



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
September 17, 2025**

PRESENT: Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Chair
Councillor Shawn Cleary, Vice Chair
Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Billy Gillis
Councillor Jean St-Amand

REGRETS: Councillor Kathryn Morse

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset
Management/Chief Financial Officer
John Traves, K.C., CD, Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer
Dorothy Maponga, Legislative Assistant

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

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.

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**Audit and Finance Standing Committee
Draft Minutes
September 17, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:58 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 – August 20, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Gillis

THAT the minutes of August 20, 2025 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 Cleary, seconded by Councillor Gillis

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 Presentations

10.3.1 Alice Evans – Update on the Development Project on Clyde Street

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Request to present dated September 3, 2025
- Presentation dated September 17, 2025

Alice Evans and David DiPersio, Prescott Group gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a staff report to consider funding options for Prescott Group as one-time or annual funding.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. 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.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 2025/26 Affordable Housing Grant Program Funding - Administrative Order 2025-003-ADM, Respecting Grants for Affordable Housing

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated July 4, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$1,500,000 from the Density Bonus Reserve Q640 to fund projects in the Regional Centre under the Affordable Housing Grant Program.

Dave Paterson, Principal Planner and Aaron Murnaghan, Manager, Housing Accelerator Fund responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 Orenda Canoe Club Request for HRM Funding

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated July 24, 2025

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Gillis

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

- 1. Decline the funding request from Orenda Canoe Club; and**
- 2. Refer the Orenda Canoe Club to the HRM Community Grants program for consideration in fiscal 2026/27 for a capital grant valued up to \$25,000.**

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.3 First Quarter 2025/26 Financial Report

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 11, 2025
- Staff presentation dated September 17, 2025

Tiffany Smith, Manager, Service Delivery and Dave Harley, Director of Financial Management and Operations gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

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MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Gillis

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the First Quarter 2025/26 Financial Report to Regional Council for their information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 15, 2025

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant