



**City of Hamilton**  
**GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (BUDGET)**  
**AGENDA**

**Meeting #:** 24-001  
**Date:** January 16, 2024  
**Time:** 3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Council Chambers (GIC)  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West

Angela McRae, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 5987

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<b>1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>	
<b>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
<b>3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
3.1 November 27, 2023 - General Issues Committee (Rate Budget)	3
<b>4. COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
4.1 Correspondence respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget, from the following individuals:	
Recommendation: Be received.	
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b. Elizabeth Aquila	21
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<b>5. DELEGATION REQUESTS</b>	
5.1 Delegation Requests respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget, from the following individuals:	

a.	Carol Andrews (In-Person)	23
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c.	Abigail Samuels, Vice-President (Education) & Kerry Yang, Associate Vice-President (Municipal Affairs), McMaster Students Union (In-Person)	25
d.	Anthony Marco, Hamilton and District Labour Council (In-Person)	26
e.	Michelle Diplock, West End Home Builders' Association (In-Person)	27
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g.	Sahra Soudi (In-Person)	29
h.	Stewart Klazinga, ACORN Hamilton (Virtually)	30

## 6. PUBLIC HEARING / DELEGATIONS

## 7. MOTIONS

## 8. NOTICES OF MOTION

## 9. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

## 10. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

### 10.1 Closed Session Minutes - November 27, 2023 - General Issues Committee (Rate Budget)

Pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-sections (b) and (d) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (b) and (d) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City or local board employees; and labour relations or employee negotiations.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT



**GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE  
(RATE BUDGET)  
MINUTES 23-032(a)**

9:30 a.m.

November 27, 2023

Council Chambers, City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

**Present:** Mayor A. Horwath  
Councillor J.P. Danko (Budget Chair)  
Councillors J. Beattie, C. Cassar, B. Clark, M. Francis, T. Hwang,  
T. Jackson, C. Kroetsch, T. McMeekin, N. Nann, E. Pauls,  
M. Spadafora, M. Tadeson, A. Wilson, and M. Wilson

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**1. Ward Office Staffing Review (HUR23017) (City Wide) (Item 11.1)**

**(Kroetsch/Hwang)**

- (a) That the direction provided to staff in Closed Session, respecting Report HUR23017, Ward Office Staffing Review be approved and remain confidential;
- (b) That Report HUR23017, respecting the Ward Office Staffing Review remain confidential; and,
- (c) That the Confidential presentation respecting Report HUR23017, Ward Office Staffing Review, be received and remain confidential.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
Absent	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark

Yes - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie  
 Yes - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson  
 Yes - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar  
 Yes - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson  
 Absent - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora  
 Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**2. Councillor Ward Office Budgets and Policy Guidelines for Eligible Expenses for Elected Officials (FCS18083(d)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

**(Kroetsch/Cassar)**

That staff be directed to report back in January 2024 with revised recommendations respecting Councillor Ward Office Budgets and Policy Guidelines for Eligible Expenses for Elected Officials.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

Yes - Mayor Andrea Horwath  
 Yes - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson  
 Yes - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch  
 Yes - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann  
 Yes - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang  
 Yes - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis  
 Yes - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson  
 Yes - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls  
 Yes - Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko  
 Absent - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark  
 Yes - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie  
 Yes - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson  
 Yes - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar  
 Yes - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson  
 Absent - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora  
 Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**3. 2024 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Budget (FCS23100) (City Wide) (Item 5.1)**

**(Kroetsch/A. Wilson)**

(a) That the metered water consumption charges for average residential properties (meters < 25mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Monthly Water Consumption (m3)	Rate (\$/m3)
0 – 10	1.07
> 10	2.13

- (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 \$2.13 per cubic metre, effective January 1, 2024;
- (c) That daily water fixed charges for all properties in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Meter Size	Daily Water Rate
15 mm	\$0.48
16 mm	\$0.48
20 mm	\$0.48
21 mm	\$0.48
25 mm	\$1.20
38 mm	\$2.40
50 mm	\$3.84
75 mm	\$7.68
100 mm	\$12.00
150 mm	\$24.00
200 mm	\$38.40
250 mm	\$55.20
300 mm	\$81.60

