



**GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
(RATE BUDGET)
REPORT 20-020**

9:30 a.m.

Monday, November 23, 2020

Due to COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall, this meeting was held virtually.

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger, Deputy Mayor A. VanderBeek (Chair)
Councillors M. Wilson, J. Farr, N. Nann, S. Merulla, C. Collins,
T. Jackson, E. Pauls, J.P. Danko, B. Clark, M. Pearson, B. Johnson,
L. Ferguson, J. Partridge

Absent: Councillor T. Whitehead – Personal

**THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 20-020, AND
RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. Alectra Utilities Water, Wastewater and Storm 2020 Service Activity Report
(FCS20072) (City Wide) (Item 6.1)**

That Report FCS20072, respecting the Alectra Utilities Water, Wastewater and Storm 2020 Service Activity Report, be received.

**2. 2021 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget
(FCS20073) (City Wide) (Item 6.2)**

(a) That the metered water consumption charges for average residential properties (meters up to 21mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2021:

Monthly Water Consumption (m3)	Rate (\$/m3)
0 – 10	0.85
10 +	1.70

- (b) That the metered water consumption charge for commercial, industrial, institutional and larger residential properties (meters = >25mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the rate of \$1.70 per cubic metre, effective January 1, 2021;
- (c) That daily water fixed charges for all properties in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2021:

Meter Size	Daily Water Rate
15 mm	\$0.38
16 mm	\$0.38
20 mm	\$0.38
21 mm	\$0.38
25 mm	\$0.95
38 mm	\$1.90
50 mm	\$3.04
75 mm	\$6.08
100 mm	\$9.50
150 mm	\$19.00
200 mm	\$30.40
250 mm	\$43.70
300 mm	\$64.60

- (d) That the wastewater / storm treatment charges for average residential properties (meters up to 21mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2021:

Monthly Water Consumption (m3)	Rate (\$/m3)
0 – 10	0.91
10 +	1.82

- (e) That the wastewater / storm treatment charge for all commercial, industrial, institutional and larger residential properties (meters = >25mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the rate of \$1.82 per cubic metre, effective January 1, 2021;

- (f) That daily wastewater /storm fixed charges for all properties in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2021:

Meter Size	Daily Wastewater / Storm Rate
15 mm	\$0.42
16 mm	\$0.42
20 mm	\$0.42
21 mm	\$0.42
25 mm	\$1.05
38 mm	\$2.10
50 mm	\$3.36
75 mm	\$6.72
100 mm	\$10.50
150 mm	\$21.00
200 mm	\$33.60
250 mm	\$48.30
300 mm	\$71.40

- (g) That the residential non-metered annual water rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$620.50 per annum, effective January 1, 2021;
- (h) That the residential non-metered annual wastewater / storm rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$664.30 per annum, effective January 1, 2021;
- (i) That the residential combined non-metered annual water and wastewater / storm rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$1,284.80 per annum, effective January 1, 2021;
- (j) That the Private Fire Line rates be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2021:

Connection Size		Monthly Rate
mm	inches	
25	1	\$3.73
38	1.5	\$8.58
50	2	\$14.92
75	3	\$33.57
100	4	\$59.68

150	6	\$134.28
200	8	\$238.72
250	10	\$238.72
300	12	\$238.72

- (k) That the 2021 Water, Wastewater and Storm Proposed User Fees and Charges be imposed, as per Appendix “A” to Report 20-020, effective January 1, 2021;
- (l) That the 2021 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Operating Budget in the amount of \$245,554,888 be approved, as per Appendix “B” to Report 20-020;
- (m) That the long-term financing plan for the Water, Wastewater and Stormwater programs and related rate increases required to meet sustainable financing as identified in the 2021-2030 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Operating Budget forecast (Appendix “B” to Report 20-020) be approved, in principle;
- (n) That the 2021 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Capital Budget and Financing Plan in the amount of \$299,911,000 be approved, as per Appendices “C”, “D”, “E” and “F” to Report 20-020;
- (o) That the 2021-2030 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Capital Budget forecast and financing plan (Appendix “G” to Report 20-020) be approved, in principle;
- (p) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare, for Council approval, all necessary by-laws respecting the 2021 water and wastewater / storm user fees, charges and rates set out in Recommendations (a) through (l) of Report FCS20073;
- (q) That the additional 14.0 Full Time Equivalent Rate Supported Staffing be approved, as per Appendix “H” to Report 20-020;
- (r) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized to and directed to negotiate and confirm the terms, placement and issuance of all debenture issue(s), and / or private placement debenture issue(s), in either a public or private market and / or bank loan agreements and debenture issue(s) and / or variable interest rate bank loan agreements and debenture issue(s), in an amount not to exceed \$117,396,000 Canadian currency, as attached in Appendices “C”, “D” and “E” to Report FCS20073, which includes \$48,000,000 in Rate Supported

municipal debt and \$69,396,000 Rate Supported Development Charges municipal debt;

- (s) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized to engage the services of all required professionals to secure the terms and issuance of the debenture issue(s) described in subsections (s), (t) and (u) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel, fiscal agents and Infrastructure Ontario's Loan Program;
- (t) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, Mayor and City Clerk are each authorized and directed to enter into and / or execute, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, all agreements and necessary ancillary documents requiring their respective signatures, to secure the terms and issuance of the debenture issue(s) described in subsections (s), (t), (u) and (v), in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (u) That the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized and directed to enter into and / or execute, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, all agreements and necessary ancillary documents not requiring any specific signing authority, to secure the terms and issuance of the debenture issue(s) described in subsections (s), (t), (u) and (v), in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and with content acceptable to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services; and,
- (v) That all necessary By-Law(s) be passed to authorize the debenture issue(s) negotiated, placed and secured in accordance with subsections (r), (s), (t) and (u).

3. Stormwater Gap Evaluation (Item 8.1)

WHEREAS, stormwater management is an essential service provided by the City of Hamilton that protects the property, livelihood, safety and health of residents, businesses, infrastructure and natural waterways in every part of the City;

WHEREAS, Climate Change mitigation requirements and current extreme weather events have punctuated the importance of a robust and functional stormwater management system throughout the City;

WHEREAS, there was a reorganization in 2019 that resulted in the Hamilton Water Division assuming responsibility for a number of Stormwater programs and projects;

WHEREAS, the existing assets managed by Hamilton Water include stormwater management facilities, municipal drains, watercourses, drainage easements,

pumping stations, sections of shoreline, combined sewer overflow (CSO) tanks and outfalls;

WHEREAS, Hamilton Water expects to assume operation of 25 additional stormwater management facilities in the next few years;

WHEREAS, there are known and unknown gaps in the existing stormwater programs, particularly with respect to maintaining a sustainable level of service; and,

WHEREAS, asset management data is essential to the long-term performance of City infrastructure and reliable, stable financial strategy;

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED:

That Hamilton Water staff be directed to perform a comprehensive evaluation of all City stormwater programs to identify existing gaps, immediate needs, risks to the City; including risks from Climate Change and extreme weather, outline the levels of service that the City should strive to achieve, quantify funding requirements along with options for long term maintenance, second cycle replacements and financing alternatives and report back to Public Works Committee in the first quarter of 2021 with an information report.

4. Removal of the Contaminated Soil at the Kenilworth Reservoir (Item 8.2)

That staff be directed to remove the contaminated soil at the Kenilworth Reservoir and replace it with clean fill to an upset of \$6.5m, to be funded from the Water Reserve (108015), and report back to the General Issues Committee with an information report that includes timelines for the removal.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

The agenda for the November 23, 2020 General Issues Committee (Rate Budget) meeting was approved, as presented.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 8)

(i) Alectra Utilities Water, Wastewater and Storm 2020 Service Activity Report (FCS20072) (City Wide) (Item 6.1)

Linas Medelis, Acting Vice President, Customer Service, from Alectra provided the presentation respecting Report FCS20072 - Alectra Utilities Water, Wastewater and Storm 2020 Service Activity Report.

The presentation, respecting Report FCS20072 - Alectra Utilities Water, Wastewater and Storm 2020 Service Activity Report, was received.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 1.

(ii) 2021 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget (FCS20073) (City Wide) (Item 6.2)

Andrew Grice, Director of Hamilton Water, provided the first portion of the presentation respecting Report FCS20073 - 2021 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget.

Committee recessed for one half hour to 12:10 p.m.

Brian McMullen, Director of Financial Planning, Administration and Policy, provided the balance of the presentation respecting Report FCS20073 - 2021 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget.

The presentation, respecting Report FCS20073 - 2021 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget, was received.

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 2.

(d) ADJOURNMENT (Item 14)

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Mayor Arlene VanderBeek
Chair, General Issues Committee

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Coordinator,
Office of the City Clerk