

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
AUDIT COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION**

**AC 2-2021
Monday, May 10, 2021
Council Chamber / Video Conference
Niagara Regional Headquarters, Campbell West
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

Committee Members Present in the
Council Chamber: Rigby (Committee Chair)

Committee Members Present via Video
Conference: Bradley (Regional Chair), Foster, Gale, Redekop, Whalen
(Committee Vice-Chair)

Staff Present in the Council Chamber: H. Chamberlain, Director/Deputy Treasurer, Financial Management & Planning, S. Guglielmi, Technology Support Analyst, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Corporate Services, F. Marcella, Internal Auditor, B. Menage, Director, Procurement & Strategic Acquisitions, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, M. Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis

Staff Present via Video Conference: E. Amirault, Associate Director, Finance, Operations & Systems, S. Mota, Corporate Reporting Supervisor, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, R. Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, B. Zvaniga, Interim Commissioner, Public Works

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Rigby called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

3. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 AC-C 3-2021

2020 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements

Melanie Steele, Associate Director, Reporting & Analysis, and Trevor Ferguson, Partner, Deloitte, provided information respecting 2020 Consolidated Financial Statement Highlights. Topics of the presentation included:

- Year-end Overview
- Consolidated Financial Statement Highlights
 - 2020 Audit Plan Highlights
 - Presentation Reconciliation
 - Reconciliation of Surplus
 - Statement of Operations
 - Statement of Financial Position
- Audit Findings Report
- Next Steps

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Report AC-C 3-2021, dated May 10, 2021, respecting 2020 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the audited consolidated financial statements of the Regional Municipality of Niagara (the “Niagara Region”), including the sinking fund financial statements and the trust fund financial statements, for the year ended December 31, 2020, as presented in Appendix 1 of Report AC-C 3-2021, **BE APPROVED**;
2. That the audit findings report pertaining to the audited consolidated financial statements of the Niagara Region for the year ended December 31, 2020, as presented in Appendix 2 to Report AC-C 3-2021, **BE RECEIVED** for information; and
3. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to co-ordinate with the auditors to finalize the statements as presented.

Carried

5.2 AC-C 4-2021

Appointment of Auditors

Moved by Councillor Whalen
Seconded by Councillor Foster

That Report AC-C 4-2021, dated May 10, 2021, respecting Appointment of Auditors, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Deloitte **BE APPOINTED** as Niagara Region's external auditor for an additional two-year term starting the calendar year ending December 31, 2021 until the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023.

Carried

5.3 AC-C 6-2021

Audit Committee Terms of Reference Update

Moved by Councillor Redekop
Seconded by Councillor Gale

That Report AC-C 6-2021, dated May 10, 2021, respecting Audit Committee Terms of Reference Update, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the updated Audit Committee Terms of Reference, Appendix 1 to Report AC-C 6-2021, **BE APPROVED**.

Carried

6. **CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Report PW 5-2021 was considered separately.

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That the following items **BE RECEIVED** for information:

AC-C 5-2021

Management Action Plan Update

JBM-C 6-2021

Approval of Court Services 2020 Audited Schedule of Revenues, Expenses and Funds Available for Distribution

AC-C 7-2021

Niagara Regional Housing 2020 Draft Audited Financial Statements

Carried

6.3 PW 5-2021

Approval of Statement of Contributions and Expenditures for Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

That Report PW 5-2021, dated April 13, 2021, respecting Approval of Statement of Contributions and Expenditures for Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Defeated

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

7.1 Motion Respecting Niagara-on-the-Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant Project

Moved by Councillor Gale
Seconded by Councillor Whalen

1. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to provide a report to the Public Works Committee on the potential causes of the project delay, including information respecting the project being over-budget, and an assessment of the project management; and
2. That this report **BE COMPLETED** without delay in order to determine best practices as the Corporation proceeds with the Niagara South Wastewater Treatment plant project.

The following friendly **amendment** was accepted by the Committee Chair, and the mover and seconder of the motion:

1. That staff **BE DIRECTED** to provide a report to the Public Works Committee on the potential causes of the project delay, including information respecting the project being over-budget, **Council approval of cost overruns**, and an assessment of the project management; and

The Committee Chair called the vote on the motion, as amended, and declared it,

Carried

7.2 Waste Management Services Consulting Contracts

Councillor Gale requested staff provide a list of all consultants hired by Waste Management Services during the period of January 2019 to April 2021, and a list of the associated contract amounts and tender approvals.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 20, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Tim Rigby
Committee Chair

Matthew Trennum
Deputy Regional Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk