



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 16, 2023**

PRESENT: Councillor Paul Russell, Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Councillor Iona Stoddard
Councillor Pam Lovelace
Mayor Mike Savage, Ex Officio

REGRETS: Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Vice Chair

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset
Management/Chief Financial Officer
Chris Giddens, Solicitor III
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant
Annie Sherry, 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 11:19 a.m. and moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 12:05 p.m. The Committee reconvened at 1:32 p.m. and adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:19 a.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 19, 2023

MOVED by Councillor Stoddard, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT the minutes of July 19, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

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

10.3 Presentation – None

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 AUDITOR GENERAL

12.1.1 Follow-up Review of Outstanding Recommendation – 2019 Audits

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Auditor General report dated August 11, 2023
- Presentation dated August 16, 2023

Evangeline Colman-Sadd, Auditor General gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee and noted that their office had reestablished a process to track and monitor progress on recommendations made by the Auditor General.

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

12.1.2 Follow-up Review – 2021 Audits

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Auditor General report dated August 11, 2023
- Presentation dated August 16, 2023

Evangeline Colman-Sadd, Auditor General gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

12.1.3 HRM IT: Management of Cybersecurity Audit

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Auditor General report dated August 11, 2023
- Presentation dated August 16, 2023

Evangeline Colman-Sadd, Auditor General, and Ashley Maxwell, Audit Manager gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Lovelace

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee request that the Chief Administrative Officer develop a prioritized action plan within four months and report back to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee showing how these recommendations will be addressed, with timelines and resource implications.

David Thorpe, Executive Director of Information Technology/Chief Information Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee regarding staff resources, plans to address the recommendations within the audit, and notification processes for removing access when Halifax Regional Municipality employees change or leave positions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 STAFF – NONE

12.3 GRANTS COMMITTEE – NONE

12.4 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 14.2 - PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – June 21, 2023

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of June 21, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.2 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Private and confidential report dated August 11, 2023

14.3 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION – Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Private and confidential staff report dated April 12, 2023

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Cleary

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

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated April 12, 2023; and**
- 2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated April 12, 2023 be maintained private and confidential.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14.4 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Private and confidential staff report dated August 16, 2023

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair noted there were no registered speakers and called three times for any other members of the public wishing to speak; there were none.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 20, 2023

19. ADJOURNMENT

**Audit and Finance Standing Committee
Minutes
August 16, 2023**

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Annie Sherry
Legislative Assistant