



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 19, 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor Bill Karsten, Chair
Councillor Russell Walker, Vice Chair
Mayor Mike Savage
Councillor Stephen D. Adams
Councillor Steve Craig
Councillor Matt Whitman

REGRETS: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll

STAFF: Jacque Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Jerry Blackwood, Acting Chief Financial Officer
Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant
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 meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 18, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Mayor Savage

THAT the minutes of July 18, 2018 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 15.1 Budget Increase to New Paving Streets - HRM Owned Roads (CR180006)
- 15.2 Multi-District Facility Management Agreements Supplemental

Councillor Whitman asked that Information Item 1 Information Report dated August 13, 2018 from the Acting Director/CFO, Finance and Asset Management and Chief Administrative Officer re: Update on Recommendations from the Auditor General's Audit of Procurement Dated May 2018 be added to the next meeting agenda for discussion, which the Standing Committee agreed.

Councillor Karsten withdrew Item 12.6.1 Committee Members – Councillor Karsten.

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

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

10.1 Correspondence – None

10.2 Petitions – None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

12.1.1 First Quarter 2018/19 Financial Report

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated September 7, 2018
- Staff presentation

Louis De Montbrun, Manager, Financial Reporting, Financial Services reported the financials for the first quarter of 2018/19, outlining the general rate surplus, risk and opportunities, Scotiabank Centre update, project statement, Councillors' funds, recreation area rates, reserves in process and reserves, aged accounts receivable, assessment appeals summary and capital projection summary.

Staff responded to questions. A typographical error was noted in the staff presentation, Capital Project Summary projected expenditures should read *March 31, 2019* not 2018.

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Whitman

That the Audit & Finance Standing Committee forward the First Quarter 2018/19 Financial Report to Regional Council for their information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 INVESTMENT REPORTS

12.2.1 Investment Activities – Quarter ending June 30, 2018

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated September 5, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the staff report dated September 5, 2018 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2.2 Investment Policy Advisory Committee – Quarter ending June 30, 2018

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated September 5, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the Investment Policy Advisory Committee report dated September 5, 2018 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 AUDITOR GENERAL – NONE

12.4 STAFF

12.4.1 Grant Request – Hospice Society of Greater Halifax

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 16, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council decline the request for funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 from the Hospice Society of Greater Halifax.

Members spoke in support of end of life care and questioned how the Municipality could support the establishment of a hospice.

MOVED by Councillor Adams

THAT the grant request from the Hospice Society of Greater Halifax to next meeting to coincide with the grant request from the YMCA.

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

The discussion ensued with consideration being given to Alternative 1 outlined in the July 16, 2018 staff report.

MOTION PUT AND DEFEATED.

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve a one-time in-kind contribution of \$250,000 to the Hospice Society of Greater Halifax.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.4.2 Election 2020 Training & Engagement: Authorization for Reserve Withdrawal

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated August 14, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council authorize the withdrawal of amounts not to exceed \$15,000 from Q511 Municipal Election Reserve for 2018/19 to fund expenses related to the implementation of a training strategy and an engagement strategy in advance of the 2020 election.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.4.3 Budget Increase to St. Andrew Community Centre Renovation (CB000011)

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated September 19, 2018

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Walker

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

- 1. Approve an increase to Project Account No. CB000011 – St. Andrew’s Community Centre Renovation in the amount of \$1,950,000; and**
- 2. Approve an unbudgeted withdrawal in the amount of \$1,950,000 from the Capital Fund Reserve, Q526 as outlined in the Financial Implications section of the staff report dated September 19, 2018.**

Members discussed the motion with staff responding to questions on the Class estimates.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.5 GRANTS COMMITTEE – NONE

12.6 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

12.6.1 Councillor Karsten

This matter was withdrawn during the approval of the agenda, see page 2.

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

The Standing Committee may rise and go into a private In Camera session, in accordance with Section 19 of the Halifax Regional Municipal Charter, for the purpose of dealing with the following:

14.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – July 18, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of July 18, 2018 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

15.1 Budget Increase to New Paving Streets - HRM Owned Roads (CR180006)

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Whitman

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve an increase to Project Account CR180006 New Paving Streets - HRM Owned Roads in the amount of \$250,000 funded 1/3 (\$83,333) by Local Improvement Charges and 2/3 (\$166,667) by a transfer from Project Account CR000009 Street Recapitalization, as outlined in the Financial Implications section of the staff report dated September 12, 2018.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15.2 Multi-District Facility Management Agreements Supplemental

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Walker

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

1. Approve the management agreements between:

a. HRM and the Canada Games Centre Society, as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated September 10, 2018;

b. HRM and the Community Builders Inc., as set out in Attachment 2; and

c. HRM and the Alderney Landing Facility Association, as set out in Attachment 3, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or their delegate to execute the agreements and to exercise at their discretion the renewal options set out in the agreements;

2. Subject to the execution of the management agreements as set out in recommendation 1, approve that the total receivables and debts outstanding from the Canada Games Centre Society, the Community Builders Inc., and the Alderney Landing Association, to HRM as of the date of the execution of the management agreements be written out of the books of account, and any accumulated deficits be absorbed by HRM, reducing their outstanding receivables, debts and accumulated deficits to zero; and

3. Authorize the opening of bank accounts for the Canada Games Centre Society, Community Builders Inc., and Alderney Landing Facility Association, for the purposes of operating the respective facilities as authorized per standard Halifax Regional Municipality procedures.

Mayor Savage exited the meeting prior to the vote being taken.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public came forward.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 17, 2018

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.