

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES

October 18, 2011

PRESENT:

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

REGRETS:

Councillors: Jerry Blumenthal
Robert Harvey

STAFF:

Mr. Mike Labrecque, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Acting Municipal Clerk
Ms. Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

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1. INVOCATION

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Invocation being led by Councillor Wile.

2. SPECIAL COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillor Johns acknowledged the passing on October 12, 2011 of Mr. Owen Davis, a well known and respected Sackville community member and business person.

Councillor Watts acknowledged the passing on October 9, 2011 of Mr. Francis "Frank" Arab, a dedicated community volunteer with a passion for music.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 20, 2011

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Smith, that the Regional Council minutes of September 20, 2011 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 13.1 Councillor Watts – Staff report - Affordable Housing
- 13.2 Councillor Lund – Request for Letter to NS Department of Environment
- 13.3 Councillor Hum – Request for Staff report – Bayers Lake Expansion
- 13.4 Councillor Sloane – Request for Staff report – Asphalt Repairs to Sidewalks

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

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9.1 Case 16466 - First Annual Review – Amendments to the Downtown Halifax Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law (Phase 1 of 2)

A Supplementary Staff Report dated September 12, 2011 and an Information Report from the Design Review Committee were before Council.

The following information was circulated to Council:

- Correspondence from the Spring Garden Area Business Association dated October 18, 2011.
- Correspondence and photos from the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia dated October 18, 2011.
- A copy of the staff presentation.

Ms. Kelly Denty, Supervisor, Planning Applications – Western Region, presented Case 16466 to Council.

Ms. Denty responded to questions of clarification from members of Council.

Mayor Kelly reviewed the rules of the public hearing and opened the floor for anyone wishing to speak for or against Case 16466.

Mr. Kurt Bulger, 55 School Avenue, Halifax, advised that he is owner of Jennifer's of Nova Scotia on Spring Garden Road, and past chair of the Spring Garden Road Business Association. Mr. Bulger indicated that the parking lots behind Spring Garden Road have been essential to the success of the merchants on Spring Garden Road since the mid-1960's. There was a collaborative effort between Spring Garden merchants and the former City of Halifax to put aside these properties for the future needs of the community. Some of the merchants paid for the demolition of the structures formerly on the site. However now is the time for a change to compete with the suburban power centres. The proposed buildings for the site will bring more commercial activity and residents downtown. Mr. Bulger proposed that instead of spreading out parking requirements over three lots, that the developer link the underground parking spaces under Birmingham Street. The underground parking structure could be accessed from Dresden Row and exited onto Queen Street. He noted that sufficient and safe parking is essential to the success of Spring Garden Road.

Mr. Peter Delefes, 68 Mason's Point Road, Head of St. Margaret's Bay, spoke as the President of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia. The Heritage Trust is concerned with two aspects of the proposed amendments that they feel would put present and potential heritage buildings at risk. One concern pertains to the elimination of landscaped open space at grade in the Spring Garden Road area and the other is the unrestricted ability of non-conforming buildings to expand in downtown Halifax. Mr. Delefes indicated that Mr. Phil Pacey will be following with specifics of these two concerns, and highlight changes being proposed to the staff recommendations. He noted that the Heritage Trust

do not consider these amendments minor housekeeping amendments. They believe that the removal of the requirement for landscaped open space at grade would be incentive for a developer to demolish a modest older building and construct a larger residential building covering the entire lot, with landscaping only on the roof. The Heritage Trust is proposing that Council keep the present open space requirements for the side streets off Spring Garden Road. There are about 125 existing "non-conforming" buildings in the downtown that have sizes larger than the maximum allowable in the by-laws. Many of these buildings are large commercial buildings abutting heritage buildings. For example, the Aliant building abuts the Black Binney building on Hollis Street, the Joseph Howe Building is next to the Halifax Club and next to One Government Place is the Acadian Recorder building. Under the proposed amendments, all of these non-conforming buildings could expand to take out the abutting heritage buildings. The current Land Use By-law does not contain anything that would allow such expansion. The Heritage Trust is proposing changes to the staff recommendation to restrict expansions of non-conforming structures to cases where no part of a heritage building is demolished, and to cases where the completed expanded building would be no larger than what could be built on that site under HRM by Design. That way owners of non-conforming buildings would not be allowed to build a bigger building than the owner of a vacant lot.

