



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 18, 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor Russell Walker, Vice Chair
Councillor Stephen D. Adams
Councillor Steve Craig

REGRETS: Councillor Bill Karsten, Chair
Councillor Lorelei Nicoll

STAFF: Martin Ward, Solicitor
Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Policy & Planning
Sheilagh Edmonds, 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 10:48 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 21, 2018

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the minutes of March 21, 2018 be approved.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Adams

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 - NONE

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS:

12.1 FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT: NONE

12.2 AUDITOR GENERAL:

12.2.1 Follow-up Review: Reports Released from March 2014 – January 2016

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A report from the Auditor General entitled, *Follow-up Review: Reports Released from March 2014 – January 2016*
- A presentation by the Auditor General

Evangeline Coleman-Sadd, Auditor General and Paul Flinn, Audit Director, provided a presentation on their follow up review of reports released from March 2014 to January 2016. The outcome of the review noted by the Auditor General was that, of the nine reports released between March 2014 and January 2016, 54% (14 of 26) of significant issues are outstanding two to four years later; and of the nine reports, three had minimal or no work done to address identified risks. The Auditor General concluded the presentation advising that management needs to take action to correct known deficiencies, and

suggested that this Committee could help by requesting management speak to the Committee on how they plan to address known issues and ask for action plans with a timeline.

The Auditor General responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee ask the Chief Administrative Officer to address this Committee on plans to address the known outstanding issues; to provide a timeline on how all those issues are being addressed and whether they are going to be actioned on or not; and, if not, provide an explanation why they are not being actioned.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Adams

That the Audit and Finance Standing Committee accept the Auditor General's report as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 INVESTMENT REPORTS:

12.3.1 Staff Report - Investment Activities – Quarter Ending December 31, 2017

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff report dated March 22, 2018.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Craig

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend the report be forwarded to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3.2 Investment Policy Advisory Committee Report - Quarter Ending December 31, 2017

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A report dated March 22, 2018 submitted from the Co-chairs of the Investment Policy Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Adams

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend the report be forwarded to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.4 STAFF:

12.4.1 Community Grants Program 2017 – Transfer of Funds from M311 – 8004 to General Contingency Reserve, Q421

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- A staff report dated February 12, 2018.

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Adams

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

- 1. Transfer the \$25,000 approved for a grant to the Sac-A-Wa Canoe Club, and the \$25,000 approved for a grant to the Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce under the 2017 Community Grants Program from M311-8004 to the General Contingency Reserve, Q421; and**
- 2. Authorize the withdrawal of \$50,000 from the General Contingency Reserve to fund the two (2) capital grants, \$25,000 for a grant to the Sac-A-Wa Canoe Club and the \$25,000 for a grant to the Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce, as approved under the 2017 Community Grants Program, to be incurred in 2018-19, subject to confirmation of the required Federal government funding and a demonstrated ability to proceed with construction.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.5 SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: NONE

12.6 COMMITTEE MEMBERS: NONE

13. MOTIONS - NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) - NONE

15. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one came forward to address the Committee during public participation.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 16, 2018

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds
Legislative Assistant