



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
December 11, 2024**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Councillor Patty Cuttell

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset
Management/Chief Financial Officer
Karen Brown, Managing Solicitor
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
December 11, 2024**

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.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 9 & November 26, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the minutes of October 9 & November 26, 2024 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 Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Cleary

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 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 – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 AUDITOR GENERAL

13.1.1 Diversity and Inclusion Audit

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Auditor General report dated December 11, 2024
- Presentation dated December 11, 2024

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

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee request the Chief Administrative Officer develop an action plan to address the recommendations from the Diversity and Inclusion Audit and report back to the Audit and Finance Standing Committee in six months.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 Review of HRCE Supplemental Education Funding Agreement

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Auditor General report dated December 11, 2024
- Presentation dated December 11, 2024

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

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

13.2 STAFF

13.2.1 Second Quarter 2024/25 Financial Report

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated November 28, 2024
- Staff presentation dated December 11, 2024

Tiffany Smith, Manager, Service Delivery gave a presentation.

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

MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the Second Quarter 2024/25 Financial Report to Regional Council for their information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2.2 Modern Purchases for Public Works and Halifax Transit

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated November 22, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the following funding transfers:

- a. For the Public Works purchases: \$56,000 from capital project CT200004 – Controller Cabinet & Detection and \$225,670 from Q526 - Capital Fund Reserve to capital project**

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CI200003 – IT Infrastructure Recap totalling \$281,670 in transferred funds.

- b. For the Halifax Transit purchases: \$150,000 from capital project CM210013 – Fixed Route Planning, Scheduling & Operations and \$619,000 from Q526 – Capital Fund Reserve to capital project CM210011 – Transit Fare Management totalling \$769,000 in transferred funds.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2.3 Proposed 2025 Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff memorandum dated December 11, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT Audit and Finance Standing Committee approve the proposed 2025 Audit and Finance Standing Committee meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum.

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 – January 15, 2025

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant