



**AUDIT AND STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
November 16, 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor Paul Russell, Chair
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Vice Chair
Councillor Iona Stoddard
Deputy Mayor Pam Lovelace
Mayor Mike Savage, Ex Officio

REGRETS: Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor Shawn Cleary

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset Management/
Chief Financial Officer
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant
Eric Bowdridge, 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
November 16, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., and adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

1.1 Annual Election of Chair

Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT Councillor Russell be nominated Chair of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

Councillor Russell accepted the nomination.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant called three times for further nominations.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT nominations for the position of Chair cease.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Russell was declared Chair of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

Councillor Russell assumed the Chair.

1.2 Annual Election of Vice Chair

Councillor Russell called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT Councillor Deagle Gammon be nominated Vice Chair of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

Councillor Deagle Gammon accepted the nomination.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Russell called three times for further nominations.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT nominations for the position of Vice Chair cease.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Councillor Deagle Gammon was declared Vice Chair of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee.

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2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 19, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the minutes of October 19, 2022 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- Item 15.1 – Standing Committee Appointments to Boards and Committees

Deletions: None

As provided for in Section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, the Standing Committee requested that item 17. Public Participation be considered prior to item 12. Reports.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

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 – NONE

12.2 STAFF

12.2.1 Inclusion of an Interrupter Clause to Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Grant Program Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated November 4, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

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

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- 1. Adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV – Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants as set out in Attachment B of the staff report dated November 4, 2022; and**
- 2. Adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 2014-021-GOV, Respecting Regional Special Events Grants as set out in Attachment D of the staff report dated November 4, 2022.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2.2 Second Quarter 2022-2023 Financial Report

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated November 10, 2022
- Presentation dated November 16, 2022

Dave Harley, Director of Accounting and Financial Reporting gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

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

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee forward the Second Quarter 2022/23 Financial Report to Regional Council for their information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.3 GRANTS COMMITTEE – NONE

12.4 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – October 19, 2022

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of October 19, 2022 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS

15.1 Standing Committee Appointments to Boards and Committees

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated November 15, 2022

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MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee:

- 1. Appoint one (1) Councillor from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Investment Policy Advisory Committee, for a term until the end of the Council term;**
- 2. Appoint one (1) Councillor from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Grants Committee, as Chair, for a term until the end of the Council term;**
- 3. Appoint one (1) Councillor from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Special Events Advisory Committee for a term until the end of the Council term; and**
- 4. Appoint one (1) Councillor from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Executive Standing Committee effective December 1, 2022, for a term until the end of the Council term.**

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee nominate Councillor Cleary from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on the Investment Policy Advisory Committee.

Laura Lewis, Council Coordinator responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee nominate Councillor Deagle Gammon from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on the Grants Committee, as Chair.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee nominate Deputy Mayor Lovelace from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on the Special Events Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee nominate Councillor Russell from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on the Executive Standing Committee.

MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee:

- 1. Appoint Councillor Cleary from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Investment Policy Advisory Committee, for a term until the end of the Council term;**
- 2. Appoint Councillor Deagle Gammon from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Grants Committee, as Chair, for a term until the end of the Council term;**
- 3. Appoint Deputy Mayor Lovelace from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Special Events Advisory Committee for a term until the end of the Council term; and**

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- 4. Appoint Councillor Russell from Audit and Finance Standing Committee to serve on Executive Standing Committee effective December 1, 2022, for a term until the end of the Council term.**

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED.

16. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Colin May, Dartmouth distributed a handout to the Standing Committee and spoke about vehicle fuel in the municipal budget and discrepancies regarding the changing price of crude oil. May noted the use of fuel hedging by large organizations and their potential benefit to the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset Management/ Chief Financial Officer responded to the budget process, the desires of Halifax Regional Council and an \$8,000,000 surplus that would hedge off exposure on fuel. Blackwood noted discussions with the provincial government regarding HRM's limited ability to hedge due to provincial legislation.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 14, 2022

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Eric Bowdridge
Legislative Assistant