



**BUDGET COMMITTEE
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
MAY 15, 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
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Jane Fraser, Chief Financial Officer
Brad Anguish, Director, Transportation and Public Works
Dave Reage, Director, Halifax Transit
Patricia Hughes, Manager, Planning Customer Engagement
Denise Schofield, Director, Parks and Recreation
Ray Walsh, Manager, Parks
Sherryl Murphy, A/Municipal Clerk
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 special meeting was called to order at 1:09 p.m., and recessed at 2:25 p.m. Budget Committee reconvened at 2:45 p.m. Budget Committee adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 1:09 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”
- Handout – Grants and Programs – Proposed 2020-21 Budget Recast for COVID-19 Impacts
- Correspondence from Wayne Fiander

The following motion from the May 12, 2020 meeting of the Budget Committee reads:

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.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Budget Committee maintain funding for stump removal in the amount of \$40,000 and hand shoveling from the Snow Removal Program in the amount of \$225,000 and forward these amounts to the Parking Lot.

Budget Committee requested the motion be separated for voting purposes as per Section 90 of Administrative Order One.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Budget Committee maintain funding for stump removal in the amount of \$40,000 and forward this amount to the Parking Lot.

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED. (4 in favour, 13 against)

In favour: Councillors Austin, Mason, Whitman, Outhit

Against: Mayor Savage, Deputy Mayor Blackburn, Councillors Streach, Hendsbee, Karsten, Nicoll, Mancini, Smith, Cleary, Walker, Adams, Zurawski, Russell

Brad Anguish, Director of Transportation and Public Works confirmed that \$225,000 was to employee 10 seasonal staff during the winter to hand shovel areas in the core that machines could not access, such as curb cuts, crosswalk signals and work in the new bike lanes.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT the Budget Committee maintain funding for hand shoveling from the Snow Removal Program in the amount of \$225,000 and forward this amount to the Parking Lot.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (14 in favour, 3 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Blackburn, Councillors Streach, Hendsbee, Nicoll, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Cleary, Walker, Adams, Zurawski, Russell, Outhit

Against: Mayor Savage, Councillors Karsten, Whitman

Anguish responded to questions on the reduction to tree planting and pruning. Anguish noted that they would provide additional details on whether the Municipality would be able to participate in the National Greening Program – Tree Canada if reductions are made to the budget.

Dave Reage, Director, Halifax Transit, spoke to the Budget Committee regarding proposed budget reduction strategies for Halifax Transit outlined in the staff report dated May 1, 2020 and answered questions.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Budget Committee maintain funding for proposed Highway 207 fixed loop service in the amount of \$200,000 and forward this amount to the Parking Lot.

There being no seconder, the **MOTION WAS LOST.**

Denise Schofield, Director, Parks and Recreation, spoke to the Budget Committee regarding proposed budget reduction strategies for Parks and Recreation outlined in the staff report dated May 1, 2020 and answered questions.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Sherryl Murphy
A/Municipal Clerk