ranking was 5<sup>th</sup> in the world.
- HIAA posted first deficit ever in 2008 (\$447,000) due to global economic downturn and increased expenses including higher fuel costs, wages and cost of goods/services.
- 2008 Capital Program: ground side redevelopment program (parkade/terminal modifications); runway restoration phase 4 of 6; Multi-tenant Cargo Facility; Combined services complex (new maintenance and Emergency Response facility).

Mayor Kelly thanked the presenters.

Council agreed to deal with Item 11.1.9 at this time.

**11.1.9 Renewal of Halifax International Airport Authority Development Grant Agreement**

- A report dated June 30, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Uteck that Halifax Regional Council renew the Development Grant Agreement with the Halifax International Airport Authority (HIAA), for an additional five year period to March 31, 2012 as described in Attachment 1 of the report dated June 30, 2009.**

Staff provided the following clarifications for Members of Council:

- In regard to an analysis of the environmental impact associated with air travel, contacting the HIAA Board to request further information on their environmental initiatives would be the best option as the matter was not within HRM's jurisdiction.
- HIAA will continue to work with HRM and the municipality of East Hants in regard to mass transit service to and from the Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

Councillor Dalrymple commented that HRM could assist the airport by helping to provide mass transit service as there was a huge need for transit service along that highway and to Enfield/Fall River.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Council agreed to deal with Item 11.3.1 at this time.

**11.3.1 Metro Transit Free Passes for the Blind**

- A report dated June 25, 2009 was before Council.

Ms. Helen McFadyen, Chair, Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, presented the report.

Ms. McFadyen noted that the issue of free transit passes for the blind has been a contentious issue. The free transit passes were issued in blocks of time that expired in December 2008. A grace period was granted to users for the purpose of preparing to pay for services. A number of citizens and advocacy groups have come forward to express their dissatisfaction with the decision to discontinue the free passes. The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities was requested to make a recommendation to Council on this matter and that recommendation, as outlined in the report, was to continue the free transit pass for the blind until the system was more accessible for the blind and persons with vision loss. She noted that a second report would be coming forward to Council in regard to deficiencies with the Metro Transit system and how those deficiencies impact persons in HRM who are blind or partially sighted.

**MOVED BY Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council request Metro Transit not discontinue the bus passes to the blind until accessibility has been reached for the visually impaired.**

Councillor Blumenthal advised that he has been a member of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities for many years and is also a member of the Accessible Transportation Advisory Committee. He noted that Metro Transit has grown its service by 60% and has made improvements to service for persons with mobility issues but nothing has been done for the visually impaired. Persons with vision loss encounter great difficulty in trying to locate the right bus at busy transit terminals such as the Dartmouth Sportsplex.

In response to Councillor Karsten on whether or not Council could make the decision without input from Metro Transit in regard to the budget implications of continuing the free passes, Mr. Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that the matter should be referred for a staff report. He noted that Metro Transit had extended the free passes to September 30<sup>th</sup> therefore the staff report should be before Council for the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Councillor Wile advised that she was a member of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities. She noted that, economically, this was a difficult time and many persons with disabilities were on social assistance or had low income and this change would be of considerable difficulty to them.

Councillor Uteck commented that the issue of free passes began as one of concern in regard to the equity and fairness of balancing the needs of one group over another. In response to Councillor Uteck, Mr. Ken Reashor, Manager, Traffic & Right of Way, Transportation and Public Works, explained that the issues include being fair to all disabled groups, however; the free transit passes for the blind also cost Metro Transit

\$420,000 per year and is a service that is not offered to other persons with disabilities. He noted that staff will return to Council with a report for the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Councillor Dalrymple suggested extending the deadline by six months to April 2010 to enable people to better plan their budget. Mr. Reashor noted that there had been two extensions since the original notice of discontinuance was given approximately two years ago.

Councillor Outhit commented that he was aware of the hardships encountered by persons with visual impairments who utilize the Metro Transit service. He requested clarification behind the proposal to extend free passes in regard to low income users until such time as there were service improvements made as the issue of low income would remain regardless of service improvements.