Mr. Phil Pacey, 6269 Yukon Street, Halifax, also representing the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, provided the Municipal Clerk with photos to be presented while he addressed Council. Mr. Pacey advised that he had submitted a list of proposed changes to the Clerk as well, and encouraged members of Council to ask Mr. Delefos and himself questions on any of the proposed changes. Mr. Pacey indicated that if the Heritage Trust's proposed changes were adopted, the development potential for the downtown would be increased and the provision of open space at grade would be preserved. The amendments proposed by the Heritage Trust include a clause that if a non-conforming building were to expand, there would not be any demolition of a registered heritage property allowed. The Heritage Trust would propose that the total volume of a building, after it is expanded, wouldn't exceed the size of a building that could be built as-of-right. Heritage buildings have withstood the elements over the years, only to face the main danger of human action or inaction. One of the dangers is inappropriate Land Use By-law provisions. Many of the heritage property owners in Halifax appreciate the qualities of their buildings, and danger to the buildings arises when owners pass away or sell the buildings. As Mr. Delefos reviewed, under staff's proposed amendments, non-conforming buildings could expand, placing abutting heritage buildings at risk. An unfair advantage would be granted to owners of non-conforming structures, whereas they would be allowed a greater development capacity than the owner of a vacant lot or the owner of a building that conforms to a by-law. There are several guidelines in the design manual for additions to heritage buildings, but very few for additions to other buildings. The Design Review Committee would have no tools to assess an addition to a non-conforming building. It may be desirable to allow some non-conforming buildings to expand under certain circumstances, but the Heritage Trust believes that these circumstances need to be spelled out carefully.

Mrs. Elizabeth Pacey, 6269 Yukon Street, Halifax, indicated that there are 12 or more registered heritage properties that would be in jeopardy with the allowance of non-conforming properties to expand. She noted that this would create an economic problem for downtown Halifax because, as a recent Turner Drake report to HRM indicated, “a key driver in demand for all types of space in downtown Halifax is its unique character which in turn is defined by its heritage buildings and its relationship to the harbour. The environment thus created is downtown Halifax’s major competitive advantage, which once destroyed will never be reincarnated.” Ms. Pacey commented that keeping the downtown historic will bring business and people - tourists and residents alike - to the downtown. Heritage buildings are small and vulnerable and would be put at risk by allowing the expansion of non-conforming buildings. This amendment would create the potential for the loss of a great number of heritage buildings in downtown Halifax. She would like to see the provision for the open space requirement maintained for the Spring Garden Road area, as it is near Schmidville, a proposed Heritage Conservation District.

Mr. Danny Chedrawe, Halifax, advised that he lives in a registered heritage property. Mr. Chedrawe spoke to his six-storey residential development, “The Drum”, proposed for the corner of Cogswell and Rainnie Drive. He has been running into roadblocks with this development because of housekeeping issues with HRM by Design, and the project has been held up for past seven months, which has been very frustrating. There is a desire and need for residential space downtown and he are not able to provide it. Mr. Chedrawe commented that the open space requirements as written in HRM by Design are not practical and don’t provide quality open space for residents. He could provide a strip of grass along side the building that could meet the requirements of open space, but it wouldn’t be usable open space. He would like to develop the fenced off parcel of land at North Park and Cogswell into a public park to meet the open space requirements, instead of developing the open space requirement on the roof where only residents of the building would be able to enjoy it. Mr. Chedrawe commented that HRM by Design did not go far enough to protect heritage properties. He also commented that he would be in favour of keeping all of the parking spaces off Spring Garden Road in one lot, as it would lose value by separating them into three lots.

Mr. Alan Ruffman, 202 Ferguson’s Cove Road, Halifax, concurred with previous comments that the amendments proposed by staff are not housekeeping amendments. He indicated that he attended four or five of the HRM by Design open house meetings and did not hear any reference made to the 125 non-conforming buildings that currently exist in downtown Halifax. Mr. Ruffman spoke in support of the Heritage Trust’s proposed amendments, and asked that Council hold on making a decision until Council, staff and the public can have a full review and discussion on the proposed amendments. He commented that open space for residential buildings should be kept at street level for all to enjoy.

Mr. Ron Smith, 6321 Norwood Street, Halifax, advised that he has been an architect in Halifax for 30 years, and has worked on many downtown projects. Mr. Smith commented that Halifax has a lot of public parks for use by residents. He spoke to the

need for residential space downtown, and suggested that changing second and third floor commercial space to residential space would benefit the existing housing stock. Mr. Smith encouraged the use of green roofs for usable open space, noting that historic buildings along Barrington Street are not set back to allow green space in front, they are lined up along the sidewalk.

Ms. Beverley Miller, 6182 South Street, Halifax, indicated that the important question is “Who controls the downtown?” noting that this was a staff initiated review. She noted concern that certain amendments are being pushed through before others because of pressure for specific plans from developers. Ms. Miller suggested that the proposed amendments will do nothing to improve public life downtown and that the amendments are not housekeeping amendments but major changes that could impact on the face of the downtown. She noted concern with restricted citizen membership on the Design Review Committee, which is already made up of design industry professionals. Ms. Miller commented on the need for stronger requirements regarding green roofs, such as requiring long-term contracts with landscaping companies for the maintenance of the green roofs and taking into consideration the climate in Halifax.

The Mayor called three times for any further speakers. Hearing none, it was **MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Fisher, that the public hearing close. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Watts, that Regional Council approve the proposed amendments to the Downtown Halifax Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy and the Downtown Halifax Land Use By-Law, as contained in Attachments A-1 and B-1 of the September 12, 2011 staff report, with the following amendments:

- **Removal of additional flexibility relative to replacement of existing parking spaces on the Clyde Street parking lots by deleting proposed amendment 25 of Attachment B-1.**
- **Inserting the words “or in Precinct 3 on a lot not abutting Spring Garden Road “ together with an amendment to Item 21 by inserting at the beginning of Section 11 D the words “except for lots in Precinct 3 on a lot not abutting Spring Garden Road”.**
- **Allowance of green space on the side streets in the Spring Garden Road area.**
- **Replacing Amendment 15, Attachment B-1, with the following:**

“Where an existing building is deemed to be non-conforming under this By-law, it shall be allowed to be extended, enlarged, or altered as long as the extension, enlargement or alteration complies with the By-law, or a variance that does not result in an increased floor area is granted by

the Design Review Committee and as long as the following provisions are met:

- 1. Development which proposes the complete or partial demolition of a Registered Heritage Building is not eligible;**
- 2. The gross floor area of the development does not exceed the gross floor area of a building that could be constructed on the same site in complete compliance with this By-Law”.**

Staff responded to questions from members of Council and provided clarification on the motion at this time.

Council recessed at 7:39 p.m.
The meeting resumed at 8:02 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Johns, that Halifax Regional Municipality request a staff report on the amendments proposed at this October 18, 2011 Regional Council meeting, with clarification of the streets included in the “Allowance of green space on the side streets in the Spring Garden Road area” amendment. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence - NONE

10.2 Petitions - NONE

10.3 Presentation - NONE

11. REPORTS

11.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

11.1.1 HRM Boundary Review – 16 Polling Districts

The following information was before Council:

- A report dated October 14, 2011 was circulated to members of Council.
- Email correspondence between Mayor Kelly and Robert Harpelle dated October 18, 2011 was circulated to Council.
- A copy of the staff presentation was circulated to Council.

The Mayor clarified that Council had previously agreed by motion that commentary on the recommendation will be permitted, but not debated. He clarified that members of Council may advise the NSUARB by October 31, 2011 should they wish to speak at the hearing.

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk and staff team lead on the boundary review process, presented to Council on the HRM District Boundary Review.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Steatch, that Halifax Regional Council recommend to the NSUARB Option 1 as revised during the public consultation process with the 16 polling district boundaries as outlined in Attachment 1 of the October 14, 2011 staff report.