- (d) That the wastewater / storm treatment charges for average residential properties (meters < 25mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Monthly Water Consumption (m3)	Rate (\$/m3)
0 – 10	1.08
> 10	2.15

- (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 \$2.15 per cubic metre, effective January 1, 2024;
- (f) That daily wastewater / storm fixed charges for all properties in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Meter Size	Daily Wastewater / Storm Rate
15 mm	\$0.52
16 mm	\$0.52
20 mm	\$0.52
21 mm	\$0.52
25 mm	\$1.30
38 mm	\$2.60
50 mm	\$4.16
75 mm	\$8.32
100 mm	\$13.00
150 mm	\$26.00
200 mm	\$41.60
250 mm	\$59.80
300 mm	\$88.40

- (g) That the residential non-metered annual water rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$777.45 per annum, effective January 1, 2024;
- (h) That the residential non-metered annual wastewater / storm rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$784.75 per annum, effective January 1, 2024;
- (i) That the residential combined non-metered annual water and wastewater / storm rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$1,562.20 per annum, effective January 1, 2024;
- (j) That the Private Fire Line rates be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Connection Size		Monthly Rate
mm	inches	
25	1	\$4.67
38	1.5	\$10.74
50	2	\$18.68
75	3	\$42.02
100	4	\$74.70
150	6	\$168.08
200	8	\$298.81
250	10	\$298.81
300	12	\$298.81

- (k) That the 2024 Water, Wastewater and Storm Proposed User Fees and Charges be imposed as per Appendix "G" to Report FCS23100, effective January 1, 2024;
- (l) That the 2024 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Operating Budget in the amount of \$303,338,939 be approved as per Appendix "A" to Report FCS23100;
- (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 2024 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Operating Budget forecast 2025-2033 (Appendix "A" to Report FCS23100) be approved, in principle;
- (n) That the 2024 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Capital Budget and Financing Plan in the amount of \$285,872,000 be approved as per Appendices "K", "N", "Q" and "S" to Report FCS23100;
- (o) That the 2025-2033 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Capital Budget forecast and financing plan (Appendix "I" to Report FCS23100) be approved, in principle;
- (p) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare, for Council approval, all necessary by-laws respecting the 2024 water and wastewater / storm user fees, charges and rates set out in Recommendations (a) through (k) of Report FCS23100;
- (q) That the 2024 Rate Supported Staffing Summary, inclusive of the proposed Business Cases, be approved as per Appendix "F" to Report FCS23100;
- (r) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized and directed to negotiate and confirm the terms for the 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 \$70,439,684 Canadian currency as attached in Appendices "K", "N" and "Q" to Report FCS23100, which includes \$39,869,133 in Rate Supported municipal debt and \$30,570,551 Rate Supported Development Charges municipal debt;
- (s) (i) 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

Recommendations (r) and (t) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel and fiscal agents;

- (ii) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, is authorized and directed, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, to enter into and / or execute, all agreements and necessary ancillary documents to secure the terms and issuance of the debenture issue(s) described in Recommendations (r) and (s) and conditional upon the by-law being enacted as described in Recommendation (t) to Report FCS23100, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (t) That staff be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary By-Law(s), for Council's consideration, for the purpose of authorizing debenture issue(s) described in Recommendation (r) to Report FCS23100;
- (u) That the City of Hamilton appeal to the Provincial Government of Ontario and the Federal Government of Canada for financial assistance in addressing the infrastructure deficit in the water, wastewater and storm programs; and,
- (v) *That staff be directed confirm and differentiate between the component of the rate budget increase is due to provincially mandated regulations (both through Bill 23 exemptions and statutory exemptions) and City initiated rate increases due to operating and capital increases and reflect these two components on individual line items on both the rate budget bill and accompanying communications materials.*

**Result: Main MOTION, As Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
Absent	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora



Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

**CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF ITEMS**

- (i) Item 11.1, respecting Report HUR23017, Ward Office Staffing Review, is to be moved up on the agenda and considered immediately following approval of the previous minutes to accommodate the external consultants.
- (ii) Item 7.1, respecting Report FCS18083(d), Councillor Ward Office Budgets and Policy Guidelines for Eligible Expenses for Elected Officials, is to be considered immediately following the consideration of Item 11.1, respecting Report HUR23017, Ward Office Staffing Review, as the two items are related.

**(Hwang/Kroetsch)**

That the agenda for the November 27, 2023 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, be approved, as amended.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

**(i) November 21, 2023 (Item 3.1)**

**(Horwath/Kroetsch)**

That the minutes of the November 21, 2023, General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting be approved, as presented.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**(d) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL (Item 14)**

**(i) (Kroetsch/Hwang)**

That Tammy Elliott and Andrea Friesen, Mungall Consulting Group, be permitted to attend the Closed Session portion of the meeting respecting Item 11.1, Report HUR23017, Ward Office Staffing Review.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis

Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8	Councillor J. P. Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

**(ii) (Cassar/Francis)**

That Committee move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-sections (b) and (d) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (b) and (d) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City or local board employees; and labour relations or employee negotiations.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
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Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**(iii) Ward Office Staffing Review (HUR23017) (City Wide) (Item 11.1)**

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 1.

**(iv) Recess**

**(Kroetsch/Tadeson)**

That the General Issues Committee recess for 30 minutes until 1:30 p.m.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
Absent	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**(e) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 6)**

**(i) 2024 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Budget (FCS23100) (City Wide) (Item 6.1)**

**(i) (Kroetsch/A. Wilson)**

- (a) That the metered water consumption charges for average residential properties (meters < 25mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Monthly Water Consumption (m3)	Rate (\$/m3)
0 – 10	1.07
> 10	2.13

- (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 \$2.13 per cubic metre, effective January 1, 2024;
- (c) That daily water fixed charges for all properties in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Meter Size	Daily Water Rate
15 mm	\$0.48
16 mm	\$0.48
20 mm	\$0.48
21 mm	\$0.48
25 mm	\$1.20
38 mm	\$2.40
50 mm	\$3.84
75 mm	\$7.68
100 mm	\$12.00
150 mm	\$24.00
200 mm	\$38.40
250 mm	\$55.20
300 mm	\$81.60

- (d) That the wastewater / storm treatment charges for average residential properties (meters < 25mm in size) in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Monthly Water Consumption (m3)	Rate (\$/m3)
0 – 10	1.08
> 10	2.15

- (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 \$2.15 per cubic metre, effective January 1, 2024;
- (f) That daily wastewater / storm fixed charges for all properties in the City of Hamilton be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Meter Size	Daily Wastewater / Storm Rate
15 mm	\$0.52
16 mm	\$0.52
20 mm	\$0.52
21 mm	\$0.52

25 mm	\$1.30
38 mm	\$2.60
50 mm	\$4.16
75 mm	\$8.32
100 mm	\$13.00
150 mm	\$26.00
200 mm	\$41.60
250 mm	\$59.80
300 mm	\$88.40

- (g) That the residential non-metered annual water rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$777.45 per annum, effective January 1, 2024;
- (h) That the residential non-metered annual wastewater / storm rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$784.75 per annum, effective January 1, 2024;
- (i) That the residential combined non-metered annual water and wastewater / storm rate be imposed at the flat rate of \$1,562.20 per annum, effective January 1, 2024;
- (j) That the Private Fire Line rates be imposed at the following rates, effective January 1, 2024:

Connection Size		Monthly Rate
mm	inches	
25	1	\$4.67
38	1.5	\$10.74
50	2	\$18.68
75	3	\$42.02
100	4	\$74.70
150	6	\$168.08
200	8	\$298.81
250	10	\$298.81
300	12	\$298.81

- (k) That the 2024 Water, Wastewater and Storm Proposed User Fees and Charges be imposed as per Appendix "G" to Report FCS23100, effective January 1, 2024;

- (l) That the 2024 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Operating Budget in the amount of \$303,338,939 be approved as per Appendix "A" to Report FCS23100;
- (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 2024 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Operating Budget forecast 2025-2033 (Appendix "A" to Report FCS23100) be approved, in principle;
- (n) That the 2024 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Capital Budget and Financing Plan in the amount of \$285,872,000 be approved as per Appendices "K", "N", "Q" and "S" to Report FCS23100;
- (o) That the 2025-2033 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Capital Budget forecast and financing plan (Appendix "I" to Report FCS23100) be approved, in principle;
- (p) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare, for Council approval, all necessary by-laws respecting the 2024 water and wastewater / storm user fees, charges and rates set out in Recommendations (a) through (k) of Report FCS23100;
- (q) That the 2024 Rate Supported Staffing Summary, inclusive of the proposed Business Cases, be approved as per Appendix "F" to Report FCS23100;
- (r) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized and directed to negotiate and confirm the terms for the 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 \$70,439,684 Canadian currency as attached in Appendices "K", "N" and "Q" to Report FCS23100, which includes \$39,869,133 in Rate Supported municipal debt and \$30,570,551 Rate Supported Development Charges municipal debt;
- (s) (i) 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 Recommendations (r) and (t) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel and fiscal agents;

- (ii) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, is authorized and directed, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, to enter into and / or execute, all agreements and necessary ancillary documents to secure the terms and issuance of the debenture issue(s) described in Recommendations (r) and (s) and conditional upon the by-law being enacted as described in Recommendation (t) to Report FCS23100, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (t) That staff be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary By-Law(s), for Council's consideration, for the purpose of authorizing debenture issue(s) described in Recommendation (r) to Report FCS23100;
- (u) That the City of Hamilton appeal to the Provincial Government of Ontario and the Federal Government of Canada for financial assistance in addressing the infrastructure deficit in the water, wastewater and storm programs.
- (ii) **(Danko/Cassar)**  
That Report FCS23100, respecting 2024 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Budget, **be amended**, by adding an additional sub-section (v), as follows:
  - (v) ***That staff be directed confirm and differentiate between the component of the rate budget increase is due to provincially mandated regulations (both through Bill 23 exemptions and statutory exemptions) and City initiated rate increases due to operating and capital increases and reflect these two components on individual line items on both the rate budget bill and accompanying communications materials.***

**Result: AMENDMENT, CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

Yes - Mayor Andrea Horwath  
Absent - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson



**General Issues Committee (Budget)  
Minutes 23-032(a)**

**November 27, 2023  
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Yes	-	Ward 2	Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4	Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5	Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8	Councillor J. P. Danko
Absent	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 3.

**(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

**(Tadeson/Pauls)**

That there being no further business, the General Issues Committee (Budget) be adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

**Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:**

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
Absent	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

Respectfully submitted,

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Councillor John-Paul Danko  
Chair, General Issues Committee (Budget)

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Angela McRae  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Letter to Council re: 2024 budget

From: Joshua Weresch  
Sent: November 20, 2023 3:41 PM  
To: clerk@hamilton.ca  
Subject: Letter to Council re: 2024 budget

Dear Clerk,

Hope this finds you well.

Below, please find a letter to Council regarding the 2023-4 rate-supported and tax-operating budgets. Thank you for your time and attention in these regards.

Kindly,

Joshua Weresch

To the mayor and councilors of Hamilton, Ontario:

Hope this finds you well. I write as a life-long resident in Hamilton, regarding the budgets to be considered and passed later this and early next year. I am encouraged to read of Council's endorsed priorities between last year and 2026, priorities for sustainable economic and ecological development, safe and thriving neighbourhoods, and responsiveness and transparency (see <https://www.hamilton.ca/city-council/council-committee/2022-2026-council-priorities-outcomes-measures-success>).

