



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 14, 2019**

PRESENT: Councillor Russell Walker, Chair
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair
Mayor Mike Savage
Councillor Stephen Adams
Councillor Matt Whitman

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor David Hendsbee

REGRETS: Councillor Bill Karsten

STAFF: Karen Brown, Senior Solicitor
Jane Fraser, Chief Financial Officer
Krista Vining, 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 10:00 a.m., and moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 10:11 a.m. and reconvened at 10:22 a.m. The Standing Committee adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 26, 2019 and July 19, 2019 (special meeting)

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the minutes of June 26, 2019 and July 19, 2019 (special meeting) be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

Two-third majority vote required.

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

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 AUDITOR GENERAL – NONE

12.2 STAFF

12.2.1 Investment Activities – Quarter Ending March 31, 2019

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 3, 2019
- A memorandum from the Investment Policy Advisory Committee dated June 4, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the Treasurer's Report – Quarter ending March 31, 2019 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2.2 Funding Request – The Vimy Foundation

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 11, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the Audit and Finance Committee recommend Halifax Regional Council approve a one-time contribution to The Vimy Foundation in the amount of \$10,000 from Operating Account M310-8004 for the purchase of a “legacy gift”, a Vimy Oak Tree, which will be planted in the Vimy Foundation Centennial Park, France.

The Standing Committee considered the funding request, with some concern raised on the cost of the contribution. In response to a question raised, staff advised they would confirm the value of the Vimy Oak Tree.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2.3 Revised Business Case for Q521 – Convention Centre Reserve

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated February 14, 2019 with revised Attachment 1 - Proposed Reserve Business Case, Convention Centre Reserve, Q521

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council repeal and replace the business case for Q521 – Convention Centre Reserve, as set out in the revised Attachment 1 of the staff report dated February 14, 2019.

The Standing Committee reviewed the revised business case for the Convention Centre Reserve. In response to a question raised, staff advised they would provide confirmation on the number of parking spaces allocated to the hotel as part of the Nova Centre complex and the scheduled opening of the hotel.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 BOARD/COMMITTEES – NONE

12.4 COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NONE

13. MOTIONS

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – May 15, 2019

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of May 15, 2019 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

To convene into In Camera (In Private) to discuss the property matter.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.2 PROPERTY MATTER – *Private and Confidential Report*

A matter pertaining to providing instruction and direction to officers and employees of the Municipality pertaining to the acquisition / sale of land.

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

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Whitman

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

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential staff report dated June 20, 2019; and**
- 2. Not release the private and confidential staff report dated June 20, 2019 to the public until the transaction has closed.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public came forward at this time.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 18, 2019

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Krista Vining
Legislative Assistant