



**BUDGET COMMITTEE
(STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON BUDGET)
MINUTES
February 4, 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor Paul Russell, Chair
 Mayor Mike Savage
 Deputy Mayor Pam Lovelace
 Councillors: Cathy Deagle Gammon
 David Hendsbee
 Becky Kent
 Trish Purdy
 Sam Austin
 Tony Mancini
 Waye Mason
 Lindell Smith
 Shawn Cleary
 Kathryn Morse
 Patty Cuttell
 Iona Stoddard
 Lisa Blackburn
 Tim Outhit

STAFF: Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance & Asset Management/Chief
 Financial Officer
 John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
 Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk
 Krista Vining, Acting Deputy Clerk

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 9:31 a.m., and recessed at 12:00 p.m. Budget Committee reconvened in at 1:00 p.m. Budget Committee reconvened at 2:42 p.m. and reconvened at 2:50 p.m. Budget Committee adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:31 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.

Councillor Hendsbee requested the Mayor send a letter of condolence to the family of the late Jerry Blumenthal. A moment of silence was held.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – NONE

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Stoddard, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillors Kent, Cuttell

4. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Drew McQuinn, Lakeside spoke as a resident and on behalf of Halifax Climate Club on HalifACT and the Municipality as a community leader for climate change.

6. Legal and Legislative Services

The following was before the Budget Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated January 24, 2022
- Staff presentation dated February 4, 2022

Karen Marr, Coordinator and John Traves, Municipal Solicitor/Executive Director of Legal and Legislative Services gave a presentation on Legal and Legislative Services 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan and responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Legal and Legislative Services proposed 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying report dated January 24, 2022 and supporting presentation, into the Draft 2022/23 Operating Budget.

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk and Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance & Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT the Budget Committee include \$50,000 in additional funding costs associated with the Board and Committee Recruitment within the proposed 2022/23 Legal and Legislative Services proposed budget to the Budget Adjustment List as an operating over budget option for consideration.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Cuttell

The question was called on the main motion:

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Legal and Legislative Services proposed 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying report dated January 24, 2022 and supporting presentation, into the Draft 2022/23 Operating Budget.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Councillor Cuttell

7. Finance and Asset Management

The following was before the Budget Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated January 26, 2022
- Staff presentation dated February 4, 2022

Jerry Blackwood, Executive Director of Finance and Asset Management/Chief Financial Officer gave a presentation on Finance and Asset Management's 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan and responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Finance and Asset Management proposed 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying report dated January 26, 2022 and supporting presentation, into the Draft 2022/23 Operating Budget.

Wendy Lines, Manager of Corporate Planning, Brice Fisher, Manager of Financial Policy & Planning, John Traves, Municipal Solicitor, Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, Kim Jollimore, Manager of Citizen Contact Centers, and Renee Towns, Manager of Revenue responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Purdy, seconded by Mayor Savage

THAT the Budget Committee include a reduction of \$275,000 for costs associated with the Community Vision Program proposed within the 2022/23 Finance and Asset Management budget to the parking lot as an operating under budget option for consideration.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED. (9 in favour, 7 against)

In favour: Councillors Deagle Gammon, Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Austin, Mancini, Mason, Russell, Outhit

Against: Deputy Mayor Lovelace, Councillors Smith, Cleary, Morse, Cuttell, Stoddard, Blackburn,

Not present: Mayor Savage

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Morse

THAT the Budget Committee request a briefing note on HalifACT Item 40 – Green Municipal Investment – and the contributions of Halifax Regional Municipality Finance and Asset Managements.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Mayor Savage

The question was called on the main motion:

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Finance and Asset Management proposed 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying report dated January 26, 2022 and supporting presentation, into the Draft 2022/23 Operating Budget.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Not present: Mayor Savage

8. Human Resources and Corporate Communications

The following was before the Budget Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated January 26, 2022
- Staff presentation dated February 4, 2022

Laura Nolan, Acting Executive Director of Human Resources and Corporate Communications gave a presentation on Human Resources and Corporate Communications 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan and responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Mancini, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Human Resources and Corporate Communications proposed 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying report dated January 26, 2022 and supporting presentation, into the Draft 2022/23 Operating Budget.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Information Technology

The following was before the Budget Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated January 24, 2022
- Staff presentation dated February 4, 2022

David Thorpe, Chief Information Officer, Information Technology gave a presentation on Information Technology's 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan and responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Information Technology proposed 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying report dated January 24, 2022 and supporting presentation, into the Draft 2022/23 Operating Budget.

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Outhit

THAT the Budget Committee request a briefing note on the details of increases and changes in IT over the past 5 years including but not limited to FTEs, contracts, software, hardware, etc.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Iain MacLean, Municipal Solicitor responded to questions of clarification from Budget Committee.

The question was called on the main motion:

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Stoddard

THAT the Budget Committee direct the Chief Administrative Officer to incorporate the Information Technology proposed 2022/23 Budget and Business Plan, as set out and discussed in the accompanying report dated January 24, 2022 and supporting presentation, into the Draft 2022/23 Operating Budget.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Iain MacLean
Municipal Clerk