

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL
BUDGET MEETING**

April 8, 2021

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:14 p.m., in the Multi-purpose Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, NS, with the following members present:

- Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson, Chair
- Andrea Mood-Nickerson
- Jody Crook
- Shaun Hatfield
- George El-Jakl

- Chris Frotten, CAO
- Leah d'Eon, Director of Finance

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Being duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

2021/22 DRAFT BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

The CAO and Director of Finance presented the adjustments of the 2021/22 draft municipal operating budget to members based on the discussion that took place at the March 13th budget meeting.

Committee discussed each adjustment, in particular the development of a litter clean-up program, pension contribution rates and the thresholds of the low-income tax exemption program. Members consented to removing the funds allocated to a litter clean-up program to allow for further discussion, to increase the maximum pension contribution rate to 7% (an increase of 0.5%) and to maintain the low-income tax exemption thresholds to the levels used in the prior year but discuss possible amendments to the thresholds at a future Committee meeting.

The Director of Finance took note of the key elements of discussion and further adjustments and will create a second draft of the operating budget to be presented to Committee for further discussion.

WESTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY FUNDING REQUEST

The Western Counties Regional Library made a request to the Municipality for it to consider budgeting an increase in funding based on a new funding formula not yet mandate by the Province. The CAO provided background information on the history of the new funding formula and members considered the operations and financial position of the libraries.

Resolution COW210401

Being duly moved and seconded that it be recommended to that the Municipality maintain its current level of funding to the Western Counties Regional Library and send a letter of response to that effect.

AFFIRMATIVE

Eddie Nickerson

Jody Crook

George El-Jakl

Andrea Mood-Nickerson

NEGATIVE

Shaun Hatfield

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Chair

Secretary for the Meeting