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The Regional Municipality of Durham
Finance & Administration Committee Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

A regular meeting of the Finance & Administration Committee was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM

Councillor Ashe assumed the Chair.

1. Roll Call

Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.
* indicates individuals who participated electronically.

Members

Present: Councillor Ashe, Chair
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Leahy*
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Yamada attended the meeting at 9:37 AM
Regional Chair Henry

Also

Present: Councillor Chapman*
Councillor Collier
Councillor Jubb*
Councillor Marimpietri*
Councillor Mulcahy*
Councillor Neal*
Councillor Nicholson*
Councillor Shahid*
Councillor Woo*
Councillor Wotten*

Members

Absent: Councillor Garrod, Vice-Chair

Staff Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, A. Burgess, C. Cheng, S. Ciani, G. Dees, T. Fetter, L. Fleury, B. Goodwin, A. Harras, A. Hector-Alexander, B. Holmes, J. Hunt, R. Inacio, R. Jagannathan, J. Kilgour*, K. McDermott, P. Moreira, N. Pincombe, S. Rice, and K. Smith

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Chair Ashe welcomed Glen Dees, the Region's new Director of Business Plans and Budgets.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Motion #40

Moved by Councillor McDougall, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,
That the minutes of the following meetings be adopted:

- Regular Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on April 14, 2026; and
- Closed Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Carried

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Presentations

There were no presentations.

6. Delegations

- 6.1 Andrew Tummonds, President, Durham Regional Police Association (In-Person Attendance)
Re: Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Service and Financing Strategy (2026-2036) ([2026-F-9](#)) [Item #8.2 A)]
-

Andrew Tummonds, President, Durham Regional Police Association, appeared before the Committee with respect to the Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Service and Financing Strategy (2026-2036).

A. Tummonds spoke on behalf of the Association's members, emphasizing the importance of the proposed capital plan. A. Tummonds noted that DRPS is unique in that the majority of its members reside within Durham Region and are acutely aware of the financial pressures associated with budget decisions that impact property taxes.

A. Tummonds highlighted concerns about the current state of several DRPS facilities, citing issues such as mould, non-potable water, and a rifle range that is inadequate for proper training. As a result, significant funds are being spent to send officers to an external outdoor range.

A. Tummonds acknowledged broader financial constraints but stressed the need for a long-term, 10-year investment plan, and cautioned that delaying necessary capital investments will only exacerbate existing issues, particularly as Durham is one of the fastest-growing regions in the province. A. Tummonds further noted that while recent budgets have supported personnel needs, they have not addressed deficiencies in aging infrastructure.

A. Tummonds also identified domestic violence as a key priority for DRPS and raised concerns about the lack of a secure, dedicated parking area at the Central Oshawa Station for individuals reporting crimes.

A. Tummonds responded to questions from the committee members.

6.2 Doug Glass, Ajax Resident (In-Person Attendance)
Re: Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Service and Financing Strategy
(2026-2036) ([2026-F-9](#)) [Item #8.2 A]

D. Glass appeared before the Committee with respect to the Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Service and Financing Strategy (2026-2036).

D. Glass expressed support for deferring budget decisions to the next term of Council, adding that the strategy should serve as a preliminary plan for future consideration.

D. Glass stated that they were concerned about the scale of the proposed capital facility investments and the need to clearly define the cost of adequate and effective policing. D. Glass suggested that DRPS provide a more detailed, itemised report distinguishing between legislated requirements and operational preferences.

D. Glass further questioned what measurable improvements have resulted from recent investments, noting that key performance indicators, such as committed street patrol hours and response times, have not demonstrated expected improvements.

D. Glass stated that there is a need to maintain scrutiny, accountability, and affordability, particularly in the context of finite municipal resources; and cited increased property tax arrears as a concern.

Motion #41

Moved by Councillor Crawford, Seconded by Councillor Yamada

That D. Glass be granted an additional two minutes to complete their delegation.

Carried (a 2/3rds Vote was Attained)

D. Glass requested a more robust business case, including scenario analysis and clearly documented evidence to support investment decisions and stated that population growth projections should be reassessed due to updated provincial forecasts.

D. Glass raised a concern that a recent DRPS survey question on support for increased policing expenditures did not clearly indicate the potential impact on property taxes.

D. Glass responded to questions from committee members.

7. Administration

7.1 Correspondence

- A) Correspondence from Graham Milne, Regional Clerk, Halton Region
re: Call for Continued Election of the Regional Chair
-

Motion #42

Moved by Councillor Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Pettingill,
That we recommend to Council:

That the correspondence from Graham Milne, Regional Clerk, Halton Region regarding the Call for Continued Election of the Regional Chair be endorsed, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to Premier Ford, Minister Flack, the Region's of Niagara, Halton, York, Peel and Waterloo, and Durham's MPPs, along with a copy of the resolution regarding Bill 100 adopted by Durham Region Council at its meeting held on April 29, 2026.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Crawford
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Leahy
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Yamada
Councillor Ashe, Chair

No: None

Members
Absent: Councillor Garrod

Declaration
of Interest: None

7.2 Reports

- A) Appointment of New Member to the Durham Region Accessibility Advisory
Committee (AAC)
([2026-A-12](#))
-

Report #2026-A-12 from Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer, was received.

Motion #43

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,
That we recommend to Council:

That the following person be appointed to the Durham Region Accessibility
Advisory Committee:

- i. Annika Reid – Person with a family member with a disability.