At the request of members of Council, Ms. Mellett indicated that there was no one factor that resulted in the recommendation. The staff recommendation was reached over the 2 ½ month process of consultation. Ms. Mellett also clarified that the changes recommended to the boundary scenario from input received during consultations are outlined in Attachment 6 to the staff report.

A recorded vote was requested on the motion.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. 16 in favour, 6 against.

Those voting in favour were: Mayor Kelly, Deputy Mayor Smith, and Councillors Adams, Dalrymple, Johns, Karsten, Lund, McCluskey, Mosher, Outhit, Rankin, Streach, Walker, Watts, Wile and Uteck. (16)

Those voting against were: Councillor Barkhouse, Fisher, Hendsbee, Hum, Sloane and Nicoll. (6)

Councillors Blumenthal and Harvey were absent from the meeting.

11.1.2 Project 00953 – Wind Energy Facilities in HRM

The following were before Council:

- Supplementary staff report dated September 26, 2011
- Supplementary staff report dated July 25, 2011
- Staff report dated April 11, 2011
- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee report
- Regional Plan Advisory Committee report
- Staff report dated February 2, 2011 to Committees
- Extract of the Regional Council minutes of July 5, 2011 and August 16, 2011.

MOVED by Councillor Streach, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, that Halifax Regional Council:

1. **Approve the amendment to the relevant Land Use By-Laws, as described in Attachment A of the September 26, 2011 staff report to confirm the community engagement process for Wind Turbines within HRM, and;**
2. **Authorize staff to prepare a staff report on the Planning process to amend the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy and relevant Land Use By-Laws to permit a community consultation process for the siting of wind turbines within HRM.**

At the request of Councillor Hendsbee, Mr. Shayne Vipond, Senior Planner, advised that the report requested last week at Council will be coming back to Regional Council within the next 30 days.

At the request of Councillor McCluskey, Ms. Mary Ellen Donovan, Municipal Solicitor, indicated that legal staff will have an opportunity to provide advice to Council on any risk to HRM pending the outcome of a court case regarding wind turbines, and take that into consideration for the new community consultation process.

Ms. Donovan further clarified the difference between community consultation and community engagement. This will be discussed further in a forthcoming staff report. Council is not committing to any specific community consultation process for the siting of wind turbines in HRM, just to authorize staff to prepare a report on such a process.

Mr. Vipond further clarified that there is a time limit of 150 days for a constitutional appeal on this matter.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.1.3 Cost Shared Agreement for the Paving of “J” Class Subdivision Streets

A staff report dated September 14, 2011 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk be authorized, by resolution of Regional Council, to sign on behalf of Halifax Regional Municipality, Construction Agreement No. 2012-012 between HRM and the Nova Scotia Transportation Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR), a three-year agreement, as outlined in the ‘Discussion’ section of the September 14, 2011 report.

Discussion on the staff report ensued.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Rankin, that the motion be amended to include that Regional Council request that the Mayor, on behalf of Regional Council, send a letter to the Nova Scotia Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, asking that “G, H and I” Class Subdivisions Streets also be considered for cost-shared paving. MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

At the request of Councillor Sloane, staff clarified that this agreement refers to paving, not micro-surfacing.

The following amended motion was voted on at this time:

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that:

1. **The Mayor and Municipal Clerk be authorized, by resolution of Regional Council, to sign on behalf of Halifax Regional Municipality, Construction Agreement No. 2012-012 between HRM and the Nova Scotia Transportation Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR), a three-year agreement, as outlined in the 'Discussion' section of the September 14, 2011 report; and**
2. **Regional Council request that the Mayor, on behalf of Regional Council, send a letter to the Nova Scotia Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, asking that "G, H and I" Class Subdivisions Streets also be considered for cost-shared paving.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.1.4 Assignment of Lease – 4408 St. Margaret's Bay Road – Former Fire Station # 59 – Lewis Lake

A staff report dated September 12, 2011 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee, that Halifax Regional Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an Assignment Agreement for the Lease between HRM and the Province of Nova Scotia, assigning HRM's lease interest in the property to The Bay Road Community Hall Association, as per the terms and conditions set out in the September 12, 2011 report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.1.5 Stadium Funding Options

The following information was circulated to Council:

- A staff report dated October 5, 2011
- Email correspondence received on this matter from P. Beaulieu, R. Pierce, B. Petrie (2), J. Kimbrell (2), P. Westhaver, K. Langille, V. Bradshaw, M. Rimmington, and R. Mills.

