



**AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
March 24, 2024**

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
March 24, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:34 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 – February 18, 2025

MOVED by Councillor St-Amand, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the minutes of February 18, 2025 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

Correspondence was received and circulated for item 10.3.1.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 James Braun - Orenda Canoe Club: Capital Expansion Project

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Request to present dated February 5, 2025
- Correspondence from James Braun
- Presentation dated March 24, 2025
- Handout dated March 24, 2025

Ben Fraser, Orenda Canoe Club and Mark Doyle, Orenda Canoe Club gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

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MOVED Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Gillis

THAT the Audit and Finance Standing Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a staff report to consider funding the Orenda Canoe Club for renovations.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Miia Suokonautio, YWCA Halifax spoke on the affordable housing grant program and contributions to the YWCA affordable housing projects, and the Mount Hope planning area project. Suokonautio responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

John Stevens, Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth spoke on their application for the affordable housing grant program and recommended the Committee reallocate \$500,000 from the Density Bonus reserve or the Housing Accelerator Fund to the Dublin Street Apartments project. Stevens responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

13. REPORTS

13.1 STAFF

13.1.1 2024-2025 Affordable Housing Grant Program Funding - Administrative Order 2020-008 ADM, Respecting Grants for Affordable Housing

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff report dated February 27, 2025
- Staff presentation dated March 24, 2025

Dave Paterson, Principal Planner, Housing Accelerator Program – Affordable Housing Programs 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.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Morse

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

- 1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$4,652,318 from the Density Bonus Reserve Q640 to fund the Affordable Housing Grant Program; and**
- 2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$623,400 from the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) to fund awards under the Affordable Housing Grant Program.**

Aaron Murnaghan, Manager, Housing Accelerator Program responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

14. MOTIONS – NONE

15. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

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15.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – February 18, 2025

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Hendsbee, seconded by Councillor Cleary

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of February 18, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

16. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

17. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 16, 2025

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Dorothy Maponga
Legislative Assistant