Carried

- B) Extension of Agreement for Annual Updated Orthophotography with First Base Solutions Inc.
[\(2026-A-13\)](#)
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Report #2026-A-13 from Barb Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services, was received.

Motion #44

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,
That we recommend to Council:

- A) That staff be authorized to award a sole source five-year extension of the Primary Subscriber License Agreement to First Base Solutions Inc. for the provision of the following services:
 - i) Annual orthophotography with the related Digital Terrain Model (DTM) and infrared band data, at a cost of \$758,056 (before applicable taxes) for the period of 2027 – 2031, to be funded from the Corporate Services – Information Technology annual operating budget;
 - ii) A one-time update of the existing Durham Building Footprints at a cost of \$21,627 (before applicable taxes) in 2027, to be funded from the Works – Infrastructure Analytics annual operating budget; and
 - iii) The biennial update of the existing Durham Walking Network at a cost of \$36,001 (before applicable taxes) for the years 2027, 2029 and 2031, to be funded from the Community Growth and Economic Development – Transportation Planning annual operating budget.
- B) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute the Primary Subscriber License Agreement and any related documentation between First Base Solutions Inc. and the Regional Municipality of Durham.

Carried

8. Finance

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

8.2 Reports

- A) Durham Regional Police Services (DRPS) Service and Financing Strategy (2026-2036)
[\(2026-F-9\)](#)
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Report #2026-F-9 from Nicole Pincombe, Commissioner of Finance, was received.

Chief Moreira, Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS), provided opening remarks and clarified that the report addresses investment across the entire service, not solely the capital facilities plan. Chief Moreira stated that existing facilities no longer meet operational needs and that a clear plan is required to modernise and move forward with new infrastructure.

Chief Moreira acknowledged the financial pressures associated with an election year, noting that both affordability and community safety remain key priorities; and stated that the timing of the report was not discretionary, but rather in response to direction from Council.

Chief Moreira indicated that the current situation reflects years of insufficient strategic planning and under-investment and noted that the identified capital requirements are not new. Chief Moreira urged the Committee to prioritize Attachment #1 of the Report, as it provides operational context. Chief Moriera stated that previous budget submissions from the Police Services Board were intended to maintain base service levels without including new investments, and that approved budgets did not fully address base pressures, resulting in ongoing shortfalls.

Chief Moreira stated that, from 2010 to 2023, DRPS experienced little-to-no net new growth or strategic investment, and that Regional departmental budgets increased. Chief Moriera added that DRPS represents a smaller proportion of each tax dollar compared to comparable police services.

Chief Moreira responded to questions from the Committee members with respect to the dual need for civilian positions and uniformed positions; the delay in construction of the new Ajax facility; converting operating surplus into capital funding; the timing of the budget cycle and the impact on police hiring and training; Peel's approval of the 10 year plan for policing; opportunities for tours of DRPS facilities; recovery of court costs; increased costs related to legislative changes; costs related to recidivism; and police presence at schools or in the community.

Staff responded to questions with respect to the recent media stories about the potential 2027 tax increase if the DRPS service and financing strategy is implemented.

Motion #45

Moved by Regional Chair Henry Seconded by Councillor Pettingill,

That Report #2026-F-9 of the Commissioner of Finance, be referred to the 2027 budget.

**Carried on a Recorded Vote
Later in the Meeting**

Staff responded to additional questions with respect to the annual repayment limit projection before the DRPS strategy is added; whether modelling takes into account various interest scenarios and potential property tax pressures resulting from Development Charge (DC) reductions; what population growth scenarios are being used for modelling; whether any advocacy is done on behalf of DRPS for funding; why the tax increase required for the 10-year plan is front-ended; and the pending request for capital investment for the Oshawa campus.

Discussion ensued with respect to the additional DRPS 2026 budget request; approving capital requests now to avoid increased future costs; increased costs to DRPS as a result of legislative amendments; and presenting the report to Council for consideration.

Staff responded to questions about the process of presenting the strategy on May 8th at the Special Committee of the Whole meeting, and then considering the report at the May 12th Finance and Administration Committee meeting; the impact on the property tax base if the request for 2026 is approved; and whether the current Council can approve budget requests that will impact the next term of Council.

The Main Motion #45 of Regional Chair Henry and Councillor Pettingill was then put to a vote and **Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Regional Chair Henry
 Councillor Leahy
 Councillor Pettingill
 Councillor Yamada

No: Councillor Crawford
 Councillor Ashe, Chair

Members
Absent: Councillor Garrod
 Councillor McDougall

Declaration
of Interest: None

9. **Advisory Committee Resolutions**

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

10. **Confidential Matters**

10.1 Reports

- A) Confidential Report of the Commissioner of Corporate Services – Labour Relations / Employee Negotiations with respect to Canadian Union of Public Employees (“CUPE”), Local 1785 (2026-A-14)
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Confidential Report #2026-A-14 from Barb Goodwin, Commissioner of Corporate Services, was received.

Motion #46

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,
That we recommend to Council:

That the recommendations contained in Confidential Report #2026-A-14 of the Commissioner of Corporate Services be adopted.

Carried

11. Other Business

There was no other business to be considered.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Finance & Administration Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 9:30 AM in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Motion #47

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,
That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM

Respectfully submitted,

K. Ashe
Chair

L. Fleury
Deputy Clerk