An outcome for sustainable economic development is the reduction of the burden on residential taxpayers and as a resident in the city it is a reduction I am hopeful to see reflected on property tax bills. While the reduction of storm-water fees for residences whose storm-water foot-print is reduced by the use of rain barrels and de-paving and the use of permeable surfaces is one I hope to see reflected in the budget, as well as an equalization of the tax burden between other sectors be they institutional or commercial, and an end to the subsidy of single-family dwellings by multi-residential units whose taxes are almost three times as high, I am most deeply concerned with the percentage of each tax dollar that is directed toward policing services. It is the largest budget item in the 2023 budget, \$717 of \$4784 dollars, \$0.14 of every tax dollar. The other outcomes in sustainable development can handily be addressed as more money is diverted from policing services toward an accelerated response to climate change, further investments in public transit and a reduction in GHG emissions by lowering the use of private transit, the protection of green spaces and waterways by planting more trees, and the growth of key sectors in the city by enhancing the city's reputation as it lurches toward flourishing.

Safe and thriving neighbourhoods can also be garnered by the immediate expropriation of any and all available housing for people in need on a temporary, emergency basis. Under the province's Expropriations Act s. 5(1)(a), the council of the municipality is legally authorized to expropriate land for municipal purposes and I can think of no better way to increase supportive housing and reduce chronic homelessness, short of petitioning the province to increase welfare and disability-support payment rates and to tie further increases to the cost of living in a given municipality. The safe and

efficient movement of people can again be had by a continued investment in public transit and the re-direction of 90% of the provincial gasoline tax revenue into public transit and not into road maintenance, roads which are already \$100,000,000 behind in repairs. Increasing public transit supports will lead inexorably to the support, growth, and use of public space.

Responsiveness and transparency can be helped by the clear, safe, and dignified organization of city-run town halls. As the recent town halls on the tiny shelters have demonstrated, it remains important for the city's staff and councillors to talk with and to neighbours about placement and care for all neighbours. Establishing a network of neighbourhood associations which can meaningfully engage both with neighbours and with councillors, sharing information openly and democratically so that those who are most impacted by decisions have the most say over how those decisions happen are ways that such transparency can be had. As trust improves in institutions, as councillors are shown to be reflective of all residents' concerns in a ward, this priority, too, can be met.

I hope that the budget passed by Council with community input, direction, and over-sight is a budget that reflects the lived experiences and concerns of many residents in the city, particularly those who are poorest and have the most deeply-felt and lived concerns of all.

Respectfully,

Joshua Weresch

**From:** Elizabeth  
**Sent:** November 28, 2023 10:01 AM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Cc:** Francis, Matt <[Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca](mailto:Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** property tax

To whom it may concern,

My name is Elizabeth Aquila, I am a retired Registered Nurse who was born, raised, schooled and worked in Hamilton and I am writing to express my outrage regarding the proposed reality tax increase of 14.2 % in this city

Hamilton reality taxes have consistently and chronically been scandalously higher compared to other municipalities and neighboring cities even though our property values have been lower, in comparison.

There are countless hard working individual and families already struggling to keep up with the cost of living, how can they continue to be stressed with continued high tax hikes? Many are already unable to pay these high taxes how can you expect more, especially for those on fixed incomes, unless forced to abandon their homes and add to the homeless (already placed in public hotels and other facilities). I think the spending in this city is unreasonable and not well prioritized.

I do not think, as many agree, that the bike lane project enquires to be expedited at outrages costs.

I also do not agree or fair that counselors/city staff decide where my tax dollars should go regarding charities. I have my own personal charities that I prefer to contribute to. In fact with continued financial strain the city is forcing on citizens is adding to the limits of what I can contribute to the charities of my choosing!

Climate initiative cost of up to 2.5 million is certainly unreasonable. Do counselor and other city staff bike to work or do they take public transportation or car pool?

I also think, as many agree, that six digit incomes are absurd. Perhaps these numbers can be re evaluated and funds distributed appropriately where needed.

I suspect that the counselors who voted in favour of the proposed property taxes increase do not live in our city of Hamilton.

I am frustrated and tired of the poor management of this city and employ you to look long and hard with intelligence and unbiased at the decisions you are making and how these decisions impact on individual lives in this city.

Thank you for reading

Regards

Elizabeth Aquila

**From:** Bob Hooshley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2024 8:05 PM  
**To:** McRae, Angela <[Angela.McRae@hamilton.ca](mailto:Angela.McRae@hamilton.ca)>  
**Subject:** 2024 budget - waste collection costs

Hamilton is behind the times regarding residential waste collection.

I've recently moved to Waterdown from Peel Region and realize how inefficient and excessively costly Hamilton's collection routine is. Hamilton's tax rates are significantly higher than Peel Region's so ways to reduce Hamilton taxes must be pursued.

Many municipalities have moved to larger wheeled collection bins which allow bi-weekly pickup which saves collection time, fuel and fleet maintenance, resulting in lower costs and less diesel truck exhaust pollution. Waste and recycling are picked up on alternate weeks, as opposed to both every week in Hamilton. Reducing pickup frequency also encourages residents to produce less waste and recycling as it becomes more top of mind as they manage it for 2 weeks versus 1 week.

Hamilton must modernize its waste collection system to save taxpayers' money and reduce toxic diesel pollution at the same time.

Thank you in advance for having this matter reviewed during the current budget discussions.

Robert Hooshley,  
Waterdown

Submitted on Wed, 11/08/2023 - 11:05

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

**Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Carol Andrews

Preferred Pronoun  
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request  
Policing in Hamilton and the request for more funding.city of Hamilton by laws not being enforced or followed up on

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
Yes

Submitted on Tue, 11/07/2023 - 15:30

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee Budget

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

**Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Mr. Bryan Kenneth Dittrich

Preferred Pronoun  
he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request  
Issue of living wage of \$20+ in Hamilton vs. \$9.37 for ODSP recipients ( re: tent & future tent people)

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
No



Submitted on Wed, 12/06/2023 - 17:11

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

### **Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

### **Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Jovan Popovic, President & Abigail Samuels, Vice-President (Education)  
McMaster Students Union  
McMaster Students Union 1280 Main St. W.  
MUSC room 201  
Hamilton, ON. L8S4S4  
[president@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:president@msu.mcmaster.ca)  
905-525-9140

Preferred Pronoun  
he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request  
To delegate before GIC on January 16, 2024 regarding the 2024 City budget process.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
Yes

Submitted on Fri, 12/22/2023 - 11:29

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

**Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Anthony Marco  
Hamilton and District Labour Council

Preferred Pronoun  
he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request  
Regarding the Hamilton and District Labour Council's Care Fare proposal for public transit in the City of Hamilton as it pertains to the 2024 Budget.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
No

Submitted on Mon, 01/08/2024 - 11:57

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

### **Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

### **Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Michelle Diplock  
West End Home Builders' Association  
1112 Rymal Road E  
Hamilton, ON. L8W 3N7  
[michelle@westendhba.ca](mailto:michelle@westendhba.ca)

Preferred Pronoun  
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request  
To speak to the positive impacts new home construction & development has to the City's overall property tax base.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
Yes

Submitted on Mon, 01/08/2024 - 14:24

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

**Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Kayla Leet

Preferred Pronoun  
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request  
To delegate to the General Issues Committee on January 16th with regard to the public budget delegation process.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
No

Submitted on Mon, 01/08/2024 - 15:19

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

**Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Sahra Soudi

Preferred Pronoun  
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request  
Regarding the 2024 budget.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
No

Submitted on Tue, 01/09/2024 - 15:05

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Committee Requested**

Committee  
General Issues Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
Virtually

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

**Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Stewart Klazinga  
ACORN Hamilton

Preferred Pronoun  
he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request  
Speak on public delegation day for the 2024 budget

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
No