



**BUDGET COMMITTEE
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)
MINUTES
July 16, 2019**

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

REGRETS: Councillor: Richard Zurawski

STAFF: Jane Fraser, CFO, Director of Finance, Asset Management & ICT
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.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m., and adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Savage called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. in Council Chamber, 3rd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE

3. Multi-year Capital Plan and Asset Investment Framework

The following was before Budget Committee:

- A staff recommendation report dated July 3, 2019
- A copy of the staff presentation

Crystal Nowlan, Manager, Asset Management gave an overview of the 2020/21 Capital planning process, Asset Management objective, Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) to-date, and creating an Asset Investment Framework.

Mayor Savage called three times for members of the public to come forward and speak to the Multi-year Capital Plan and Asset Investment Framework. There were none.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Nicoll

THAT Budget Committee of the Whole recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare the 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 capital budgets according to a 20-30% Growth allocation and 70-80% Asset Renewal allocation as described in the staff report dated July 3, 2019.

The Committee discussed the multi-year capital plan in accordance with a 20-30% growth allocation and 70-80% asset renewal allocation and creating a sustainable infrastructure investment plan for the Municipality. Staff advised that Council's B list of projects was included in the 2019/20 capital budget but not in future capital budget years. Nowlan spoke to designing preventative programs which would balance between both the best and worst asset conditions. Nowlan further advised that evaluating the risk and funds available to understand the priority areas would help determine what the optimal condition the asset would need to be in to deliver the services.

During the discussion members sought a status update on Council's approved projects to date. The Chief Financial Officer explained that a projection of the capital projects would be included as part of the quarterly update coming to Council.

A question was raised on the practical implications to move from policy to program and developing a plan to close the gap. Nowlan explained that the first stage was to set the direction to implement an overarching governance structure, and as the applications of these practices mature, and more accurate and specific asset data becomes available, adjustments could be made as needed. Council will receive state of infrastructure reporting to help determine and close this gap.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Kevin Arjoon
Municipal Clerk