

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES NOVEMBER 12, 2002

PRESENT:

Mayor Peter J. Kelly
Deputy Mayor Robert P. Harvey
Councillors: Steve Streach
Gary Hines
Keith Colwell
Ron Cooper (3:20 pm)
Harry McInroy
Brian Warshick
Condo Sarto
Bruce Hetherington (2:20 pm)
Jim Smith (3:10 pm)
John Cunningham
Jerry Blumenthal
Dawn Sloane
Sue Uteck (2:50 pm)
Sheila Fougere (2:10 pm)
Russell Walker
Diana Whalen
Linda Mosher (2:10 pm)
Stephen Adams (3:10 pm)
Brad Johns (2:15 pm)
Len Goucher
Reg Rankin
Gary Meade

STAFF:

Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. Jan Gibson, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Ms. Chris Newson, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. Mayor Kelly informed the Committee the new electronic voting system was in operation and would be tested during this session of Committee of the Whole.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - OCTOBER 15, 22, & 29 2002**

MOVED by Councillor Blumenthal, seconded by Councillor Sloane that the minutes of October 15, 22 & 29, 2002, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the Order of Business be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. **HRM UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN PRESENTATION**

- ▶ Mr. Roger Wells, Chair of the HRM United Way Campaign, and Mr. Paul Dunphy, Director, Planning & Development Services, gave a brief report on the United Way Campaign. A six-minute video was viewed by the Committee.

Mr. Wells informed the Committee that the HRM United Way Campaign began in late September with a "Kickoff BBQ" followed by a variety of successful events including a ball tournament on the Commons. He explained the Day of Caring which involved teams from various workplaces from the private and public sector taking a day off work to perform capital improvement projects for agencies that Metro United Way sponsors. Mr. Wells commented that this was the first year HRM staff participated in the Day of Caring and thirty volunteers were involved in six projects: The Salvation Army on Gottingen Street, East Preston Day Care, Dartmouth Boys and Girls Club, Dartmouth Family Resource Centre, Canadian Mental Health Association and the Parent Resource Centre. Mr. Wells then showed a brief six-minute video explaining the Metro United Way organization.

Mr. Paul Dunphy explained Metro United Way is an umbrella organization representing numerous volunteer service organizations in the Community. He also commented that the backbone of the United Way is the volunteers and the workplace campaign for employee contributions through payroll deduction. Since amalgamation the HRM contribution has declined from over \$100,000 to the mid \$50,000 range. Mr. Dunphy further commented that the goal this year is to raise between \$59,000 to \$65,000.

Councillor Streach requested clarification on the issue of HRM staff volunteering with Metro United Way and being paid for their time off work. He expressed concern that this not be misinterpreted by the public as a misuse of taxpayer's money.

5. RESIDENTIAL ON-STREET PARKING POLICY - By-Law P-1000

- ▶ Ms. Kenda MacKenzie, Transportation Engineer, Traffic and Transportation Services, presented a slide regarding the On-street parking policy. A Staff Report, dated October 22, 2002 was before Council. A copy is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.
- ▶ Mr. David McCusker, Manager, Traffic & Transportation Services gave a brief presentation on the QEII Staff Parking Shortage Information Report dated November 8, 2002. A copy is on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

Ms. MacKenzie commented that before the On-street Parking Policy was developed, parking restrictions involved; no restrictions, time restrictions, time of day restricted and permits available for residents of the streets that would override the time restrictions. At this time, the time restrictions were determined by the residents and no consultation was given to neighbouring businesses or institutions. With the policy, the same time restriction options would be available to the residents and the permits changed to exemptions which will override the time restrictions for residents. The policy was developed to help the residents determine which parking restrictions best suit their needs and also to allow for consultation with neighbouring businesses and institutions.

Mr. David McCusker added that the QEII Staff Parking Shortage has been requested to be added to the Residential On-street Parking Policy. The staff report suggested various options for alleviating the temporary parking shortage in this area. One option involved the removal of some underutilized parking meters and their relocation to a temporary location which would generate a comparable revenue.

Upon deliberation the following motion was made:

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Sloane that Committee of the Whole recommend that Regional Council approve the staff recommendations for the QEII Staff Parking Shortage as outlined below:

- A) Removal of parking meters on the Summer Street, Spring Garden Road, and Sackville Street sides of the Public Gardens. These meters are not well utilized during the winter and early spring months. They would be replaced when the gardens re-open in the spring, or replaced in stages as demand**

increases into the summer. This would free 105 existing spaces for all-day parking.

- B) **Creation of 20 new parking spaces on the west side of Ahern Avenue between the Community College and Bell Road. Parking in this location would have some minor negative impact on traffic flow and would be removed once the QEII parkade opens.**
- C) **Creation of 25 new spaces on Cogswell Street alongside the Commons. Parking in this location would have some minor negative impact on traffic flow and would be removed once the QEII parkade opens.**

Further discussion by Council raised the following concerns:

- ▶ area residents are required to pay to park on their streets yet hospital staff have free parking. Perhaps the hospital staff could be charged \$40 per month for parking.
- ▶ ripple effect of commuters parking in other areas where there are no meters and walking or taking Metro Transit to their final destination.
- ▶ ability to provide adequate snow removal in areas with on-street parking.
- ▶ use of the old Infirmary space as a temporary parking area.
- ▶ movies being filmed in residential areas taking parking spaces from residents
- ▶ possible alternate sites for the Metro Transit Bus standover on Trollope Street.
- ▶ need to take initiative to provide more Park & Rides.

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Whalen that an amendment to this motion include staff recommendation # 6 on page 3 of the staff information report for HRM to liaise with Metro Transit in order to provide direct transit from a central location and that this amendment be included as part of the motion to Regional Council.

Councillor Rankin added an amendment to his motion that HRM staff work with the Province as a Partner to liaise with Metro Transit in order to provide direct transit from a central location.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Fougere that Committee of the Whole recommend that Regional Council approve the Residential On-Street Parking Policy as outlined in the staff report dated October 22, 2002.

Deputy Mayor McInroy assumed the Chair at 3:10 pm.

Moved by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor Smith that the motion be amended to remove the parking fee of \$30 per year for residents of the street and that there be no charge for these residents.

MOTION TO AMEND DEFEATED.

Mayor Kelly resumed the chair at 3:20 pm.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.



Jan Gibson
Deputy Municipal Clerk