



The Corporation of the County of Northumberland

Finance and Audit Committee

Minutes

April 1, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

Council Chambers

555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6

Hybrid Meeting (In-Person and Virtual)

Members Present: Chair Lucas Cleveland
Warden Brian Ostrander
Councillor Mandy Martin

1. Notices

1.a Accessible Format

If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at accessibility@northumberland.ca or 1-800-354-7050 ext. 2327.

1.b Meeting Format

This Committee Meeting was held using a hybrid meeting model. The public were invited to attend in-person in Council Chambers, view the meeting via the live stream, or join online or by phone using Zoom Conference Technology.

2. Call to Order

Chair Lucas Cleveland called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

2.a Territorial Land Acknowledgement

3. Approval of the Agenda

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-257

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

"**That** the agenda for the April 1, 2025 Finance and Audit Committee be approved."

Carried

4. Disclosures of Interest

- No disclosures

5. Delegations

N/A

6. Business Arising from Last Meeting

N/A

7. Communications

7.a Correspondence, 'Buy Canadian'

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-258

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

"**That** the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered the correspondence from the below municipalities regarding 'Buy Canadian', recommend that County Council support the correspondence and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to key stakeholders:

- City of Hamilton;
- City of Toronto;
- Town of Parry Sound;
- Township of Archipelago;
- Township of Central Frontenac;
- Township of Puslinch."

Carried

7.b Correspondence, 'Redistribution of Provincial Land Transfer Tax (LTT) and Goods and Services Tax (GST) to Municipalities'

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-259

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

"That the Finance and Audit Committee receive the correspondence from the following municipalities regarding 'Redistribution of Provincial Land Transfer Tax (LTT) and Goods and Services Tax (GST) to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding' for information, noting that similar correspondence was considered and supported by Council at the February 19, 2025 County Council meeting:

- Municipality of Markstay-Warren;
- City of Richmond Hill; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive the correspondence for information."

Carried

8. Staff Reports

8.a Report 2025-057 'February 2025 Year-To-Date Financial Results'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-260

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

"That the Finance and Audit Committee receive Report 2025-057 'February 2025 Year-To-Date Financial Results' for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive this report for information."

Carried

8.b Report 2025-058 '2025 Property Tax Policy'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-261

Moved by Councillor Mandy Martin

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

"That the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered Report 2025-058 '2025 Property Tax Policy', recommend that County Council enact by-laws to authorize the 2025 tax ratios and tax rates at the April 16, 2025 County Council meeting."

Carried

8.c Report 2025-059 '2024 Court Security Funding'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-262

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

“That the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered Report 2025-059 ‘2024 Court Security Funding’, recommend that County Council approve levy funding in the amount of \$185,899 to the Town of Cobourg for 2024 court security costs; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to adjust the amount of County levy funding provided to the Town of Cobourg by the amount of Court Security and Prisoner Transportation (CSPT) funding the Town of Cobourg received directly from the Province, once confirmed by staff.”

Carried

8.d Report 2025-060 'Downloaded Programs and Services Summary'

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-263

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

“That the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered Report 2025-060 ‘Downloaded Programs and Services Summary’, recommend that County Council direct staff to advocate to the Province for additional funding to offset the costs of provincial downloads, up to and including \$37.7M; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council identify this item for separate discussion at the April 16, 2025 County Council meeting.”

Carried

[Committee recessed at 11:43 a.m. until 11:51 a.m.]

9. Other Matters Considered by Committee

9.a Directors' Salaries

[Councillor Cleveland relinquished the Chair to Councillor Martin at 11:51 a.m.]

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-264

Moved by Councillor Lucas Cleveland

Seconded by Warden Brian Ostrander

“That the Finance & Audit Committee hereby approve adding an item to the April 1, 2025 Finance and Audit Committee agenda regarding Directors’ salaries.”

Carried

[Councillor Martin relinquished the Chair back to Councillor Cleveland at 11:57 a.m.]

Committee Resolution 2025-04-01-265

Moved by Warden Brian Ostrander

Seconded by Councillor Mandy Martin

“That the Finance & Audit Committee recommend that County Council discuss at the April 16, 2025 County Council meeting regarding Directors’ 2023-2025 salary adjustments, including reviewing information from the December 2024 Council Report entitled Report 2024-168, Corporate Services 'Compensation Freeze', as well as any other relevant background staff reports.”

Carried

10. Media Questions

11. Closed Session

N/A

12. Motion to Rise and Result from Closed Session

N/A

13. Next Meeting - Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

14. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.