



**General Issues Committee
MINUTES (BUDGET DELIBERATIONS)**

9:30 a.m.

Friday, February 24, 2012

Council Chambers

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

-
- Present:** Deputy Mayor T. Whitehead (Chair)
Councillors B. Clark, C. Collins, S. Duvall, J. Farr,
L. Ferguson, B. McHattie, S. Merulla, T. Jackson, B. Johnson,
J. Partridge, R. Pasuta, M. Pearson
- Absent with Regrets:** Mayor R. Bratina – City Business
Councillors B. Morelli, R. Powers – City Business
- Also Present:** C. Murray, City Manager
R. Rossini, General Manager, Finance and Corporate
Services
G. Davis, General Manager, Public Works
T. McCabe, General Manager, Planning & Economic
Development
J. A. Priel, General Manager, Community Services
Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health
P. Barkwell, City Solicitor
C. Biggs, Legislative Co-ordinator

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Clerk advised of the following change:

- (i) Appendix “A” to Report FCS12013 respecting 2012 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Boards and Agencies (omitted from printing of the agenda) (Item 5.2)

ADDED NOTICE OF MOTION

- (ii) Hamilton Conservation Authority Surcharge (Added Item 7.1)

(Partridge/Pasuta)

That the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Pearson/Johnson)

That the following Minutes of the General Issues Committee be approved, as presented:

- (a) January 24, 2012
- (b) January 30, 2012
- (c) February 2, 2012
- (d) February 3, 2012
- (e) February 7, 2012
- (f) February 9, 2012

CARRIED

4. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

4.1 2012 Tax-Supported Operating Budget Update

Rob Rossini provided a power point presentation with an update on the status of the 2012 Tax-Supported Operating Budget, including:

- Tax impact on average home – January 24
- Recommended budget amendments
- Significant mitigation since original Outlook (September 11)
- 2012 Updated Budget – Tax impact on average home
- 2012 Updated Budget by Department
- 2012 Average municipal tax impacts
- 2011 Council-referred Enhancements (Appendix “B” to FCS12014)
- 2011 Requested Enhancements (Appendix “C” to FCS12014)
- Potential offset
- Reducing the tax impact
- 2012 additional information
- process dates
- Summary

(Collins/Merulla)

That staff be directed to investigate and present some options with respect to early retirement packages, looking at all eligible positions and report back to the General Issues Committee.

CARRIED

(Clark/Farr)

That staff be directed to review the 2012 upload notice to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund and address the variances with the City's numbers, and respond as to why the Ontario Works Benefits component is almost half of what the administration component is. **CARRIED**

(Pearson/Johnson)

That the staff presentation with respect to the 2012 Tax-Supported Operating Budget Update, be received. **CARRIED**

4.2 Other Programs

Rob Rossini provided a power point presentation on the Corporate Financials/Non-Program Revenues, which are areas that do not fall within a specific operating department and includes non-program expense and revenue items such as corporate contingencies, gapping, Ontario Municipal Provincial Funding and special grant revenue, property tax-related revenues and provisions, Horizon Utilities Corporation dividend and Provincial Offences Act, investment revenues, etc. The presentation also included:

- Corporate Financials – Operating Expenditures
- Operating Details – corporate financials – operating; 2012 contingency provision; retiree benefits
- Operating Impact-approved Capital projects
- Insurance
- Non-program Revenues – 2012 net operating budget by Division; 2012 major cost drivers; historical trends

(Jackson/Johnson)

That the issue of the Seniors' Tax Credit offered by the City, and its current eligibility requirements, be brought forward in a report to a future General Issues Committee meeting in 2012 for discussion and review.

CARRIED

(Pasuta/Partridge)

That the Committee recess and reconvene at 12:45 p.m.

CARRIED

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Volunteer Committee 2012 Budget Requests

**(a) 2012 Budget Requests – Volunteer Advisory Committees
(FCS11101) (City Wide) (Item 5.1.1(a) to (f))**

(Clark/Merulla)

That the Volunteer Advisory Committee 2012 base budget submissions for the following Volunteer Advisory Committees, be approved:

- (i) Advisory Committee on Immigrants and Refugees in the amount of \$3,500
- (ii) Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Advisory Committee in the amount of \$3,890;
- (iii) Aboriginal Advisory Committee in the amount of \$3,500;
- (iv) Hamilton Mundialization Committee in the amount of \$5,890;
- (v) Status of Women Committee in the amount of \$3,500;
- (vi) Committee Against Racism in the amount of \$3,890

CARRIED

**(b) Hamilton Cycling Committee (PW11089) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.2(a))**

(McHattie/Farr)

- (i) That the Hamilton Cycling Committee's 2012 Volunteer Committee Budget in the amount of \$8,000 be approved;
- (ii) That the use of \$6,000 from the Hamilton Cycling Committee Reserve to offset the additional Hamilton Cycling Committee 2012 budget request, be approved.

CARRIED as amended

(Duvall/Jackson)

That the additional budget request of \$7,000 be reduced to \$6,000.