Councillor Hum suggested enhancements to the Access-A-Bus service to address opportunities to best service everyone. She noted that there was very little low floor bus service along transit routes servicing the Bedford Highway. The staff report should also include comment on low income users.

Councillor Sloane suggested that discussions be held with the province in regard to enhancing quality of life for low income residents and for those with disabilities as the issue was not limited to citizens of HRM; it was an issue for all citizens. She explained that the province has provided cellphones/phone service, in case of emergency, for persons on assistance who could not afford a phone. Perhaps the Provincial, or Federal, governments could also consider providing transit passes.

Councillor Rankin noted that the issue would require wider examination as there were current discounts provided to Seniors and Students regardless of their income status. If low income were to be a criteria, more information would have to be provided including the issue of labour mobility for low income earners who require transportation to and from work.

Councillor Harvey noted that in order to provide transit passes, at the cost of just over \$420,000, a revenue stream would have to be identified.

Councillor Smith noted that the issue was one of respect. If persons with disabilities were expected to pay for a service, they want that service.

Councillor Wile noted some of the difficulties encountered by visually impaired transit users such as trying to determine what (route) number the bus was and the location of the bus stop. She noted that the visually impaired have to rely on the transit Operators or strangers to advise them if they have arrived at their stop and a missed stop causes considerable difficulty for the person.

Councillor Lund requested clarification on the \$400,000 cost to HRM when all that was being done was permitting people to travel for free on the bus.

Councillor Blumenthal noted that the recommendation was to continue the free passes for the blind until the system was accessible for them. Other localities in Canada do provide passes; some areas withdrew the passes once a voice system was in place. He questioned why persons who were blind or visually impaired should have to pay for a service, that they had for free, without any change being made to that service.

Without a vote being taken on the motion on the floor, it was **MOVED BY Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Hum that the matter of Metro Transit Free Passes for the Blind be deferred to the August 4, 2009 session pending a staff report. MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.**

Council agreed to deal with Item 8.1 Area Rate for Sidewalk Snow Removal at this time.

**8.1 2009 - 2010 Budgets and Business Plans for Area Rated Services - Area Rate for Sidewalk Snow Removal**

- A Supplementary Report dated June 30, 2009 was before Council.
- A staff report dated June 18, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Johns , seconded by Councilor Walker that Halifax Regional Council approve the Resolution for Approval of the Operating and Capital Budget and the Area Rate for Sidewalk Snowplowing for 2009-2010 (Appendix A).**

Councillor Johns advised that he had met with staff in regard to his concerns with the area rate and was satisfied that those concerns would be addressed.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Council agreed to continue with Item 11.1.4 Outdoor Refrigerated Ice Skating Rinks at this time.

**11.1.4 Outdoor Refrigerated Ice Skating Rinks**

Discussion ensued on the motion from on the floor, from page 6, as follows:

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

- 1. Approve the development of a refrigerated long track speed skating oval for the 2011 Canada Winter Games funded through HRM's previously approved**

capital budget commitment to the Canada Games as per the Budget Implications Section of the report dated June 28, 2009, and subject to the participation of other funding partners in the purchase of three refrigerated ice plants;

2. Instruct staff to return to Council with options regarding the design and location of a regional outdoor refrigerated ice skating rink; and
3. Instruct staff to return to Council with options regarding potential locations for additional outdoor refrigerated ice skating rinks as part of the long term arena strategy.

Councillor Rankin requested that Exhibition Park be considered as a regional destination for the outdoor rink as the location would be removed from the salt influences and would meet other requirements.

Councillor Blumenthal noted that the existing outdoor ice pad in the North End was utilized by an average of 2000 people per week; a second pad will be added.

Councillor Mosher noted that the Frog Pond option in Boston showed that the outdoor rink would be a destination point for people. The initiative would go along with Council's focus toward active, healthy living. She also suggested that the surface be located in a place that was accessible by Metro Transit.

Councillor McCluskey noted that when lakes were plowed in winter people took advantage of the ice surface. She suggested that the ice surface be placed in an area with a high population of children.

Councillor Barkhouse requested that fair consideration be given to all areas of HRM in regard to the location of the outdoor rink.

In response to Councillor Karsten, Mr. Dunphy advised that if the three remaining refrigeration units were not able to be disposed of and the money recovered, the host society would not go forward with the initiative. He noted that staff were continuing their work on a policy for outdoor rinks.

Councillor Lund commented that he has had requests from many residents of his area in regard to when they would get an outdoor rink.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.5 Sustainable Procurement Initiatives - Vehicle Right Sizing Filter & Life Cycle Evaluation Methodology**



- A report dated June 2, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. **Endorse the adoption of the Vehicle Right Sizing Filter and;**
2. **Endorse the adoption of the Life Cycle Evaluation Methodology for General Fleet Purchases as outlined in the staff report dated June 2, 2009.**

Councillor Uteck requested that HRM also consider utilizing the existing local CARSHARE program.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Council agreed to deal with Item 11.1.7 at this time.

**11.1.7 Project Substitution - Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF)**

- A staff report dated June 24, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Outhit that Halifax Regional Council approve substitution of the Burnside Drive trail corridor in Burnside Industrial Park and Innovation Drive active transportation trail corridor located in the Bedford West Development, on the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund priority list. Both projects would replace the Shubenacadie Corridor trail section between Conrad Bridge to Mic Mac Boulevard.**

In response to Councillor McCluskey, Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager, Real Property Planning, Infrastructure and Asset Management, advised that the trail through the Starr Property would be done this year.

Councillor McCluskey retired from the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Councillor Smith expressed concern with the \$350,000 cost for the project as Burnside Drive was recently repaved to add a new lane on one side and part of the roadway that was being used as a trail was removed. Mr. Bigelow explained that the tenders for the bridge came in higher than expected; the preliminary costing would include both sides of the bridge as well as the retaining walls.

Councillor Johns expressed concern with the funding split of the MRIF program between urban and rural areas noting that the funds were supposed to be for the rural parts of the

municipality; Burnside and Bedford were not rural. He noted that there were other granting programs that HRM could take advantage of for the urban areas.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Council agreed to deal with Item 11.1.6 at this time.

**11.1.6 Water Quality Testing Protocols**

- A report dated June 30, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Councillor Adams that Halifax Regional Council halt the practice of issuing public notifications for the baseline water quality testing program.**

Ms. Karen MacTavish, General Manager, Community Recreation Services & Community Development, advised that the test results would still be available on the HRM website and SEMO. The only change would be that no Public Service Announcements (PSA) would be released. Water quality testing for the twenty-two (22) staff supervised public beaches would continue.

Councillor Karsten expressed concern with the report being dealt with prior to the Service Review report that was scheduled for a future Committee of the Whole session.

Deputy Mayor Hendsbee requested that the report be referred to the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board for comment and that they also be requested to provide comment on the Service Review report.

Councillor Karsten noted that monthly testing could be requested through a development agreement such as the one for the Russell Lake West area. The information from those tests was posted online.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.7 Project Substitution - Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF)**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. See page 17.

**11.1.8 McNabs Island Trail**

- A report dated June 23, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Barkhouse, seconded by Councillor Adams that Halifax Regional Council;**

- 1. Approve a reduction in capital account CPX01196, Regional Trails Active Transportation in the amount of \$50,000.**
- 2. Approve an increase to capital account CPX01185, New Parks and Playgrounds in the amount of \$50,000. The transfer will allow for Phase 1 development of a proper parks trail system on MacNabs Island.**

In response to Councillor Barkhouse, Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager, Real Property Planning, Infrastructure and Asset Management, advised that the McNab's Island Trail was more a parks project rather than a trails project as it does not qualify as a Regional Trail. Any future funding would be through the Parks Account. He noted that the property was owned by the Provincial and Federal government, therefore; HRM would not be involved with maintenance.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Council recessed at 8:01 p.m.

Council reconvened at 8:11 p.m.

**11.1.9 Renewal of Halifax International Airport Authority Development Grant Agreement**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. See page 12.

