



**BUDGET COMMITTEE
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)
MINUTES
December 7, 2021**

PRESENT: Councillor Paul Russell, Chair
 Mayor Mike Savage
 Deputy Mayor Pam Lovelace
 Councillors: Cathy Deagle Gammon
 David Hendsbee
 Becky Kent
 Trish Purdy
 Sam Austin
 Tony Mancini
 Waye Mason
 Lindell Smith
 Shawn Cleary
 Kathryn Morse
 Patty Cuttell
 Iona Stoddard
 Lisa Blackburn
 Tim Outhit

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance & Asset Management/Chief
 Financial Officer
 John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
 Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk
 Andrea Lovasi-Wood, 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 10:01 a.m., and recessed at 12:05 p.m. Budget Committee reconvened in at 2:42 p.m. Budget Committee adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – November 23 and 26, 2021

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the minutes of November 23 and 26, 2021 be approved as circulated/amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Hendsbee, Mancini, Cuttell, Outhit

4. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NONE

6. 2021 – 2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES PLAN (COUNCIL PRIORITIES)

The following was before the Budget Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated November 17, 2021
- Staff presentation dated December 7, 2021
- Correspondence from Mark Cunningham

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the Budget Committee approve amendments to the 2021-2025 Council Priorities Plan as outlined in revised Attachment 2 of the November 17, 2021 staff report, and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop 2022-2023 business plans and budgets consistent with this Plan.

Wendy Lines, Director, Corporate Planning gave a presentation on 2021 – 2025 Strategic Priorities Plan (Council Priorities) and responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

Kelly Denty, Executive Director, Planning & Development responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

John Traves, Municipal Solicitor advised Budget Committee that amendments to the main motion are required for Councillors to make substantive changes to the 2021-2025 Council Priorities Plan to ensure accurate direction to the Chief Administrative Officer and staff.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Plan be amended to include the words “social and transportation” under Safe Communities on slide 12.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED. (14 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Lovelace, Budget Committee Chair Russell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Morse, Stoddard, Blackburn, Outhit

Against: Councillor Cleary

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Cuttell

MOVED by Outhit, seconded Deputy Mayor Outhit

THAT the Plan be amended to include “Suburban centre plan(s) equivalent” under Prosperous Economy Summary on slide 10.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED. (14 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Lovelace, Budget Committee Chair Russell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Morse, Stoddard, Blackburn, Outhit

Against: Councillor Cleary

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Cuttell

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the Plan be amended to replace the word “neighbourhoods” with the word “communities” under Affordable Communities on slide 13.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED. (14 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Lovelace, Budget Committee Chair Russell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Smith, Morse, Stoddard, Blackburn, Outhit

Against: Councillor Cleary

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillor Cuttell

Paul Johnston, Managing Director, Government Relations & External Affairs responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Plan be amended to replace “affordable necessities” with “affordable municipal amenities and services” under Affordable Communities on slide 13.

Councillor Lovelace proposed to include necessities with affordable municipal amenities and services. 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 as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Plan be amended to replace “affordable necessities” with “affordable necessities and municipal amenities and services” under Affordable Communities on slide 13.

Wendy Lines responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee. Lines proposed alternative wording of the priority outcome Affordable Communities on slide 13 and proposed new suggested wording for the section. Budget Committee accepted this new wording for the amendment.

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor Purdy

THAT the Plan be amended by rewriting the entry under Affordable Communities on slide 13 to read as follows; “The municipality demonstrates leadership and fosters partnerships that provide access to a range of quality, affordable municipal amenities and services, including housing options, in safe vibrant communities.”.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED. (13 in favour, 1 against)

In favour: Deputy Mayor Lovelace, Budget Committee Chair Russell, Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Smith, Morse, Stoddard, Blackburn, Outhit

Against: Councillor Cleary

Not present: Mayor Savage, Councillors Mason, Cuttell

Wendy Lines, Director, Corporate Planning responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

Peter Duncan, Director, Infrastructure Planning responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the Budget Committee approve amendments to the 2021-2025 Council Priorities Plan as outlined in revised Attachment 2 of the November 17, 2021 staff report, including the following amendments to revised Attachment 2:

- 1. Include the words “social and transportation” under Safe Communities on slide 12;**
- 2. Include “Suburban centre plan(s) equivalent” under Prosperous Economy Summary on slide 10;**
- 3. Replace the word “neighbourhoods” with the word “communities” under Affordable Communities on slide 13;**

- 4. Rewriting the Affordable Communities entry on slide 13 to read as follows; “The municipality demonstrates leadership and fosters partnerships that provide access to a range of quality, affordable municipal amenities and services, including housing options, in safe vibrant communities.”; and**

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to develop 2022-2023 business plans and budgets consistent with this Plan.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk