

## Halifax Water Board Meeting Minutes

**Date: November 28, 2024**

**Meeting Time: 10:10 a.m.**

**Attendees:**

Commissioner Colleen Rollings, Chair

Commissioner Cathy Deagle Gammon, Vice Chair

Commissioner John MacPherson

Commissioner Nancy MacLellan

Commissioner Trish Purdy

Commissioner Patty Cuttell

Commissioner Cathie O'Toole

**Regrets:**

**Staff:**

Kenda MacKenzie, Acting General Manager & CEO

Louis de Montbrun, Director, Corporate Services/CFO

Liana Rintoul, General Counsel

Josh DeYoung, Director, Capital Engineering & Infrastructure

John Eisnor, Director, Operations

Wendy Krkosek, Acting Director, Regulatory Services

Jeff Myrick, Manager of Communications and Public Affairs

Heather Britten, Quality Assurance Officer

Jonathan MacDonald, Manager, Water Infrastructure Planning

Aaron Boudreau, Project Engineer II, Municipal Engineering

Lorna Skinner, Governance Coordination Assistant, Regulatory Affairs and Governance Department

<b>Regular Reports</b>	
<b>1.a) RATIFICATION OF IN CAMERA MOTIONS</b>	
Discussion Notes	<b>MOVED BY Commissioner Cuttell, seconded by Commissioner Deagle Gammon that the Halifax Water Board ratify the In-Camera motions.</b>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>
<b>1b) APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS</b>	
Discussion Notes	<b>MOVED BY Commissioner Deagle Gammon, seconded by Commissioner Cuttell that the Halifax Water Board approve the order of business and approve additions and deletions as amended.</b>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>
<b>2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 26, 2024</b>	
Discussion Notes	<b>MOVED BY Commissioner MacLellan, seconded by Commissioner MacPherson that the Halifax Water Board approve the minutes of the September 26, 2024, regular meeting.</b>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>
<b>3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</b>	
Discussion Notes	<b>None</b>

<b>Financial Reports</b>	
<b>4.1 OPERATING RESULTS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2024</b>	
Discussion Notes	An information report dated November 21, 2024, was submitted. Louis de Montbrun gave an overview of the operating results for the four months ended September 30, 2024. Mr. de Montbrun stated that after the results were presented to the Audit & Finance Committee, there were some minor corrections made to the report.
Decision	<b>N/A</b>
<b>4.2 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2024</b>	
Discussion Notes	An information report dated November 19, 2024, was submitted. Louis de Montbrun updated the Board on the capital expenditures as of September 30, 2024.
Decision	<b>N/A</b>

<b>4.3 PROPOSED 2025 HRWC EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN BUDGET</b>	
Discussion Notes	<p>A report dated November 19, 2024, was submitted. Louis de Montbrun stated that this matter is brought to the Board as the Commissioners also serve as the Trustees of the HRWC Employees' Pension Plan. Heather Britten gave a presentation on the proposed 2025 HRWC Employees' Pension Plan budget.</p> <p><b>MOVED BY Commissioner Purdy, seconded by Commissioner Cuttell that the Halifax Water Board approve the Proposed 2025 Budget for the Halifax Water Employees' Pension Plan covering the period January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, as attached to Report Item #6 dated November 7, 2024.</b></p>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>
<b>4.4 OPERATING BUDGET PRELIMINARY (VERBAL)</b>	
Discussion Notes	<p>Louis de Montbrun gave an update on the operating budget planning process. An operating budget will be submitted to the Board in January. The results of the budget will be used as a basis for the upcoming rate application. Inflation continues to affect expenditures and debt to fund the capital program is expected to increase. A more fulsome report will be tabled at the Board workshop in December.</p>
Decision	<b>N/A</b>
<b>4.5 CAPITAL BUDGET PRELIMINARY (VERBAL)</b>	
Discussion Notes	<p>Josh DeYoung gave an update on the capital budget planning process. A capital budget will be submitted to the Board in January. This is the first year using new capital planning software to capture project intake and a candidate list for projects through years 1-5. There are ongoing meetings with engineering and accounting staff to right size delivery, balance resources and timelines, discuss current projects and review larger projects that require NSUARB approval. The capital budget will also be tabled for discussion at the December workshop.</p>
Decision	<b>N/A</b>

## Capital Reports

### 5.1 LACEWOOD DRIVE TRANSMISSION MAIN LOOPING

Discussion Notes	<p>A report dated November 8, 2024, was submitted. Jonathan MacDonald gave a presentation on the Lacewood Drive transmission main extension.</p> <p><b>MOVED BY Commissioner Purdy, seconded by Commissioner MacLellan that the Halifax Water Board approve the Lacewood Drive Transmission Main Extension (IMP Project #W02) at a total cost of \$5,817,000.</b></p>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>

### 5.2 SULLIVAN'S POND STORM SEWER REPLACEMENT – PHASE 2, PART II

Discussion Notes	<p>A report dated November 6, 2024, was submitted. Andrew Snow gave a verbal update on the Sullivan's Pond Sewer Replacement – Phase 2, Part II.</p> <p><b>MOVED BY Commissioner Deagle Gammon, seconded by Commissioner Purdy that the Halifax Water Board approve funding in the amount of \$19,398,000 (including net HST) for the Sullivan's Pond Storm Sewer Replacement Phase 2 – Part II (Sawmill Creek) project.</b></p>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>

### 5.3 MAIN STREET PUMPING STATION GOLFOVIEW DRIVE PROJECT – ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUEST

Discussion Notes	<p>A report dated November 14, 2024, was submitted. Josh DeYoung informed the Board that this project was approved as part of the capital budget; however, once the project was tendered, the costs increased to exceed the \$5M threshold requiring Board approval. Aaron Boudreau gave a verbal update on the Main St. Pumping Station Golfview Drive Project.</p> <p><b>MOVED BY Commissioner MacLellan, seconded by Commissioner Deagle Gammon that the Halifax Water Board approve additional funding of \$550,000 for the Main Street Pump Station Golf View Dr project for a revised total project cost of \$ 1,820,000, including net HST.</b></p>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>

## Other Business

### 6. APPOINTMENT TO BOARD SUBCOMMITTEES

Discussion Notes	<p>The Chair welcomed Commissioner Trish Purdy to the Halifax Water Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Purdy is an HRM Councillor for District 4. The Chair also welcomed back Commissioners Cuttell and Deagle Gammon and thanked outgoing Commissioners Kent and Russell for their service to the Board.</p> <p><b>MOVED BY Commissioner Deagle Gammon, seconded by Commissioner MacLellan that the Halifax Water Board approve the appointment of Commissioner Trish Purdy to the Environment Health &amp; Safety Committee.</b></p>
Decision	<b>MOTION PUT AND PASSED.</b>

### 7. LAKE MAJOR WATER LEVEL UPDATE (VERBAL)

Discussion Notes	<p>Kenda MacKenzie gave a brief presentation and update on the low water levels of Lake Major. Halifax Water is investigating a temporary engineered solution which would involve damming portions of the lake and installing a temporary intake to reach the lower levels of the lake. Staff are currently seeking permits and approval from Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change. A more permanent solution is also part of the overall Water Enhancement Program. Weekly updates will continue to be provided on the public Halifax Water website.</p>
Decision	<b>N/A</b>

**Next Meeting Date: January 30, 2025**

Minutes taken by:  
Lorna Skinner, Governance Coordination Assistant  
Regulatory Affairs and Governance Department