**11.1.10 HRM Community Facility Partnership Fund: Proposed Amendments to Policy and Program Implementation Update**

- A report dated July 2, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Uteck that Halifax Regional Council accept the recommended policy and procedures, but enable grants to be paid out on a multi-year basis through permanently funding this program through HRM's operating budget by adding it to the general tax rate commencing in fiscal year 2010/11.**

Ms. Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Grants, Tax and Special Projects, provided the following clarification for Council:

- the proposed motion would permit multi-year funding of projects. The proposed formula was included in the report.
- the duration of the multi-year funding would be a decision of Council.
- it would be possible, by granting multi-year awards, for the program to be frozen which was why multi-year funding was not recommended.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.1.11 Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) Program**

- A report dated June 22, 2009 was before Council.

Mr. Phil Townsend, Director, Infrastructure and Asset Management, Ms. Cathie O'Toole, Director, Finance, and Ms. Margaret Soley, Manager, Facility Development, Infrastructure and Asset Management, and Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager, Real Property Planning, Infrastructure and Asset Management, were in attendance to respond to questions of Council.

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

- 1. Agree to submit the following projects as outlined in the report dated June 22, 2009 for funding under the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) program:**
  - a) Centennial Pool Retrofit**
  - b) Completion of East Region (Burnside) Artificial Turf Field Support Amenities**
  - c) Bedford Lions Outdoor Pool Upgrades**
  - d) Halifax Wanderers Grounds Fieldhouse**
  - e) Various Sports Court Upgrades**
  - f) Halifax North Common**
  - g) Lake Banook Improvements**
  - h) Various Trails Development**
  - i) Various Major Facilities Upgrades**
- 2. Contingent upon success of the funding applications, transfer \$750,000 from capital account CIP00763 - Computer Aided Dispatch to CRESPOOL;**
- 3. Contingent upon success of the funding applications, approve an increase of \$400,000 to capital account CPX01061 - Artificial Fields and \$41,333 to capital account CPX01189 - Outdoor Spray Pools & Fountains from CRESPOOL subject to the success of the funding applications for the East Region**

**Artificial Turf Field Support Amenities and Bedford Lions Outdoor Pool Upgrades respectively; and**

- 4. Contingent upon success of the funding applications, pre-approve the 2010/11 capital budget for the projects outlined in the Budget Implications section of the report dated June 22, 2009, subject to the success of the funding applications.**

Councillor Mosher requested that the Spryfield Lions Rink be priority one for major facility upgrades.

Councillor Johns expressed concern that there were no projects identified for the Sackville area. He noted that due to a lack of available funding, maintenance has been deferred for the Metropolitan Field in Sackville although it has been on the books for two years. The Weir Field in Middle Sackville needs recapitalization funds as it is the only artificial field owned by HRM and has some money put aside for recapitalization. He questioned why Sackville was paying its own way. He requested details for the Sackville area in regard to proposed projects.

Staff responded to requests for clarification from Council as follows:

- The Sackville Sports Stadium is included as one of the major facilities. If HRM's Grant application were successful, there would be funds for capital work in a bundled account for ten (10) facilities.
- There were three (3) areas where Sackville would receive funding: various sports courts (76 in the municipality will be upgraded); various trails development (23 trails in HRM); major facilities upgrades (10).
- The opportunity for HRM would be approximately \$4.5 to \$5 million. A further opportunity for applications would be available in the fall.
- A substantial investment would be required for the Metropolitan Field which would include an examination and planning exercise to determine its future use. There was not sufficient time for that process prior to the application deadline.
- Improvements to the Halifax Commons would be part of the future review of the Master Plan and would include consideration of: lighting improvements; design; wider pathways for biking and enhancing entrances. The hardening of the ground would involve the installation of an underlay (beneath the grass) that would support vehicles moving across without destroying the area.
- The allocation of funding to HRM would be approximately \$4.5 to \$5 million.
- Upgrades to Weir Field would be in year 5 (2013/14).
- The major facilities referenced would be those under management agreements with HRM and not HRM owned/operated facilities as there was an annual capital budget directed toward those facilities.