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded Councillor Sloane, that Halifax Regional Council authorize the Mayor and staff:

1. **To secure funding through negotiations with the Senior Levels of governments and other potential funding partners of up to \$40 million for the capital construction of a multi-use stadium; and**
2. **Inform potential funding partners that Halifax Regional Municipality will fund up to \$20 million to construct a new multi-use stadium conditional upon:**
 - **A funding commitment of up to \$40 million from senior levels of government and other funding partners; and**
 - **Final Council approval of the Stadium Project in December 2011.**

Mr. Mike Labrecque, Acting CAO, addressed Council, clarifying that Council is not being asked to approve the Stadium, or spend money on the stadium, just to commit to the HRM portion of the funding needed to seek and negotiate funding through other levels of government and other potential funding partners.

Councillor Rankin noted concern with supporting the staff recommendation to commit to funding without a business case.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Uteck, that the motion be amended to include a third clause, as follows:

3. **It is further understood that in Council's efforts to secure one time FIFA funding, in their negotiations with potential funding partners, that the Mayor, staff and the Stadium Steering Committee be prepared to reduce the scale and cost of the optimum sized stadium without sacrificing the basic needs of our community.**

Mr. Phil Townsend, Director, Planning and Infrastructure, indicated that he believes this to be a friendly amendment, and is not contrary to staff's current direction. Mr. Townsend further clarified that the recommendation contained in the staff report is for staff to have the go ahead to start searching out funding partners for the stadium in senior levels of government and in the community. He also clarified that Phase 2 of the consultants study will be coming back to Council in December, with a staff recommendation on such aspects of the stadium as cost, location, and design. Council will be provided with a Facility Management Plan including operating, capital and programming costs at that time.

Council recessed at 9:28 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 9:38 p.m., with Councillors Streach and Johns absent.

At this time, Council agreed to extend the meeting time to complete the agenda.

Discussion on the staff report and the amended motion on the floor ensued, with staff responding to questions from members of Council.

The amended motion, as follows, was voted on at this time:

MOVED by Councillor Fisher, seconded Councillor Sloane, that Halifax Regional Council authorize the Mayor and staff:

- 1. To secure funding through negotiations with the Senior Levels of governments and other potential funding partners of up to \$40 million for the capital construction of a multi-use stadium; and**
- 2. Inform potential funding partners that Halifax Regional Municipality will fund up to \$20 million to construct a new multi-use stadium conditional upon:**
 - A funding commitment of up to \$40 million from senior levels of government and other funding partners; and**
 - Final Council approval of the Stadium Project in December 2011.**
- 3. It is further understood that in Council's efforts to secure one time FIFA funding, in their negotiations with potential funding partners, that the Mayor, staff and the Stadium Steering Committee be prepared to reduce the scale and cost of the optimum sized stadium without sacrificing the basic needs of our community.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.2 HARBOUR EAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

11.2.1 Case 16570 – Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law Amendments for Quonset Huts, Cole Harbour/Westphal

The following information was before Council:

- (i) Harbour East Community Council report dated September 16, 2011
- (ii) Marine Drive, Valley and Canal Community Council report dated September 29, 2011
- (iii) Staff report dated July 29, 2011

A copy of the staff presentation was distributed to Council.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Karsten, that Halifax Regional Council give First Reading and schedule a Public Hearing to consider amendments to the Cole Harbour / Westphal Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-Law as set out in Attachments "A" and "B" of the July 29, 2011 staff report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.3 TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

11.3.1 Amendments to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

A report from the Transportation Standing Committee dated September 26, 2011 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Hum, that Halifax Regional Council approve amendments to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference by:

- 1. Deleting the requirements to include “one (1) designate appointed by the Halifax Dartmouth Bridge Commission” and “one (1) designate appointed by the Youth Advisory Committee” in section 4.1, and;**
- 2. Amending the last line of section 4.1 by adding the words ‘one (1) youth’ so as to read “Four (4) members of the public at large, which would include one (1) youth representative and one (1) senior representative”; and**
- 3. Amending the document to state that the Committee reports to the Transportation Standing Committee rather than Council.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.4 AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

11.4.1 Amendment to the Special Events Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

A report from the Audit and Finance Standing Committee dated September 22, 2011 was before Council.

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by McCluskey, that Halifax Regional Council amend the Terms of Reference for the Special Events Advisory Committee, Section 1 Sub-Section 1.1.1, to reduce the Councillor requirement from five (5) to four (4).

Staff responded to questions of clarification from members of Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12. MOTIONS - None

13. ADDED ITEMS

13.1 Councillor Watts – Staff Report on Affordable Housing

MOVED by Councillor Watts, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that staff bring forward the affordable housing information report that was requested by Regional Council and is currently being completed for the November meeting of the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee so that it is publicly accessible prior to National Housing Day on November 22, 2011 and the commencement of the first annual Housing and Homelessness Network of Nova Scotia Conference.

Councillor Sloane requested that staff look into holding a Regional Council 'lunch and learn' session with the Housing Trust of Nova Scotia.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 Councillor Lund – Request for Letter to NS Department of Environment

MOVED by Councillor Lund, seconded by Councillor Watts, that Halifax Regional Council approve the Mayor, on behalf of Regional Council, to send a letter to the Minister of Environment, Peter Kent, expressing concerns that Environment Canada has decided not to enter into a contribution agreement with the Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN) and to ask for reconsideration to reinstate core funding to this organization. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.3 Councillor Hum – Request for Staff report – Bayers Lake Expansion

MOVED by Councillor Hum, seconded by Councillor Sloane, that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report with regard to the potential impact of the recent sale of lands associated with the Bayer's Lake Business Park on the future of the Birch Cove Lakes Blue Mountain Wilderness Park, outlining the steps taken to date and future work to be undertaken to ensure the preservation of the lakes and the wilderness park.

Staff responded to questions of clarification from members of Council.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.4 Councillor Sloane – Request for Staff report – Asphalt Repairs to Sidewalks

Councillor Sloane indicated that she has been receiving calls of complaint regarding HRM patching concrete sidewalks with asphalt, and the poor aesthetics of such repairs.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Nicoll, that Regional Council request a staff report outlining which HRM sidewalks have been patched with asphalt, and when these sidewalks will be repaired with concrete, and

**outline any other options for the repair and maintenance of these sidewalks.
MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

14.1 Councillor Watts

“Take notice that at the October 25, 2011 Regional Council meeting I will be requesting a staff report on the current status of negotiations of the Canada-European Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the possible impacts on HRM of the proposed trade agreement. Specifically, I would request an update from the Province of Nova Scotia on the status of negotiations with the federal government on behalf of Nova Scotia municipalities. I would also request staff to include possible actions for Regional Council to consider in response to possible negative impacts of the proposed agreement.”

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 p.m.

Cathy J. Mellett
Municipal Clerk

INFORMATION ITEMS
October 18, 2011

1. Memorandum from Chief, Halifax Regional Police dated September 27, 2011
re: Petition Submitted by Councillor McCluskey – Motorcycle Noise
2. Memorandum from Director, Planning and Infrastructure dated September 16,
2011 re: 2011/2012 Gas Tax Funding Allocation
3. Memorandum from Chair, Audit and Finance Standing Committee dated
September 26, 2011 re: Quarter Ending June 30, 2011
4. Memorandum from General Manager, Halifax Water dated September 30, 2011
re: Unguaranteed Debt – Municipal Finance Corporation
5. Memorandum from the Municipal Clerk dated October 12, 2011
re: Requests for Presentation to Council - None

Confidential Information Item

1. Legal Matter – Non-Conforming Structures in Downtown Halifax