



PUBLIC MINUTES
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, City Hall

PRESENT: Councillor Z. Jeffries, Chair
Councillor R. Pearce, Vice Chair
Councillor R. Donauer
Councillor B. Dubois
Councillor S. Ford
Her Worship, Mayor C. Block (Ex-Officio)

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Financial Officer C. Hack
Deputy City Solicitor C. Bogad
Deputy City Clerk S. Bryant
Committee Assistant H. Janzen

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Deputy City Clerk called the meeting to order on Treaty 6 Territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Métis People and confirmed roll call.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

City Council, at its Regular Business meeting held on November 27, 2024, made the following appointments for 2025:

SPC on Finance

- Councillor R. Donauer
- Councillor B. Dubois
- Councillor S. Ford
- Councillor Z. Jeffries
- Councillor R. Pearce

The Committee was requested to appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025.

Moved By: Councillor Donauer

That Councillor Jeffries be appointed Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance for 2025.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By: Councillor Dubois

That Councillor Pearce be appointed Vice-Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance for 2025.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Jeffries assumed the Chair.

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved By: Councillor Dubois

1. That the following letters be added to Item 7.3.1;
 - Requesting to Speak
 - Derek Cameron, Strong Towns YXE, dated January 12, 2025;
 - Submitting Comments
 - Sherry Tarasoff, dated January 13, 2025;
2. That the items with speakers be considered immediately following unfinished business:
 - 7.3.1 - Derek Cameron, Strong Towns YXE; and
3. That the agenda be confirmed as amended.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved By: Councillor Donauer

That the following minutes be approved:

1. Special meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance held on September 25, 2024; and
2. Regular meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance held on December 11, 2024.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Item 7.3.1 was considered next.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. ADMINISTRATION AND LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

7.1 Decision Reports

7.2 Approval Reports

7.2.1 Pattison License Agreement for Billboard on City-owned Land Adjacent to Circle Drive West of Avenue C North [FI2025-0103]

A report of the Corporate Financial services was provided and presented by Chief Financial Officer Hack. Together with Director of Saskatoon Land Long they responded to questions of Committee.

Moved By: Councillor Dubois

That the matter be referred back to the Administration to negotiate a 5-year term.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2.2 Investment Income Reserve [FI2025-0102]

A report of the Corporate Financial Services was provided and presented by Chief Financial Officer Hack and he responded to questions of Committee.

Moved By: Councillor Pearce

That the Standing Policy Committee on Finance recommend to City Council that:

1. The Interest Stabilization Reserve be abolished;
2. That that Investment Income Reserve be established as outlined in Appendix 1;
3. That the existing balance within the Interest Stabilization Reserve be transferred to the Investment Income Reserve; and
4. That the City Clerk's office be requested to amend City Council Policy No. C03-003, Reserve for Future Expenditures accordingly.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2.3 Natural Infrastructure Fund Budget Adjustments [EUCS2024-0401 CC2023-0406]

A report of the Corporate Financial Services was provided and presented by Chief Financial Officer Hack. Together with Director of Indigenous Initiatives Cote and Fire Chief Wegren they responded to questions of Committee.

Moved By: Mayor Block

That the Standing Policy Committee on Finance recommend to City Council that the Capital Projects outlined in the January 15, 2025,

report of the Corporate Financial Services be adjusted for funding through the Natural Infrastructure Fund.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2.4 Property Realized Reserve Withdrawal 2024 [FI2025-0106]

A report of the Corporate Financial Services was provided and presented by Chief Financial Officer Hack.

Moved By: Councillor Ford

That the Standing Policy Committee on Finance recommend to City Council that a withdrawal of \$407,378.55 from the Property Realized Reserve be approved to fund miscellaneous land development and related sales costs incurred during the period of December 1, 2023 to November 30, 2024.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Item 7.3.2 was considered next.

7.3 Information Reports

Moved By: Councillor Dubois

That the reports contained in Items 7.3.1 to 7.3.3 be received as information.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3.1 Financial Review Audit [FI2025-0105]

The following letters were provided:

Requesting to Speak

- Derek Cameron, Strong Towns YXE, dated January 12, 2025.

Submitting Comments

- Sherry Tarasoff, dated January 13, 2025.

A report of the City Auditor was provided and presented by City Auditor Thomson.

Derek Cameron and Marnus de Vos addressed Committee regarding sustainability with a PowerPoint. They responded to questions of Committee.

Representatives from Ernst & Young along with Chief Financial Officer Hack and City Auditor Thomson responded to questions of Committee.

Moved By: Councillor Dubois

That the report be forwarded to City Council for information.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Item 7.2.1 was considered next.

7.3.2 Committee Referrals – Standing Policy Committee on Finance 2025 [FI2025-0104]

A report of the Corporate Financial Services was provided and presented by Chief Financial Officer Hack.

7.3.3 2024 Financial Forecast – City of Saskatoon’s Business Plan and Budget [GPC2023-0503]

A report of the Corporate Financial Services was provided and presented by Chief Financial Officer Hack, and he responded to questions of Committee.

8. MOTIONS (notice previously given)

9. URGENT BUSINESS

10. GIVING NOTICE

11. REQUESTS TO SPEAK (new matters)

12. COMMUNICATIONS (requiring the direction of the Committee)

12.1 Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2025-2026 Membership Fees [FI2025-0107]

An invoice from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities regarding 2025-2026 membership fees was provided. The invoice includes a base fee and per capita dues calculated at \$64,982.10, including GST.

An optional invoice from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities regarding the travel fund was also provided.

Chief Financial Officer Hack introduced the item.

Moved By: Councillor Donauer

That the Standing Policy Committee on Finance recommend to City Council that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2025-2026 membership fees, in the amount of \$64,982.10, including GST be paid.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12.2 Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) 2025 Membership Fees [FI2025-0108]

An invoice from the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) regarding 2025 membership fees was provided. The invoice is calculated at \$135,962.65, including GST.

Chief Financial Officer Hack introduced the item.

Moved By: Councillor Pearce

That the Standing Policy Committee on Finance recommend to City Council that the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association 2025 membership fees, in the amount of \$135,962.65, including GST, be paid.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. IN CAMERA SESSION

Moved By: Councillor Pearce

That the following item be considered *In Camera*.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13.1 Audit Matter

[In Camera - Audits and Tests, Section 19 of LAFOIP]

14. RISE AND REPORT

The Standing Policy Committee on Finance convened *In Camera* at 3:23 p.m. in the Council Chamber with all members of Committee present.

Also present were:

- Deputy City Solicitor Bogad
- Chief Financial Officer Hack
- City Auditor Thomson
- Deputy City Clerk Bryant
- Committee Assistant Janzen

The *In Camera* portion of the meeting concluded at 3:49 p.m.

The Committee reconvened publicly at 3:50 p.m. with all members of Committee present.

The Committee reported further as follows:

13.1 Audit Matter

Moved By: Councillor Pearce

That the information and discussion remain *In Camera* under Section 19 of *LAFOIP*.

In Favour: (6): Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Pearce, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Ford, and Mayor Block

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Councillor Z. Jeffries, Chair

Deputy City Clerk, S. Bryant