



**BUDGET COMMITTEE
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
February 25, 2020**

PRESENT: Councillor Russell Walker, Chair
Mayor Mike Savage
Deputy Mayor Lisa Blackburn
Councillors: Steve Streach
David Hendsbee
Bill Karsten
Lorelei Nicoll
Sam Austin
Tony Mancini
Waye Mason
Lindell Smith
Shawn Cleary
Stephen Adams
Matt Whitman
Paul Russell

REGRETS: Councillors: Richard Zurawski
Tim Outhit

STAFF: Jane Fraser, Director of Finance & Asset Management/CFO
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Sherrill Murphy, A/Municipal Clerk
Judith Ng'ethe, 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 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – January 15 and 22, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Smith

THAT the minutes of January 15 and 22, 2020 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair called for members of the public to come forward.

Colin May, Dartmouth, spoke to the draft Regional Police 2020/21 Budget and noted that page 5 of the Budget indicates that the Chief Administrative Officer has direct oversight of all business units, including the Halifax Regional Police. May noted that the Police Act does not give the Chief Administrative Officer this power and opined that clarification may be required to ascertain whether the Chief of Police reports to the Board of Police Commissioners or to the Chief Administrative Officer. May remarked that Halifax is the only major city in Canada where the Chief Administrative Officer is involved in the affairs of its Police Department. May also spoke to the sale of Saint Patrick's High School which they noted has been posted on the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) website and wondered why no public announcement has been made regarding the sale. May remarked that the PVSC site also has posts relating to recently disposed-off apartment buildings and noted that the likely result of the sales would be increased rent for residents. May noted that there is a growing housing crisis and urged Regional Council and the Province to address the issue.

The Chair called three times for further speakers and there were none.

4. 2020/2021 Halifax Regional Police Budget and Business Plan

The following was before Budget Committee:

- A Board of Police Commissioners report dated February 19, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blackburn

THAT the Budget Committee direct staff to prepare the updated Halifax Regional Police 2020/21 Budget and Business Plan, as approved by the Board of Police Commissioners on February 19, 2020.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Zurawski, Outhit

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Sherrill Murphy
A/Municipal Clerk