

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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

**September 13, 2005**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Peter Kelly  
Deputy Mayor Len Goucher  
Councillors: Steve Streach  
David Hendsbee  
Gloria McCluskey  
Andrew Younger  
Bill Karsten  
Jim Smith  
Mary Wile  
Patrick Murphy  
Sue Uteck  
Sheila Fougere  
Russell Walker  
Debbie Hum  
Linda Mosher  
Brad Johns  
Robert P. Harvey  
Reg Rankin

**REGRETS:**

Councillor Krista Snow  
Councillor Harry McInroy  
Councillor Becky Kent  
Councillor Dawn Sloane  
Councillor Stephen D. Adams  
Councillor Gary G. Meade

**STAFF:**

Mr. Dan English, A/Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF - NONE**

**3. CORPORATE GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - LOCAL ACTION PLAN  
(CLIMATE SMART)**

A staff report dated September 1, 2005 was submitted.

Mr. Stephen King, Manager, Environmental Performance, HRM Environmental Management Services addressed Council and gave a presentation in regard to Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Local Action Plan. In his remarks, Mr. King advised that sustainability is a key issue facing every municipality, and noted that the Federal Government has said the greatest sustainability issue facing this nation is climate change. Mr. King advised that he belongs to a team called ClimateSMART, along with several HRM departments, the Province, Federal Government, and private sector participants. The focus of Climate SMART is an integrated approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Mr. King introduced Ms. Megan Jamison, advising that she was representing the International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). Mr. King explained that ICLEI wrote the criteria for Canada's Partners for Climate Protection Program. He advised that ICLEI is co-chairing, along with FCM, the International Urban Leaders Forum which is scheduled for later this year in Montreal. Mr. King noted that Ms. Jamieson will update Council on what will be happening at this world event.

Ms. Jamison advised that ICLEI has a partnership with the International Centre for Sustainable Cities. She added that the World Summit for Climate Change will be held in Montreal from December 5 to 7, and ICLEI is hosting the event with the City of Montreal and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. She explained that this is an official parallel event to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Ms. Jamison concluded her remarks by advising that this will be an excellent opportunity to facilitate dialogue, and that it is exciting to bring Canadian cities to this international event. She indicated that she hoped HRM would be represented at the summit.

At approximately 3:40 p.m. Councillors Murphy, Smith, and Mosher entered the meeting.

Mr. King addressed Council once again and gave a brief presentation on how the Local

Action Plan ties in with HRM's Healthy, Sustainable, Vibrant Communities Corporate Scorecard theme. He then turned the presentation over to Mr. Rob Young who elaborated on the ClimateSMART project.

Mr. Rob Young of Dillon Consulting Limited, addressed Council and advised that the Climate SMART project was the first of its kind in Canada, and he expects it to be the template of other municipalities as well. Mr. Young noted that the overall objective of Climate SMART is to mainstream climate change mitigation and adaptation into overall municipal decision making.

In his remarks, Mr. Young noted the technical and financial partners of the project; he reviewed the amount of greenhouse gas HRM produces as a corporation; and the ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In this regard he pointed out that HRM has become involved with the Partners for Climate Protection Program and has developed a Local Action Plan. He added that the Local Action Plan is a strategic document outlining the actions to be taken to achieve the greenhouse gas reduction target, which is 20%. Mr. Young indicated that the document is a 'living' document, adding that it can be updated as new technologies come to the forefront. Mr. Young advised that HRM will have an overall reduction of 6.3% by 2012 and he outlined some of the actions which will be taken in the Buildings sector, Fleet sector, Street Lighting, and Water/Wastewater to meet the reduction target.

In conclusion Mr. Young advised that the next steps involved moving into a local action plan for the community; working on an implementation plan to provide guidance for various sectors; and developing a monitoring program that will meet both the Partners for Climate Protection program and emission trading needs.

A discussion ensued with Mr. King responding to questions.

**MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Wile, that Halifax Regional Council amend the time frames in its original (1997) Partners for Climate Protection voluntary commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to a revised voluntary target of reducing corporate HRM greenhouse gas emissions by 20% from 2002 levels by 2012 as detailed in the attached GHG Local Action Plan (to the September 1, 2005 staff report).**

Councillor Younger retired from the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Following further discussion with staff responding to questions, the **MOTION WAS PUT AND PASSED.**

At 4:25 p.m. Mayor Kelly retired from the meeting and the Deputy Mayor assumed the Chair.

**4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY UPDATE**

Due to the late hour **it was agreed** this matter would be deferred to the next regular meeting of Regional Council, scheduled for September 20, 2005.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Jan Gibson  
Municipal Clerk