HALIFAX

AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
October 21, 2026

PRESENT:	Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Chair Councillor Jean St-Amand, Vice Chair Councillor David Hendsbee Councillor Shawn Cleary Councillor Kathryn Morse Mayor Andy Fillmore, Ex-Officio
REGRETS:	Councillor Billy Gillis
OTHERS PRESENT:	Councillor Trish Purdy
STAFF:	Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance & Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer Colin Taylor, Solicitor Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.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.

1.1 African Nova Scotian Affirmation

The Chair led the Standing Committee in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 16, 2026

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the minutes of September 16, 2026 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 St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Morse

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
10.2 Petitions – None
10.3 Presentation – None

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 – September 16, 2026
12.1 Mayor Fillmore – Capital Budgeting Audit – Action Plan

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 11, 2026
- Request for Consideration form from Mayor Fillmore

- Staff presentation dated October 21, 2026

Crystal Nowlan, Director, Asset Management, Finance & Asset Management gave a presentation.

MOVED by Mayor Fillmore, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to return to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee by December 2026 with a staff report including an updated Action Plan that:

1. **For each of the nine actions arising from the Auditor General's Capital Budget Audit, establishes specific implementation milestones and target completion dates;**

2. **Identifies the business unit and executive leader accountable for implementing each action;**

3. **Establishes measurable indicators of success for each action, to enable the Committee to assess whether the intended improvements to capital budgeting are being achieved; and**

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer provide a progress report on the amended action plan to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee at its May 2027 meeting, detailing milestones achieved, performance against the measurable indicators of success, outstanding actions, and any delays or corrective measures required.

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13. REPORTS
13.1 AUDITOR GENERAL
13.1.1 Facility Management Audit

The following was before the Standing Committee:
- Auditor General report dated October 21, 2026
- Presentation dated October 21, 2026

Andrew Atherton, Auditor General gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

In accordance with Section 19 of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, and with the agreement of the Standing Committee, the Chair advised the Standing Committee would convene to In Camera (In Private) following item 13.1.2 to discuss Personnel Matters.

13.1.2 Follow Up Review – 2024 Audits: Diversity and Inclusion, Enterprise Risk Management and Management of Business Continuity

The following was before the Standing Committee:
- Auditor General report dated October 21, 2026
- Presentation dated October 21, 2026

Andrew Atherton, Auditor General gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

Marie Cluckie, Chief Administrative Officer recognized the work of the Auditor General's Office and Business Unit staff in implementing audit recommendations and highlighted the role of the audit process in supporting continuous improvement and responsible administration.

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee extend the time of the meeting past 3:00 p.m.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss PERSONNEL MATTERS.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 STAFF
13.2.1 Traffic Sign Manufacturing Equipment 2026/2027 Capital Budget Transfer

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated October 9, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Morse

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

1. **Approve the creation of a new discrete capital account, CE260004 – Traffic Sign Manufacturing Equipment to be used to purchase replacement printing/cutting equipment needed to manufacture traffic signs; and**

2. **Approve a budget transfer of $250,000 from capital project CT190008 – Strategic Mobility Corridor: Bedford Highway to the ne**w capital project account to fund the equipment purchase.

Roddy MacIntyre, Director Traffic & Parking Management responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2.2 2026/27 Streetscaping Capital Budget Transfer

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 24, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve budget transfers totaling $520,858.62 to capital project CT190001 (Streetscaping) to support delivery of the 2027/28 streetscaping program, comprising of transfers from the following capital projects:

(a) $205,513.05 from capital project CD000001 (Streetscapes - Spring Garden Road);

(b) $15,345.57 from capital project CR210010 (Rainnie/Brunswick Complete Streets); and

(c) $300,000 from capital project CT200008 (Tactical Urbanism).

Crysta Cumming, Manager, Engineering Design, Design Services responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2.3 Investment Activities – Quarter ending June 30, 2026

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated September 30, 2026

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the staff report dated September 30, 2026 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)
15.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – September 16, 2026

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of September 16, 2026 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – November 18, 2026

Councillor Deagle Gammon noted that the November 18, 2026 meeting would be rescheduled to November 20, 2026, pending availability.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Krista Vining
Team Lead, Legislative Assistants