



**BUDGET COMMITTEE  
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)  
MINUTES  
January 19, 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor Bill Karsten, Chair  
Mayor Mike Savage  
Deputy Mayor Wayne Mason  
Councillors: Steve Streach  
David Hendsbee  
Lorelei Nicoll  
Sam Austin  
Tony Mancini  
Lindell Smith  
Shawn Cleary  
Russell Walker  
Stephen Adams  
Richard Zurawski  
Matt Whitman  
Lisa Blackburn  
Tim Outhit

REGRETS: Councillor: Steve Craig

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Acting Director of Finance & Asset Management/CFO  
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor  
Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk  
Krista Vining, 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](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m., and recessed at 10:52 a.m.  
Budget Committee reconvened at 11:00 a.m., and adjourned at 12:28 p.m.*

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – NONE

## 3. HALIFAX PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 9, 2018 with attached Halifax Public Libraries 2018/19 Multi-year Budget and Business Plan presentation

Asa Kachan, Chief Librarian and CEO, Halifax Public Libraries, provided introductory remarks, introducing Terry Gallagher, Director, Finance and Facilities, and presented the draft 2018/19 Multi-year Halifax Public Libraries Business Unit Budget and Business Plan.

Terry Gallagher spoke to the state of good repair for Dartmouth North.

Councillor Karsten called for members of the public to address Budget Committee on the Halifax Public Libraries presentation.

**Colin May**, Dartmouth spoke to their enthusiasm and use of the various libraries in the Municipality, commenting on the library's vital role in a community. The speaker asked that permanent recognition be given to former Dartmouth government officials for their efforts in helping the community get the Dartmouth North Public Library. They spoke to the challenges of the Registry of Deeds hours of operation, and people not understanding their processes. May suggested the Central Library could have a location, staffed by a provincial employee, to assist residents with Registry of Deeds matters. May further suggested the photograph of Dr. Howard Florey in the Central Library was not authentic.

Councillor Karsten called three times for any other members of the public wanting to speak on the presentation; there were none.

MOVED by Councillor Zurawski, seconded by Councillor Whitman

**THAT Budget Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct staff to proceed to prepare the 2018/19 Multi-year Halifax Public Libraries Budget and Business Plan, as proposed in the accompanying presentation and consistent with the preliminary fiscal direction.**

Kachan responded to questions raised by the Committee, speaking to the libraries inclusiveness and public benefit. They commented that the Taste of Home pilot program, implemented by the Province, proved to be a great success. The program provided the public with food learning and improved food literacy. Support was noted for continuing the program, which fits with the Municipality's poverty reduction strategy, and creates relationships with community gardens, dietitians, etc.

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Austin

**THAT Budget Committee direct a \$50,000 increase to the Halifax Public Libraries budget to continue the Taste Like Home program be added to the Parking Lot for future consideration in the 2018/2019 Budget.**

**MOTION TO ADD TO THE PARKING LOT PUT AND PASSED.**

The Committee commented on the great work undertaken by the Halifax Public Libraries. Kachan responded to additional questions, commenting on the libraries' continued efforts to reach all communities and build relationships for the public's welfare.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Committee Budget recessed at 10:52 a.m.  
Committee Budget reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

**4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

The following was before the Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated January 9, 2018 with attached Planning and Development Business Unit 2018/19 Multi-year Budget and Business Plan presentation

Kelly Denty, Acting Director Planning and Development, provided introductory remarks, introducing: Nicole Fraughton, Business Unit Coordinator, Andre McNeil Senior Financial Consultant, and Steve Higgins, Manager of Current Planning. Denty presented the draft 2018/19 Multi-year Planning and Development Business Unit Budget and Business Plan.

Councillor Karsten called three times for members of the public to address Budget Committee on the Planning and Development presentation; there were none.

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Adams

**THAT Budget Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct staff to proceed to prepare the 2018/19 Multi-year Planning & Development Budget and Business Plan, as proposed in the accompanying presentation and consistent with the preliminary fiscal direction.**

The Committee discussed the 2018/19 Multi-year Planning and Development Budget and Business Plan, with staff responding to questions.

In response to a question raised, staff will provide an update on the timeframe for each of the 22 applications, for amendments to Municipal Planning Strategies in the Regional Centre, for the Atlantica Hotel site.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Mancini

**THAT Budget Committee direct a \$150,000 increase to the Planning and Development budget for the Lake Banook Study be added to the Parking Lot for future consideration in the 2018/2019 Budget.**

**MOTION TO ADD TO THE PARKING LOT PUT AND PASSED.**

The Committee continued discussing the main motion, with staff responding to further questions on Planning and Development's key priority projects.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Kevin Arjoon  
Municipal Clerk