

**HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES**

**July 5, 2005  
(Morning Session)**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Peter Kelly  
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher  
Councillors: Krista Snow  
David Hendsbee  
Gloria McCluskey  
Andrew Younger  
Bill Karsten  
Mary Wile  
Patrick Murphy  
Dawn Sloane  
Sue Uteck  
Sheila Fougere  
Russell Walker  
Debbie Hum  
Linda Mosher  
Stephen Adams  
Reg Rankin  
Gary G. Meade

**REGRETS:**

Councillor Steve Streach  
Councillor Harry McInroy  
Councillor Becky Kent  
Councillor Jim Smith  
Councillor Brad Johns  
Councillor Robert P. Harvey

**STAFF:**

Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor  
Ms. Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. by the Deputy Mayor.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

There were no minutes for approval.

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

The agenda was accepted as presented, with no additions or deletions.

Mayor Kelly entered the meeting at 11:40 a.m. and assumed the Chair.

**4. HRM AND HALIFAX REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION RELATIONSHIP**

This matter had been deferred from a Committee of the Whole meeting held on June 28, 2005.

Ms. Cathie O'Toole, Manager, Energy & Utilities, Environmental Management Services addressed Council and provided a presentation pertaining to HRM's relationship with the Halifax Regional Water Commission. In her remarks, Ms. O'Toole advised that a joint working group had been formed to identify opportunities in areas that created operational, technical, or financial benefits to one or both organizations. She indicated that a final report by both parties, outlining the recommendations, was attached to the June 21, 2005 Information report (submitted at the June 28, 2005 Committee of the Whole).

Ms. O'Toole reviewed the recommendations as contained in the joint report and concluded by advising that timeframes for action on the recommendations have been classified as 0 to 6 months, 6 to 12 months, and 12 to 24 months; essentially, the intent is to meet the objectives over the next two years.

Ms. O'Toole and Mr. Carl Yates, General Manager, Halifax Regional Water Commission, responded to questions from members of Council.

Councillor McCluskey, referring to the report, suggested that it contained too many acronyms and requested that future reports have fewer.

Councillor Uteck expressed concern that the report could be a step in the direction of putting the Water Commission in as a line item in HRM's budget. She suggested that the

Commission was working well and there were other pressing problems on which Council should be focusing its attention. Referring to the report, Councillor Uteck requested assurance that a commitment made today by Council would not move the Water Commission in the direction of becoming a line item in HRM's budget.

Mayor Kelly indicated that this was not the case and pointed out that, to do so, would require Council's agreement, followed by legislative changes by the Province.

Mr. McLellan offered assurance there was no other agenda behind this report, adding that it is not the intention to tell the Water Commission how much they are going to spend, but rather, the idea is to work together to avoid duplication of costs.

**MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Wile that Regional Council approve the actions proposed in Attachment "A" of the Halifax Regional Water Commission report dated June 23, 2005 (included as an attachment to the June 21, 2005 Information Report), which will serve to strengthen ties between the Halifax Regional Water Commission and Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), and increase cooperation between the two organizations in areas that create operational, technical, or financial benefits for one or both organizations, to the ultimate benefit of the residents of HRM. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m

**(Afternoon Session)**

The meeting reconvened at 1:35 p.m. with the following members present:

Mayor Peter Kelly

Deputy Mayor Len Goucher

Councillors: Steve Streach  
Krista Snow  
David Hendsbee  
Harry McInroy (1:50 p.m.)  
Gloria McCluskey  
Andrew Younger (2:35 p.m.)  
Bill Karsten  
Becky Kent (2:20)  
Mary Wile  
Patrick Murphy  
Dawn Sloane  
Sue Uteck  
Sheila Fougere  
Russell Walker  
Debbie Hum  
Linda Mosher  
Robert Harvey (2:05 p.m.)  
Reg Rankin  
Gary Meade

Regrets: Councillor Jim Smith  
Councillor Stephen Adams  
Councillor Brad Johns

Also: Mr. George McLellan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Municipal Solicitor  
Ms. Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant.

## 1. ALIANT TELECOMMUNICATIONS CABINETS

Ms. Cathie O'Toole, Manager, Energy & Utilities, HRM Environmental Management Services introduced Gary Lund, Chief Technology Officer; Allan Fenerty, Director of Network Engineering; and Jeff Moore, Regional Manager of Assets Engineering of Aliant. She explained that in response to a June 14 motion of Regional Council, they were in attendance to give a presentation on the role-out of some of Aliant's new infrastructure in the Municipality.

Mr. Gary Lund addressed Council and outlined Aliant's broadband plans and activities in HRM. In his remarks Mr. Lund pointed out that HRM is one of the most competitive markets for telecommunications in North America, and this positions HRM as a technology leader. Mr. Lund gave an overview of the broadband network, explaining the evolution of the technology. He noted that Aliant has been working to reduce the size of the telecommunications cabinets and that this technology will significantly reduce the need for easements on right-of-ways.

