



**BUDGET COMMITTEE  
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
MAY 12, 2020**

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Savage  
Deputy Mayor Lisa Blackburn  
Councillors: Steve Streach  
David Hendsbee  
Bill Karsten  
Lorelei Nicoll  
Sam Austin  
Tony Mancini  
Waye Mason  
Lindell Smith  
Shawn Cleary  
Russell Walker  
Stephen Adams  
Richard Zurawski  
Matt Whitman  
Paul Russell  
Tim Outhit

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jane Fraser, Director of Finance & Asset Management/CFO  
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor  
Sherrill Murphy, A/Municipal Clerk  
Judith Ng'ethe, 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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The special meeting was called to order at 2:16 p.m. and adjourned at 4:52 p.m.*

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 2:16 p.m.

## **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

## **3. Proposed 2020/21 Budget Recast for COVID-19 Impacts**

The following was before Budget Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated May 1, 2020
- A staff presentation dated May 12, 2020 entitled “2020/21 Recast Budget Discussion”
- Private and confidential handout re: Legal Matter
- Correspondence from Angela Thornhill, Randy Trimper, Tricia Murray-d'Eon, Wayne Carlon, Megan Hodder, Claudia Currie, Brendan Meagher, Walter N. Regan and Norm Collins

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, presented the 2020/21 proposed operating and capital budgets recast for COVID-19 impacts.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

**THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to revise the 2020/21 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets, as voted on by Regional Council’s Committee of the Whole on Budget at their February 12, 2020 meeting, using the revisions proposed in the staff report dated May 1, 2020 as summarized in Table 3, supported by attachment C and D.**

The following amendment was proposed relating to reductions put forward by Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency business unit:

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Whitman

**THAT the Budget Committee direct staff to come back with a supplemental report identifying alternative funding sources for the \$1,770,000 required to permit an amendment to delete the line items with respect to closing Station 11 and the possible transfer of day staff from Station 50 or 60, and the reduction to HFRE Volunteer Fire Recognition Program.**

Following discussion, the Budget Committee agreed to hold the proposed amendment in abeyance for questions of clarification on the main motion and general discussion on the budget.

The Budget Committee discussed the main motion with Dubé and Jane Fraser, Director of Finance & Asset Management/CFO, responding to questions on the budget and the financial position of the Municipality. During the discussion public safety was identified as a top priority.

The Committee requested additional information from business units on the rationale for the proposed budget reductions and more information on the specific nature of the reductions. The Budget Committee asked for a compensation breakdown and that the Canmac Economics Limited HRM Econometric Model used to determine deed transfer tax be circulated.

A brief discussion on the format for the May 13, 2020 Budget Committee special meeting ensued with the Committee indicating further discussion of high-level budget matters was required, as well as a more detailed business unit review of proposed reductions and rationale for those reductions.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Sherryl Murphy  
A/Municipal Clerk