



**AUDIT & FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
March 11, 2016**

PRESENT: Councillor Bill Karsten, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Barry Dalrymple  
Councillor Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor Reg Rankin  
Councillor Steve Craig  
Mayor Mike Savage

REGRETS: Councillor Linda Mosher, Chair

STAFF: Ms. Amanda Whitewood, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. John Traves, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Karen Brown, Acting Municipal Solicitor  
Mr. Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to are available online:  
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCfinance/160311afsc-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 10:57 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Karsten, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order in Council Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 12, 2016**

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Craig

**THAT the minutes of February 12, 2016 be approved as circulated.**

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

Additions: None

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Rankin

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

**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 – NONE**

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**12. REPORTS**

**12.1 STAFF**

**12.1.1 Write-off of Uncollectible Accounts**

The following was before the committee:

- *A staff recommendation report February 18, 2016*

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor McCluskey

**THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee**

- 1. Forward the February 18, 2016 staff report to HRM Regional Council for approval;**
- 2. Forward the private and confidential In Camera report dated February 18, 2016 “Write-off of Uncollectible Account - Details” to HRM Regional Council as a In Camera Information Report, and that the report not be released to the public;**

3. **The real property tax accounts in the amount of \$148,070 comprised of \$96,100 principal and \$51,970 interest as summarized in Schedule 1 of the staff report dated February 18, 2016 be formally written out of the books of account;**
4. **The general revenue accounts in the amount of \$ 10,276 comprised of \$9,971 principal and \$304 interest as summarized in Schedule 1 of the staff report dated February 18, 2016 be formally written out of the books of account;**
5. **The business occupancy tax accounts in the amount of \$2,231 comprised of \$1,736 principal and \$494 interest as summarized in Schedule 1 of the staff report dated February 18, 2016 be formally written out of the books of account;**
6. **The recreation accounts in the amount of \$797 comprised of \$797 principal and \$0 interest as summarized in Schedule 1 of the staff report dated February 18, 2016 be formally written out of the books of account;**

Mr. Jerry Blackwood, Manager of Revenue provided a brief overview of the staff report dated February 18, 2016.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.1.2 Mount Hope Interchange Highway 111 – Capital Cost Contribution (CCC) Funding Shortfall**

The following was before the committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated March 1, 2016*

Ms. Amanda Whitewood, Chief Financial Officer provided a brief overview of the staff report and advised that the staff recommendation would not affect the year end position of the municipality.

Mr. Louis De Montbrun, Manager of Financial Reporting provided an overview of the Capital Cost Contribution (CCC) Funding Shortfall noting that the projected CCC's will not be realized.

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Mayor Savage

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

- 1) **Change the funding source for the outstanding \$7,234,679 for Project Number CTUOO530, Highway 111/Portland St. Interchange from Capital Cost Contribution funding to the following: \$3,000,000 from the Operating Surplus Reserve Q328 and the remainder of \$4,234,679 from debt; and,**
- 2) **Authorize Finance to seek approval from the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to fund this project from debt, as it is a provincially owned street.**

In response to a follow up question from Mayor Savage, Mr. Peter Duncan, Manager of Asset and Transportation Planning noted that he was involved in meetings with Officials from 12 Wing Shearwater, and advised of discussions regarding the feasibility of constructing a connector road through DND lands. He further noted that the discussion have not advanced point of potential costs.

Mr. Duncan provided further information with respect to the Canada Nova Scotia Infrastructure Fund and advised that the Mount Hope Interchange was a jointly funded project with funding from the Provincial and Federal Government. He further advised that the interchange is a provincial asset.

In response to a follow up question from Councillor McCluskey, Mr. Duncan advised that the provincial government contributed approximately \$2.5 million for the Mount Hope interchange.

Councillor Dalrymple suggested the following amendment to the staff motion:

MOVED by Councillor Dalrymple, seconded by Mayor Savage

**THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council request the Mayor write a letter on behalf of Council to the Federal Government to discuss options pertaining to compensation/funding in relation to the funding shortfall.**

**AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

In response to a question from Councillor Craig, Mr. Duncan advised that staff can investigate the development potential under the policy guidelines of the Regional Plan in the Mount Hope area to possibly make up some of the funding shortfall through CCC's.

Further discussion ensued.

**AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.2 OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL – NONE**

**12.3 INVESTMENT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE**

**12.4 GRANT COMMITTEE – NONE**

**12.5 SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE**

**12.6 MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT & FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE**

**13. MOTIONS**

**14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

**Private and Confidential In Camera (In Private) Item:**

1. Private and Confidential In Camera (In Private) Information Item dated February 18, 2016 re: Write Off Report – Detail.

**15. ADDED ITEMS**

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Councillor Karsten called three times for members of the public to address the Audit & Finance Standing Committee. There were no speakers present.

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 13, 2016**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Liam MacSween  
Legislative Assistant

