



**BUDGET COMMITTEE
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
December 1, 2020**

PRESENT:

Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Tim Outhit
Councillors: Cathy Deagle Gammon
David Hendsbee
Becky Kent
Trish Purdy
Sam Austin
Tony Mancini
Waye Mason
Lindell Smith
Shawn Cleary
Kathryn Morse
Patty Cuttell
Iona Stoddard
Pam Lovelace
Lisa Blackburn
Paul Russell

STAFF:

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
Jane Fraser, Director of Finance & Asset Management/CFO
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m., and recessed at 10:40 a.m. Budget Committee reconvened in at 10:59 a.m., and recessed at 12:08 p.m. Budget Committee reconvened in at 1:04 p.m., and adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – NONE

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NONE

4. 2021 – 2025 Strategic Priority Framework and Multi-Year Strategic Planning and Budget Process

The following was before Budget Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated November 18, 2020
- A staff presentation entitled 2021-2025 Multi-Year Strategic Planning Framework and Planning Process
- Correspondence from Katherine Sircom, Wendy McDonald, and Maggy Burns

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, and Jane Fraser, Director of Finance & Asset Management/CFO, provided an overview of the Strategic Priority Framework and Multi-Year Strategic Planning and Budget Process.

Wendy Lines, Manager of Corporate Planning, gave a presentation to the Budget Committee and answered questions for Councillors. Regarding “Prosperous Economy” priority issues, Council discussed the possibility of the inclusion of language to emphasise the importance of local growth as an essential but non-exclusive aspect of a prosperous economy.

Council proposed including wording emphasising the importance of affordable housing as a priority issue. Council suggested “demonstrating leadership and fostering partnerships that provide access to a full range of quality, affordable housing options in safe and vibrant neighborhoods.” There were no objections from Council regarding the inclusion of this language and the proposed wording. Staff confirmed the proposed wording would be adopted into the Strategic Priorities Plan as a Strategic Priority Outcome under “Communities”. They further confirmed that staff plans to return to Budget Committee on January 12, 2021 with individual initiatives to advance higher strategic priorities based on feedback from this meeting as well as the budget survey.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT Budget Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Approve Halifax Regional Municipality’s 2021-2025 Strategic Planning Framework (Attachment A of the staff report dated November 18, 2020);**
- 2. Approve the development of a 2021-2025 Strategic Priorities Plan and 2021-2025 Administrative Priority Plan and associated annual reporting process;**
- 3. Approve the discontinuation of the Budget Allocator tool in favour of Online Business Planning and Budget Survey;**
- 4. Approve the 2021/22 Committee of the Whole Business Planning and Budget Meeting Schedule (Attachment B of the staff report dated November 18, 2020.)**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk