



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
July 19, 2019**

PRESENT: Councillor Russell Walker, Chair  
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair  
Mayor Mike Savage  
Councillor Bill Karsten  
Councillor Stephen Adams  
Councillor Matt Whitman

STAFF: Jane Fraser, Chief Financial Officer  
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor  
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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 9:18 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Russell Walker, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Whitman

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**5. STAFF**

**5.1 Special Election: Authorization for Reserve Withdrawal**

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 5, 2019

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Mayor Savage

**THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council authorize an unbudgeted withdrawal from Municipal Election Reserve Account Q511 to fund A125 cost centre in the amount of \$250,000 to conduct a single district special election for District 15, Lower Sackville.**

In response to questions from the Standing Committee, Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk clarified that a Special Election for the vacated seat in District 15 is required under section 13 of the Nova Scotia Municipal Elections Act.

In response to a follow up question, John Traves, Municipal Solicitor advised of potential legal risks associated with not holding a Special Election for the vacated seat in District 15 as per the requirements of Nova Scotia Municipal Elections Act.

**Councillor Whitman proposed a motion to convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss a legal Matter associated with July 5, 2019 staff report.** The motion was not seconded.

Kevin Arjoon clarified the increased cost for the proposed 2019 Special Election (\$250,000) from the 2016 Special Election (\$170,000) is due to Information Communication and Technology costs which were not included in the 2016 special election reserve withdrawal. Arjoon further advised that a privacy assessment will be completed at outset of the 2019 Special Election to ensure voter security as it will be the first election conducted by internet and telephone voting only.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – August 14, 2019**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Liam MacSween  
Legislative Assistant