



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
January 15, 2025**

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

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset
Management/Chief Financial Officer
John Traves, K.C., CD, Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer
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
January 15, 2025**

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 – December 11, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the minutes of December 11, 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 Cleary, seconded by Councillor St-Amand

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 STAFF

13.1.1 Councillor Appointments to the Special Events Advisory Committee

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated January 6, 2025

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Audit and Finance Standing Committee:

- 1. Appoint Deputy Mayor Mancini as the Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council representative to the Special Events Advisory Committee for a term to November 2026;**
- 2. Appoint Councillor White as the Halifax and West Community Council representative to the Special Events Advisory Committee for a term to November 2026;**
- 3. After the appointments of the representatives for Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council and Halifax and West Community Council, appoint one (1) Councillor, from the three (3) representatives appointed to the Special Events Advisory Committee from the Community Councils, to serve as the Chair of the Special Events Advisory Committee, for a term to November 2026; and**
- 4. After the appointments of the representatives for Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council and Halifax and West Community Council, appoint one (1) Councillor, from the three (3) representatives appointed to the Special Events Advisory Committee from the Community Councils, to serve as the Vice Chair of the Special Events Advisory Committee, for a term to November 2026.**

Annie Sherry, Public Appointments Coordinator responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Gillis

THAT Deputy Mayor Mancini be nominated to serve as the Chair of the Special Events Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT Councillor Gillis be nominated to serve as the Vice Chair of the Special Events Advisory Committee.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT Audit and Finance Standing Committee:

- 1. Appoint Deputy Mayor Mancini as the Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council representative to the Special Events Advisory Committee for a term to November 2026;**
- 2. Appoint Councillor White as the Halifax and West Community Council representative to the Special Events Advisory Committee for a term to November 2026;**
- 3. Appoint Deputy Mayor Mancini to serve as the Chair of the Special Events Advisory Committee, for a term to November 2026; and**
- 4. Appoint Councillor Gillis to serve as the Vice Chair of the Special Events Advisory Committee, for a term to November 2026.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.2 Halifax Transit Ferry Craig Blake – Urgent Repair VOITH Propulsion Unit

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated December 17, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

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

- 1. the approval of the transfer of funds from Options Reserve Q421 to facilitate the urgent repair work to the Craig Blake VOITH Propulsion unit;**
- 2. to bring forward funding originally set forth in the 2025/26 budget for regular maintenance for the Craig Blake so that this regular maintenance work takes place at the same time as the urgent repair work, to avoid having a disruption to service later in this fiscal year; and**
- 3. the approval of funds of no more than \$2 million from Q421-Options reserve (as set forth in the Financial Implications section of the staff report dated December 17, 2024) to provide the funding for the work set forth in Recommendations 1 and 2.**

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1.3 Investment Activities – Quarter ending September 30, 2024

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated December 18, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the staff report dated December 18, 2024 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

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 – February 18, 2025

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

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Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant