



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 17, 2019**

PRESENT: Councillor Russell Walker, Chair
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair
Councillor Stephen D. Adams
Councillor Steve Craig
Mayor Mike Savage

REGRETS: Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Matt Whitman

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Jane Fraser, Chief Financial Officer
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 Audit and Finance Standing Committee meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.
and adjourned at 10:32 a.m.*

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 27, 2019 (Audit Committee & Audit and Finance Standing Committee)

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the March 27, 2019 Audit Committee and Audit and Finance Standing Committee minutes be deferred to the next meeting to allow staff to separate the minutes for approval.

MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

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

12. REPORTS

12.1 AUDITOR GENERAL

12.1.1 2018-19 Annual Report and 2019-20 Audit Priorities

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Report from Auditor General re: 2018-19 Annual Report and 2019-20 Audit Priorities
- Auditor General presentation entitled: 2018-19 Annual Report and 2019-20 Audit Priorities
- Peer review letter from Deputy Auditor General, Office of the Auditor General of Nova Scotia

Evangeline Coleman-Sadd, Auditor General provided a brief overview of their 2018-19 Annual Report and 2019-20 Audit Priorities. The Office of the Auditor General has implemented a new website <https://hrmauditorgeneral.ca> which is separate from the Municipality's website. The 2019-20 Audit Priorities include:

- HRM Website Redesign and Implementation
- Capacity to Meet Long-term Capital Plans
- Fleet Vehicle Use, Car Allowances, and Mileage
- Building Standards
- Halifax Regional Police IT
- LED Street Lighting Initiative

The Office of the Auditor General will be following up in 2019-20 with Contract Management, Halifax Water Management of Drinking Water Safety, and Management of Surplus Buildings and Lands, and will report back to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee later in the year.

The Auditor General responded to questions to the 2019-20 Audit Priorities. The Auditor General noted they would try to incorporate pathways and walkways into their review of the transportation network for pedestrians (e.g. long-term maintenance for sidewalk and roads).

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Mayor Savage

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the 2018-19 Annual Report and 2019-20 Audit Priorities to Halifax Regional Council for information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

12.3 INVESTMENT REPORTS

12.3.1 Investment Policy Advisory Committee Report – Quarter ending December 31, 2018

Motion: Mayor Savage/Nicoll – passed.

That the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the March 11, 2019 report from the Investment Policy Advisory Committee to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

12.3.2 Investment Activities – Quarter ending December 31, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the March 11, 2019 staff report to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.4 STAFF

12.4.1 Budget Increase – Project Account No. CE180001 – Purchase Snow Blower

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

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

1. Approve a budget increase to the 2019/20 proposed gross capital budget, but not the net to increase Project Account No. CE180001 – Fleet Vehicle Replacement Project, in the amount of \$86,558; and

2. Approve an unbudgeted reserve withdrawal of \$86,558 from Q421, General Contingency Reserve to fund this increase to the project as outlined in the Financial Implications Section of the staff report dated April 5, 2019.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.5 GRANTS COMMITTEE – NONE

12.6 COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NONE

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 Municipality Charter, for the purpose of dealing with the following:

14.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – March 27, 2019

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Mayor Savage

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of March 27, 2019 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public came forward at this time.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.