- A \$500 million recreation stimulus package was announced for Canada in April. \$5 million was to be allocated to the Atlantic region in the first round. HRM applies, as do other organizations.
- Staff will present the following information on August 11<sup>th</sup>: debt strategy, longer term funding strategy if infrastructure funding is successful; five year capital plan and the revised five year capital plan based on what would be approved by August.

Councillor Watts commented that it was important to have good regional resources and that there be community participation in the planning of future upgrades to the North Commons.

Councillor Uteck noted that the southend had the highest assessments in HRM but there were no projects included for that area. She requested more detail for the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in regard to what HRM has applied for; what has been accepted/denied; how long HRM been waiting and what position does HRM hold on the list. She also requested information on the next recreation stimulus package.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.2            HARBOUR EAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**11.2.1        Case 01053 - Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy / Land Use By-Law Amendments - Waverley Road**

- A Supplementary Staff Report dated June 18, 2009 was before Council.
- A report dated June 15, 2009 from the Harbour East Community Council was before Council.
- A Staff Report dated May 29, 2009 was before Council.

**MOVED BY Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council Give First Reading for the proposed amendments to the Dartmouth Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law as shown in Attachments “A” and “B” of the staff report dated May 29, 2009 and schedule a public hearing. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11.3            ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**11.3.1        Metro Transit Free Passes for the Blind**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. See page 12.

**11.4            MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

11.4.1 Councillor Mosher - Request for Report re: Recouping Cost of Special Elections

**MOVED BY Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Halifax Regional Council send a request to the Provincial government requesting that 50% of the cost for running a By-Election to fill a vacancy by a Municipal Councillor who had successfully run for office as MLA through an election process held outside the regular election time, be reimbursed to the municipality by the party winning the seat and in the case of an Independent that the Legislature reimburse the municipality for 50% of the Special Election costs.**

Deputy Mayor Hendsbee suggested that the motion also be referred to the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities. He added that the cost for School Board elections also be included.

Councillor Blumenthal advised that he was opposed to the proposed motion and suggested that Councillors be required to take a leave of absence without pay when they enter an election at another level.

Councillor Sloane commented that Councillors should not be paid when running for a political party as they were supposed to be non partisan; also, civil servants were required to take a leave of absence if they ran in an election. She indicated her support for the motion to be forwarded to the UNSM as there should be discussion throughout the province on the issue.

Councillor Hum advised that she was not in support of Councillors taking a leave of absence to run in an election as she fulfilled 95% of her Council duties while campaigning in the recent provincial election noting that she had a responsibility to the residents to fulfill those duties. She noted her concern with the cost of special elections increasing from a previous \$35,000 to \$85,000.

Councillor Walker advised that he was not in support of the motion as it would be imposing a view on a level of government that HRM had no control over. Representatives were elected by the people and if the public wanted to move someone on they would do so. He expressed concern with the cost of the Special Elections in relation to the number of people who would actually vote.

Councillor Uteck advised that she was not in support of the motion. She noted that running for office at another level of government would be no different than someone searching for a new job. She questioned whether HRM would reimburse an employer when they hire a new Manager.

Councillor Outhit noted that he was not in support of the motion although the cost of by-elections should be reviewed. He explained that he was not in support of a leave of absence during elections as residents would still have to be represented.

Councillor Mosher explained that the issue was the cost of the special elections due to provincial parties actively seeking municipal candidates. She was not in support of the leave of absence.

Deputy Mayor Hendsbee requested a recorded vote.

Those voting in favour were: Councillor Adams, Deputy Mayor Hendsbee, Mayor Kelly, Councillors Lund, Mosher, Nicoll and Sloane.

Those voting against were: Councillors Barkhouse, Blumenthal, Dalrymple, Harvey, Hum, Karsten, Outhit, Smith, Uteck, Walker, Watts, Wile.

Those not in attendance for the vote were Councillors: McCluskey, Johns, Rankin and Streach.

**MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.**

**12. MOTIONS - NONE**

**13. ADDED ITEMS**

**13.1 Highway 102 / Larry Uteck Boulevard Interchange Cost Sharing**

**MOVED BY Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Hum that Halifax Regional Council approve a funding plan for the Highway 102/Larry Uteck Boulevard Interchange, and authorized the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to sign a cost sharing agreement. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13.2 Contractual Matter - Alderney 5 Energy Project Completion**

**MOVED BY Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Karsten that Halifax**

**Regional Council:**

- 1. Reallocate \$322,668 from Capital Account No. CBX01097 and \$155,437 in Gas Tax funding from Capital Account No. CBX 01161, Energy Efficiency Projects to Capital Account No. CB300881, Alderney 5 Energy Project:**



2. Approve completion of the Alderney 5 Energy project at a cost of \$589,545 from CB300881, as per the Budget Implications section of the June 29, 2009 Private and Confidential staff report.
3. Approve assignment of the incremental operating savings of \$100,000 from completing the project to the Energy and Underground Services Reserve A131 to fund future energy efficiency projects, or as a priority, an financial liabilities resulting from liens against the project;
4. That the June 29, 2009 Private and Confidential staff report not be released to the public.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13.3 Personnel Matter - Citizen Appointments to Boards, Committees & Commissions**

**MOVED BY Councillor Wile, seconded by Councillor Nicoll that Halifax Regional Council**

- 1 Approve the Citizen appointments Boards/Committees/Commissions as outlined in Attachment 1 of the Private and Confidential staff report dated July 6, 2009.
- 2 Extend the current terms expiring on July 31, 2009 for the Mobile Home Park Advisory Committee, Quinpool Road Main Street District and the Special Events Advisory Committee to November 30, 2009.
3. All current membership appointments to Boards and Committees will be maintained until the new Board/Committee Structure comes forward.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13.4 Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund Update**

**MOVED BY Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Johns that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. Reaffirm its unanimous commitment to the existing economic stimulus application for the 4-pad, and that the 4-pad project will continue with budgeted funding via a temporary borrowing resolution to cover cash flow requirements.
2. Direct the Mayor and staff to continue with an intensive government relations and communications strategy to secure funding for the 4-pad arena project.
3. Direct staff to return in early August with a revised capital funding strategy to adjust long-term funding as appropriate.
4. Approve HRM concurrently submitting an additional economic stimulus application for streets and roads of a \$30 m program (HRM share \$10 m).

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

14. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Julia Horncastle  
Acting Municipal Clerk

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**July 7, 2009**

1. Proclamation - National Drowning Prevention Week - July 19 - 25, 2009
2. Memorandum from Director, Transportation & Public Works dated June 15, 2009  
re: Winter Control (Snow Equipment Emergency Response)
3. Memorandum from Director, Transportation & Public Works dated June 19, 2009  
re: 2008 - 2009 Winter Works Review
4. Memorandum from Director, Transportation & Public Works dated June 18, 2009  
re: Safety Concerns Sidewalk Snow Clearing - Responsibility and Deadlines
5. Memorandum from Director, Transportation & Public Works dated June 22, 2009  
re: Annual Report - Municipal Real Estate Transactions
6. Memorandum from Director, Community Development dated June 12, 2009  
re: Case 01188 - Fall River - Alternate Housing Forms/Water Service Area
7. Memorandum from Director, Community Development dated June 22, 2009  
re: Draft Event Strategy
8. Memorandum from Director, Finance dated June 12, 2009  
re: Write Off of Uncollectible Accounts
9. Memorandum from Director, Legal Services & Risk Management dated June 22, 2009  
re: Use of 15 Passenger Vans
10. Memorandum from Director, Legal Services & Risk Management dated June 25, 2009  
re Status of By-law Prosecutions - March 1 - 31, 2009
11. Memorandum from Director, Legal Services & Risk Management dated June 26, 2009  
re: Status of By-law Prosecutions - April 1 - 30, 2009
12. Memorandum from the Acting Municipal Clerk dated July 3, 2009  
re: Requests for Presentation to Council - Halifax International Airport Authority
13. Memorandum from Director, Finance dated July 3, 2009  
re: Fourth Quarter Finance Report