



**AUDIT COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
August 19, 2020**

PRESENT: Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Vice Chair
Mayor Mike Savage
Councillor Stephen Adams
Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Paul Russell
Bill Rafuse
Brenda Cowell

REGRETS: Councillor Russell Walker, Chair
Councillor Matt Whitman

STAFF: John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Jane Fraser, Chief Financial Officer
David Harley,
Carey Blair, Lead Audit Engagement Partner, KPMG
Robyn Dean, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Audit Committee at a future meeting.

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

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 26, 2019 & May 25, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the June 26, 2019 & May 25, 2020 minutes of the Audit Committee be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

4. YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated August 5, 2020
- A staff presentation entitled “Audited Consolidated Financial Statements March 31, 2020”
- A presentation from KPMG entitled “Audit Findings Report for the Year Ended March 31, 2020”

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Russell

THAT the Audit Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve:

1) The Consolidated Financial Statements of the Halifax Regional Municipality for the year ended March 31, 2020;

2) The Statement of General Rate Surplus of the Halifax Regional Municipality for the year ended March 31, 2020;

3) Transfers of \$35,119,994, as outlined below, to reduce the general rate surplus to zero:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • Debt Principal and Interest Repayment Reserve, Q631 | \$ 3,600,000 |
| • Capital Fund Reserve, Q526 (BAL list items) | \$12,900,000 |
| • Capital Fund Reserve, Q526 | \$12,000,000 |
| • General Contingency Reserve, Q421 | \$ 6,619,994 |

4) The financial statements of the Halifax Regional Municipality Miscellaneous Trust Funds for the year ended March 31, 2020; and,

5) The appointment of KPMG to be the External Auditors for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021.

David Harley, Manager of Accounting & Financial Reporting, provided a presentation on the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2020 and responded to questions from the Audit Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Carey Blair, Lead Audit Engagement Partner, KPMG, provided a presentation on the audit findings report for the year ended March 31, 2020 and responded to questions from the Audit Committee. No further action was taken.

5. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – TBD

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval at a future meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Robyn Dean
Legislative Assistant