



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
July 17, 2017**

PRESENT: Councillor Bill Karsten, Chair
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair
Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Steve Craig
Councillor Russell Walker

REGRETS: Councillor Stephen D. Adams
Councillor Matt Whitman

STAFF: John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Louis De Montbrun, Manager, Financial Reporting
Liam MacSween, 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 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Karsten, Chair called the meeting to order in Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, Halifax.

2. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

3. REPORTS

3.1 Increase to Project Number CB000045 – Cole Harbour Place

The following was before the Audit and Finance Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 12, 2017.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Mayor Savage

That the Audit and Finance Standing Committee:

- 1. Recommend that Regional Council approve an unbudgeted withdrawal in the amount of \$625,000 net HST included, from the Capital Fund Reserve, Q526;**
- 2. Recommend that Regional Council increase 2017/18 Capital Budget, Project Number CB000045 – Cole Harbour Place (CHP) by \$550,000, net HST Included, as outlined in the Financial section of this report;**
- 3. Recommend that Regional Council increases PO # 2070766432 for Blunden Construction Limited in the amount of \$500,000, net HST included;**
- 4. Recommend that Regional Council approve advanced funding in the amount of \$75,000 from the 2018/19 capital budget for Project Number CB000045 for design consultant work for the ice floor replacement project, and;**
- 5. Recommend that Regional Council direct staff to complete the work on both the roof and ice slab in one phase and authorize staff to enter an agreement with Cole Harbour Place to transfer the user group rentals of Scotia One Arena to the Gray Arena during the construction closure. And;**
- 6. That the staff report dated July 12, 2017 be forward Regional Council for consideration at its meeting held on July 18, 2017**

In response to a question of clarification, John MacPherson, Senior Real Estate Officer noted the following:

- The critical path for Cole Harbour Place is the replacement of the ice slab and the structural work required to repair the roof.
- There was \$425,000.00 budgeted for the required structural repairs to the roof of Cole Harbour Place. Staff had anticipated that only light steel work was required. During the work on the matter it was discovered that heavier steel work would be required to ensure the integrity of the roof.
- It was determined by staff that all the required structural work should be completed at the same time.

Louis De Montbrun, Manager of Financial Reporting provided clarification with respect to the project budget and the required withdrawal from the Capital Fund Reserve to complete the work on the project.

Brad Anguish, Director of Parks and Recreation noted that the financial information for Cole Harbour place is contained in HRM's Consolidated Financial Statements and did not appear in the Capital Budget that was presented to Council. Anguish further noted that alternate arrangements have been made with Cole Harbour Place to maintain bookings, moving rentals to the Gray Arena for the length of the repair work at Cole Harbour Place.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3.2 HRM Gun Amnesty Program

The following was before the Audit and Finance Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 11, 2017.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Walker

That the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend to Halifax Regional Council that Halifax Regional Police (HRP), in partnership with the Public Safety Advisor and Halifax District RCMP, consider gun amnesty program options as part of the 2017/18 Gun Safety Strategy deliverable approved by Regional Council; and, in the event a cash incentive program is determined to be the best way forward, transfer up to \$10,000 to HRP from Fiscal Services, as outlined in the Financial Implications' section of the July 11, 2017 staff report.

In response to a question of clarification, John Traves, Municipal Solicitor noted that the HRM Gun Amnesty Program is a matter for Board of Police Commissioners to determine, and the recommendation will make monies available to the Board to develop the program.

Ted Upshaw, Public Safety Advisor provided an overview of previous Gun Amnesty programs administered by the municipality and noted that staff is currently working with the Board of Police Commissioners, Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP on a Gun Safety Strategy. Upshaw further commented that the proposed transfer will assist if a cash incentive amnesty program is determined to be the best way forward as part of the Gun Safety Strategy.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant