



**BUDGET COMMITTEE  
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)  
DRAFT MINUTES  
March 6, 2024**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor	Mike Savage, Vice Chair
Deputy Mayor	Cathy Deagle Gammon
Councillors:	David Hendsbee
	Sam Austin
	Tony Mancini
	Waye Mason
	Lindell Smith
	Shawn Cleary
	Kathryn Morse
	Patty Cuttell
	Iona Stoddard
	Lisa Blackburn
	Tim Outhit

  

**REGRETS:**

Councillors:	Paul Russell, Budget Committee Chair - Leave of Absence
	Becky Kent
	Trish Purdy
	Pam Lovelace

  

**STAFF:**

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance & Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer
John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer
Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant
Olawumi Odeyinka – Apantaku, Legislative Assistant

*These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by Budget Committee at a future regular meeting.*

*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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m., and adjourned at 9:49 a.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – February 14, 2024**

MOVED by Councillor Stoddard, seconded by Councillor Mason

**THAT the minutes of February 14, 2024 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **4. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

## **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Nick Greeno, Prospect Bay** spoke to the importance of community safety and noted crime rates and prevention. Greeno encouraged a reallocation of resources and need to invest in community resources.

**Frank Heimpl, District 8** spoke against the proposed 2024/25 Halifax Regional Police budget and encouraged investment in community resources.

## **6. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING – NONE**

## **7. REPORTS**

### **7.1 Halifax Regional Police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment Budget and Business Plan**

The following was before Budget Committee:

- Staff report dated January 24, 2024

The following motion was on the floor from the February 14, 2024 meeting:

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

**THAT the Budget Committee:**

- 1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) proposed 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the**

**accompanying plan and supporting presentation attached to the report dated January 24, 2024, into the Draft 2024/25 Operating Budget**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (10 in favour, 3 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon, Councillors Hendsbee, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Morse, Stoddard, Blackburn, Outhit

Against: Councillors Smith, Cleary, Cuttall

Not present: Budget Committee Chair Russell, Councillors Kent, Purdy, Lovelace

The following motion was on the floor from the February 14, 2024 meeting:

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

**THAT the Budget Committee:**

- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) proposed 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying plan and supporting presentation attached to the report dated January 24, 2024, into the Draft 2024/25 Operating Budget; and**
- 3. Include an estimated increase of \$1,145,000 (pro-rated at \$572,300 for 2024/25) for six RCMP Regular Member positions as outlined in Attachment 5 of the report dated January 24, 2024 – RCMP Contract Enhancements Request within the proposed 2024/25 RCMP budget to the Budget Adjustment List as an expense over budget option for consideration.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.** (11 in favour, 2 against)

In favour: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon, Councillors Hendsbee, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Morse, Cuttall, Stoddard, Blackburn, Outhit

Against: Councillors Smith, Cleary

Not present: Budget Committee Chair Russell, Councillors Kent, Purdy, Lovelace

## **7.2 Corporate Services: Chief Administrative Office, Finance & Asset Management, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Legal & Legislative Services**

### **7.2i Budget Adjustment List Briefing Note - Impacts of Freezing Corporate Services Full Time Employee (FTE) Counts at Approved 2023/24 Levels**

The following was before Budget Committee:

- Staff report dated January 24, 2024, revised January 31, 2024
- Budget Adjustment List Briefing Note - Impacts of Freezing Corporate Services Full Time Employee (FTE) Counts at Approved 2023/24 Levels dated March 6, 2024

The following motion was on the floor from the January 31, 2024 meeting:

MOVED by Councillor Cuttall, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

**THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to**

- 1. Incorporate the Chief Administrative Office proposed 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying plan and supporting presentation, dated January 24, 2024, into the Draft 2024/25 Operating Budget;**
- 2. Incorporate the Finance & Asset Management proposed 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying plan and supporting presentation, dated January 24, 2024, into the Draft 2024/25 Operating Budget;**
- 3. Incorporate the Human Resources proposed 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying plan and supporting presentation, dated January 24, 2024, into the Draft 2024/25 Operating Budget;**
- 4. Incorporate the Information Technology proposed 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying plan and supporting presentation, dated January 24, 2024, into the Draft 2024/25 Operating Budget; and**
- 5. Incorporate the Legal & Legislative Services proposed 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying plan and supporting presentation, dated January 24, 2024, into the Draft 2024/25 Operating Budget.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Not present: Budget Committee Chair Russell, Councillors Kent, Purdy, Lovelace

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Catie Campbell  
Legislative Assistant