



**AUDIT & FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
October 21, 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Bill Karsten, Chair  
Councillor Linda Mosher, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Barry Dalrymple  
Councillor Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor Reg Rankin  
Councillor Steve Craig  
Mayor Mike Savage

STAFF: Ms. Amanda Whitewood, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. John Traves, Municipal Solicitor  
Mr. Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Committee are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCfinance/151021afsc-agenda.php>*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 10:54 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Karsten, Chair called the meeting to order in Council Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 16, 2015**

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Rankin.

**THAT the minutes of September 16, 2015 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions: None

Councillor McCluskey requested that Information Item No. 2– Memorandum from the Chief Administrative Officer dated October 14, 2015 re: Internal Control Process Review, be forwarded to Regional Council as an information item.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mosher

THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee waive the rules of order with respect to notice of motion and forward Information Item No. 2 – Memorandum from the Chief Administrative Officer dated October 14, 2015 re: Internal Control Process Review to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Craig,

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

Two-third majority vote required.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE**

**6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE**

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 Budget Increase CBU01004 - Former CA Beckett School Remediation**

The following was before the Audit & Finance Standing Committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated September 17, 2015*

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Councillor Rankin

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

- 1. Increase Project No. CBU01004 — Former CA Beckett School - Soil Remediation by \$218,372.02 (net HST included) with cost sharing \$215,872.02 from Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) and \$2,500 from CAPPOOL as outlined in the Financial Implications section of the staff report dated September 17, 2015.**
- 2. Increase PO No. 2070720498 to Vector Demolition, by \$187,714.80 (net HST included) with cost sharing \$168,943.32 from Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) and \$18,771.48(10% net HST included) HRMs cost-shared portion.**
- 3. Increase PO No. 2070356885 to Stantec, by \$52,143 (net HST included) with cost sharing \$46,928.70 from Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) and \$5,214.30 (10%, net HST included) HRM's cost-shared portion.**

In response to a question from Mayor Savage, Mr. Terry Gallagher, Manager of Corporate Facility Design advised that HRM provides funding for the upfront costs associated with the remediation with the school board repaying the costs within sixty days.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED**

**9.1.2 Mini-Hybrid Thermal System for Halifax Transit Busses – Project Review**

The following was before committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated July 22, 2015*

MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Craig;

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

- 1. Terminate the Installation of Mini-Hybrid Thermal Systems on Halifax Transit buses manufactured between 2005 and 2007; a total of forty-three vehicles; of which fifteen have been budgeted for;**
- 2. Reduce Project Account CM020006, Emission Reduction — Public Transit Buses for the installation of the Mini-Hybrid Thermal Systems on these buses as outlined in the Financial Implications Section;  
And;**
- 3. Continue the Installation of Mini-Hybrid Thermal Systems on nineteen (19) Halifax Transit buses manufactured between 2008 and 2009.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.3 Access-A-Bus Procurement**

The following was before the committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated October 16, 2015*

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Mayor Savage;

**THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve advanced capital funding for the procurement of seven (7) Para-Transit Vehicles from Overland -Customer Couch (2007) Ltd. for a total amount of \$730,000 net HST included, project number CVD00430 Access-A-Bus Replacement.**

In response to a follow up question, Ms. Wendy Lines, Manager, Bus Maintenance Halifax Transit advised that Halifax Transit expects to receive delivery in of the vehicles in February of 2016.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.4 Investment Activities – Quarter ending June 30, 2015**

The following was before the committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated October 16, 2015*

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Craig

**THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee forward the October 16, 2015 staff report to Halifax Regional Council as information item..**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.2 OFFICER OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

**9.2.1 Update on Ongoing Follow – Up Report Recommendations**

The following was before the committee:

- *A Presentation dated*

Mr. Larry Munroe, Auditor General provided a presentation with respect to Ongoing Follow Up Recommendations.

Councillor Karsten thanked Mr. Munroe for his presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Audit & Finance Standing Committee.

In response to a follow up question from Councillor Craig, Mr. Munroe commented that strives to provide as much information on the website as quick as possible. He commented that his office only publishes information to the website at the point that he and staff are satisfied that the information is correct.

Further discussion ensued with Mr. Munroe introducing and acknowledging staff members from the Office of the Auditor General's Office.

**9.3 INVESTMENT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**9.3.1 Investment Policy Advisory Committee – Investment Activities Quarter Ending June 30, 2015.**

The following was before the committee:

- *A staff recommendation report dated October 5, 2015*

MOVED by Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor McCluskey

**THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee forward the Investment Policy Advisory Committee report dated October 5, 2015 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.4 SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – NONE**

**9.5 GRANTS COMMITTEE – NONE**

**10. MOTIONS**

**11. IN CAMERA**

**11.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – September 16, 2015**

The following motion was passed in public session:

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Mosher

**THAT the In Camera Minutes of September 16, 2015 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12. ADDED ITEMS**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – November 18, 2015**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Liam MacSween  
Legislative Assistant