

AUDIT AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES

June 20, 2012

PRESENT:

Deputy Mayor Bill Karsten
Councillors: Russell Walker, Chair
Barry Dalrymple, Vice-Chair
Gloria McCluskey
Linda Mosher
Sue Uteck
Stephen Adams
Tim Outhit

STAFF:

Mr. Greg Keefe, Acting Director, Finance
Mr. Louis De Montbrun, Manager, Financial Reporting
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 18, 2012 and May 16, 2012

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Councillor Uteck that the minutes of April 18, 2012 and May 16, 2012 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Addition:

11.1 Fourth Quarter 2011/2012 Financial Report

Deletion:

9.1.4 Multi-District Facility Expansion Reserve

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the agenda be accepted as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Status Sheet

4.1.1 Events Nova Scotia Funding - Councillor Uteck (*January 28, 2012*)

Councillor Uteck advised that this item could be removed from the agenda as Events Nova Scotia still had funding for another six months.

5. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence - NONE

8.2 Delegations - NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Sackville Sports Stadium Audit Report

The draft financial statements of the Sackville Sports Stadium for the year ended March 31, 2012 were submitted.

The Sackville Sports Stadium Audit Findings Report for the year ended March 31, 2012 was submitted.

Mr. Gordon Moore, KPMG Halifax, presented the audit report regarding the Sackville Sports Stadium. He noted the document was in draft form pending the Committee and Regional Council's approval.

MOVED by Councillor Uteck, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the Sackville Sports Stadium Audit Report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.2 RFP 12-019 - External Audit Services

A report dated June 12, 2012 was before the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that the Audit Committee recommend the award RFP #12-019, Request for Cost Proposals, External Audit Services to the lowest qualified bidder, KPMG for a one-year term renewable for a maximum of five (5) years, as outlined in the budget implications section of the report dated June 12, 2012. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.3 Year End Financial Statements

The HRM Audit Findings Report for the year ending March 31, 2012 was before the Committee.

The General Rate Surplus of HRM for the year ended March 31, 2012 was before the Committee.

The Consolidated Financial Statements of HRM for the year ended March 13, 2012 was before the Committee.

The Financial Statements of HRM Miscellaneous Trust Funds for the year ended March 31, 2012 was before the Committee.

A presentation was before the Committee.

The Fourth Quarter 2011/2012 Financial Report was before the Committee.

Mr. Louis De Montbrun, Manager of Financial Reporting, provided the presentation on the Consolidated Audit and Financial Statements.

A discussion ensued with staff responding to questions.

The Committee thanked staff for their work; noting it had been a good year.

Councillor McCluskey requested that staff follow up with additional information regarding page 67 of the document related to Planning and Development contracted services which had increased from .06 to 1.3.

Mr. Greg Keefe, Acting Manager of Finance, clarified that the noted sick time in the document actually represented sick time that has not been taken and, as a result, has been banked.

In response to a question posed by Councillor Uteck, Mr. Keefe advised that the discussion regarding the Provincial Supplementary Education Fund was beginning and staff would return with additional information.

Mr. De Montbrun clarified that the total surplus was approximately \$18,000,000, up from approximately \$2,500,000 last year.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee accept the Fourth Quarter 2011/2012 Financial Report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Jamie O'Neil, KPMG Halifax, presented the HRM Audit Findings Report for the year ending March 31, 2012.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Karsten, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee accept the HRM Audit Findings Report for the year ending March 31, 2012. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. De Montbrun presented the report on the General Rate Surplus of HRM for the year ended March 31, 2012.

MOVED by Councillor McCluskey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Karsten that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee accept the General Rate Surplus of HRM for the year ended March 31, 2012. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. De Montbrun presented the Financial Statements of HRM Miscellaneous Trust Funds for the year ended March 31, 2012.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Uteck that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee accept the Financial Statements of HRM Miscellaneous Trust Funds for the year ended March 31, 2012. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.4 Multi-District Facility Expansion Reserve

Item deleted under the Approval of the Order of Business.

9.1.5 2012/13 Gas Tax Funding Allocation

A report dated June 8, 2012 was before the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Mosher that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee recommend that this matter be forwarded on to Halifax Regional Council for information purposes. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

9.4 OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL - NONE

9.5 SUB-COMITTEES

9.5.1 Grants Committee – NONE

**9.5.2 Investment Policy Advisory Committee
(i) Quarter Ending March 31, 2012**

A report dated June 7, 2012 was before the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the report dated June 7, 2012 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

(ii) Treasurer's Report – Quarter Ending March 31, 2012

A report dated June 12, 2012 was before the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Outhit, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee forward the report dated June 7, 2012 to Halifax Regional Council as an information item. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.5.3 Special Events Advisory Committee – NONE

10. MOTIONS – NONE

11. ADDED ITEMS

11.1 Fourth Quarter 2011/2012 Financial Report

This item was dealt with under item 9.1.3. Please see page 4.

12. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

13. IN CAMERA

13.1 Approval of April 18, 2012 In Camera Minutes

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Karsten, seconded by Councillor McCluskey that the Audit and Finance Standing Committee approve the April 18, 2012 In Camera minutes. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 18, 2012

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Upcoming Agenda Items
 - 1.1 Community Facilities Master Plan – Funding Strategies - *Spring 2012*
 - 1.2 Revised Special Events Granting Framework – *2012*
2. Work Plan for the Implementation of Recommendations Resulting from the Auditor General's Report on Concerts on the North Commons – Final Update