Mr. Lund reviewed Aliant's approach with regard to cabinet installations, elaborating on a typical installation; and noting several ongoing opportunities between Aliant and HRM. Mr. Lund concluded his presentation advising of their communications recommendation, as follows:

1. Notification to area residents - "Letter of Notice" to affected residents in the area with details on the service expansion and equipment location
2. Share plans with the Regional Councillor for the area at the same time
3. Aliant to work with Councillors and HRM staff to address any site concerns

A discussion ensued with Mr. Lund and Mr. Fenerty responding to questions from Council. The following concerns were raised by members of Council during the discussion:

- C when the telecommunication boxes were installed in the Mainland North area there was a lack of information provided to the residents and councillors;
- C response time in removing graffiti needs improvement - it is taking weeks and sometimes months for this to be addressed - some sort of reporting system should be implemented so both Aliant and the area Councillor are aware of a graffiti problem.
- C mural program - a mural was removed from a site on Lacewood without any notification
- C safety issues - concern expressed that shrubbery is not necessarily the best way to proceed in making a site aesthetically pleasing.

- C concern noted that telecommunication boxes that are either low to the ground or on ground level are becoming areas that youth hang out, and results in graffiti on the boxes.
- C suggestion put forward that Aliant become proactive with regard to graffiti by the following measures: a designated phone number to report graffiti; establish timelines to eradicate graffiti; and assign a staff person to the graffiti maintenance issue
- C concern was expressed about the state of Aliant's phone booths.
- C concern was expressed that Aliant prefers to seek HRM easements instead of private easements for their telecommunications boxes, and that this may lead to the other utilities following suit. Suggestion that a staff report address this issue.

## 6. 2014 COMMONWEALTH GAMES BID

- C A staff report dated June 29, 2005 was submitted.
- C An e-mail message dated July 4, 2005 from Dan Gallant, in support of a Commonwealth Games bid was submitted.

Mr. Mike Labrecque, Director of HRM Transportation and Public Works and Mr. Fred MacGillivray, representing the World Trade and Convention Centre were in attendance to give a presentation pertaining to HRM's interest in hosting the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The presentation focused on the challenges and the benefits of hosting the Games, and the process and timelines involved in the bid.

In concluding his remarks, Mr. Labrecque advised that, should Council move to approve the staff recommendation, he was suggesting a third recommendation be included which would have staff return to Council on August 2 with a recommendation on a governance approach for the HRM/NS Bid Committee.

Mr. McLellan, CAO, advised that the discussions with the Province have been very positive and that the Province has indicated they would contribute \$2,500 of the \$5,000 cost to this part of the bid process. He added that the Letter of Intent, therefore, could be co-signed by the Mayor and the Premier.

Councillor Uteck spoke in support of the staff recommendation and expressed her sincere appreciation to Mayor Kelly for the support he has shown for this endeavor.

**MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Councillor Fougere that Regional Council:**

1. **Request staff to prepare a Letter of Intent to the Commonwealth Games Canada, to be signed by the Mayor on behalf of Regional Council, expressing HRM's interest in hosting the 2014 Commonwealth Games; and to pursue further discussions with the Province of Nova Scotia with a view to establishing a partnership to participate in submitting an Official Bid to host the**

**Games.**

2. **Approve a withdrawal in the amount of up to \$5,000 from the Special Events Reserve (Q315) in support of the Letter of Intent to CGC.**
3. **Staff return to Council August 2<sup>nd</sup> with a recommendation on a governance approach for an HRM/NS Bid Committee.**

Following further discussion with Mr. MacGillivray responding to questions the **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. PROPOSED HARMONIZED BY-LAW A-300, RESPECTING ANIMALS (staff presentation)**

C A staff report dated June 29, 2005 was submitted.

Mr. McLellan, CAO indicated that it was the intention to present the report today and have this matter come back for discussion in August.

Councillor McInroy suggested that August was not a good time to bring the matter back for discussion, noting that there were no budgetary implications if the matter waited until September or October.

**MOVED by Councillor McInroy, seconded by Councillor Fougere that Council discussion on this matter occur at meeting in September or October. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Councillor Hendsbee requested that, in the interim, the proposed bylaw be posted on HRM's website.

Noting that Council would hear staff's presentation this afternoon, Councillor Snow requested that when the matter returns in the fall, the staff presentation be provided at that time as well, to which the Chair concurred.

Councillor Karsten indicated that, although staff's intention today was to only provide a presentation, the report contains a recommendation for Council's approval, and he advised that this was confusing.

For clarification, the Municipal Clerk advised that staff intended for Council to have ample opportunity to review the proposed bylaw, and that today's presentation was designed to outline the process to Council, and for the purpose of today's presentation, to ignore the recommendation.

Ms. Andrea MacDonald, Manager, Animal Control and Taxi & Limousine Services addressed Council and provided an overview of the report.

At 2:45 p.m. the Mayor retired from the meeting and Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Jan Gibson  
Municipal Clerk