



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 22, 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor Paul Russell, Chair
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Vice Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Trish Purdy
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Councillor Kathryn Morse

REGRETS: Mayor Mike Savage, Ex-Officio

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Sam Austin

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset Management/
Chief Financial Officer
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Evangeline Colman-Sadd, Auditor General, Halifax Regional Municipality
Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant
Eric Bowdridge, 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 10:04 a.m., and moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 11:33 a.m. The Standing Committee reconvened at 11:41 a.m., and adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:04 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 MINUTES – May 18, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the minutes of May 18, 2022 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

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Councillor Deagle Gammon requested that Item 17 – Public Participation be considered prior to Item 12.1 – Auditor General.

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence – None

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Banook Canoe Club Renovation & Revitalization

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation dated June 22, 2022
- Handout dated June 22, 2022

Deborah Windsor, Banook Canoe Club Facility Improvement Committee Representative, and Geoff Bennett, Chair of the Banook Renovation and Revitalization Committee, gave a presentation on the Banook Canoe Club Renovation and Revitalization funding request and responded to questions of

clarification from the Standing Committee regarding use of municipal park land, environmental considerations, other sources of funding for the project, and current and potential community usage.

A copy of the presentation is on file.

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to request a staff report on a possible grant to the Banook Canoe Club in the amount of \$265,000

Councillor Deagle Gammon proposed adjusting the amount from \$265,000 excluding municipal permit fees to \$250,000 and to waive municipal permit fees. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, Respecting the Procedures of the Council, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor Morse, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to request a staff report on a possible grant to the Banook Canoe Club in the amount of \$250,000 and to waive municipal permit fees

John Traves, Municipal Solicitor, and Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset Management/ Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Geoff Bennett, Chair of the Banook Renovation and Revitalization Committee, responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee and noted commitments to the province regarding the timeline for the project.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 AUDITOR GENERAL

12.1.1 Management of Respectful Workplaces Audit

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Auditor General report dated June 18, 2022
- Presentation dated June 22, 2022

Evangeline Colman-Sadd, Auditor General, Halifax Regional Municipality, gave a presentation on their Management of Respectful Workplaces Audit Report and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee regarding the scope of the audit, public safety implications, limitations of Human Resources & Corporate Communications, and training limitations during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

A copy of the presentation is on file.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to request a staff report on an action plan to address the recommendations within the Management of Respectful Workplaces Audit Report within six months.

John Traves, Municipal Solicitor, and Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee regarding the utility of an action plan, and the timeline for addressing the recommendations in the report.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 STAFF

12.2.1 Investment Activities Quarter Ending March 31, 2022

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated June 6, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee forward this report to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2.2 Sheet Harbour Marina Association Request for Funding

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated May 18, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

- 1. Provide a \$50,000 grant to the Sheet Harbour Marina Association with funding from the Options Reserve (Q421); and**
- 2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or their designate to negotiate and execute a tripartite Contribution Agreement with the Sheet Harbour Marina Association and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency including HRM's contribution in the amount of \$50,000 to engage professional services to complete a Marina Spatial Plan and Comprehensive Business Plan with respect to the development of a marina facility, substantially in the same form as Attachment 1 of this report.**

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance & Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer,, responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee regarding consultation done by staff that resulted in the amount of recommended funding.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 GRANTS COMMITTEE – NONE

12.4 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT Standing Committee convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 14.1 PERSONNEL MATTER.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.1 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Shawn Cleary.

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council:

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated June 8, 2022; and**
- 2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated June 8, 2022 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 20, 2022

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Eric Bowdridge
Legislative Assistant