Amendment CARRIED

**(c) Clean City Liaison Committee (PW11090) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.2(b))**

(McHattie/Farr)

That the Clean City Liaison Committee's 2012 base budget submission in the amount of \$18,250 be approved. **CARRIED**

(d) Tenant Advisory Committee (CS11088) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.3(a))

(McHattie/Farr)

That the Tenant Advisory Committee's 2012 base budget submission in the amount of \$1000 be approved. **CARRIED**

(e) Arts Advisory Commission (CS11090) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.3(b))

(McHattie/Farr)

(i) That the Arts Advisory Committee's base budget submission in the amount of \$9,000 be approved;

(ii) That in addition to the base funding, that a one-time budget allocation for 2012 of \$7500, funded by the Arts Advisory Committee Reserve, be approved. **CARRIED**

(f) Hamilton Veterans Committee (CS11091) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.3(c))

(McHattie/Farr)

(i) That the Hamilton Veterans' Committee 2012 base budget submission in the amount of \$11,590 be approved;

(ii) That in addition to the base funding, that a one-time budget allocation for 2012 of \$1,410, funded by an increase to the 2012 tax levy, be approved. **CARRIED**

(g) Hamilton Historical Board (CS11092) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.3(d))

(McHattie/Farr)

(i) That the Hamilton Historical Board's 2012 Volunteer Committee Budget submission in the amount of \$14,340 be approved;

(ii) That in addition to the base funding, that a one-time funding from the Volunteer Committee Reserve in the amount of \$2,370 be approved. **CARRIED**

(h) Seniors Advisory Committee (CS11102) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.3(e))

(McHattie/Farr)

That the Seniors Advisory Committee's 2012 base budget submission in the amount of \$1,500 be approved. **CARRIED**

(i) **Food and Shelter Advisory Committee (CS11089) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.4(a))**

(Jackson/Pearson)

That the Food and Shelter Advisory Committee's 2012 base budget submission in the amount of \$500 be approved. **CARRIED**

(j) **Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee (HYAC) (CS11099) (City Wide)
(Item 5.1.4(b))**

(Jackson/Pearson)

(i) That the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee's 2012 base budget submission in the amount of \$3,890 be approved;

(ii) That in addition to the base funding, that a one-time budget allocation of \$2,500 funded by the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Reserve be approved. **CARRIED**

6.2 Removal of Parking Meters in Downtown Stoney Creek and Downtown Waterdown

(Clark/Partridge)

Whereas the parking meters in Downtown Stoney Creek and Downtown Waterdown were installed primarily to generate revenue, and

Whereas the parking meters in Downtown Stoney Creek and Downtown Waterdown have financially underperformed since being installed on July 1, 2010, and

Whereas the actual annual revenues are only approximately \$53,000 combined for the parking meters in Downtown Stoney Creek and Downtown Waterdown.

Therefore be it resolved:

- (a) That the on-street parking meters in Downtown Stoney Creek and Downtown Waterdown be removed and that staff be directed to prepare a by-law amendment to restore the previous on-street parking regulations; and
- (b) That the revenue shortfall in the operating budget be dealt with during the 2012 budget process.

The Motion **CARRIED** on the following recorded vote:

Yeas: Clark, Pearson, Johnson, Ferguson, Partridge, Pasuta,
Jackson, Collins, Merulla, McHattie
Total Yeas: 10
Nays: Duvall, Whitehead
Total Nays: 2
Absent: Bratina, Powers, Morelli, Farr
Total Absent: 4

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

7.1 Councillor B. McHattie introduced the following Notice of Motion:

Hamilton Conservation Authority Surcharge

Whereas, the 2012 Rate Supported Budget is fully funded and is a self supported budget outside of the Tax Supported Budget process;

Whereas, the HCA has identified a 2012 budget pressure of \$40,000 in relation to the cost of wastewater charges specific to the operation of the Wave pool;

Whereas, the 2012 Rate Supported Budget did not assume the \$40,000 surcharge revenue against the HCA;

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute a Surcharge Agreement between the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Conservation Authority with respect to the wastewater services at the Wild Waterworks Wave pool, effective January 1, 2013, in form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

(McHattie/Johnson)

That the rules of order be waived in order to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting Hamilton Conservation Authority Surcharge.

CARRIED

Hamilton Conservation Authority Surcharge

(McHattie/Johnson)

Whereas, the 2012 Rate Supported Budget is fully funded and is a self supported budget outside of the Tax Supported Budget process;

Whereas, the HCA has identified a 2012 budget pressure of \$40,000 in relation to the cost of wastewater charges specific to the operation of the Wave pool;

Whereas, the 2012 Rate Supported Budget did not assume the \$40,000 surcharge revenue against the HCA;

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute a Surcharge Agreement between the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Conservation Authority with respect to the wastewater services at the Wild Waterworks Wave pool, effective January 1, 2013, in form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

5.2 2012 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Boards and Agencies (FCS12013) (City Wide)

(Clark/Jackson)

That the 2012 net operating levy of \$183,399,131 for Board and Agencies be approved as per Appendix “A” to FCS12013.

Councillors B. Clark, L. Ferguson and T. Whitehead indicated that they wished to be recorded opposed to the budget of \$179,658 to Conservation Halton.

Yeas: Pearson, Johnson, Partridge, Pasuta, Duvall, Jackson, Collins, Merulla, Farr, McHattie
Total Yeas: 10
Nays: Clark, Ferguson, Whitehead (opposed to the Conservation Halton budget in the amount of \$179,658)
Total Nays: 3
Absent: Powers, Bratina, Morelli
Total Absent: 3

(Ferguson/Johnson)

That Conservation Halton be requested to reconsider their 5.3% increase to the Hamilton Assessment.

The Motion **CARRIED** on the following recorded vote:

Yeas: Clark, Pearson, Johnson, Ferguson, Whitehead, Duvall, Jackson, Collins, Merulla, Farr
Total Yeas: 10
Nays: McHattie, Pasuta, Partridge
Total Nays: 3
Absent: Bratina, Morelli, Powers
Total Absent: 3

**5.3 2012 Tax-Supported Operating Budget – Recommendations
(FCS12014) (City Wide)**

This item was deferred to a future budget deliberations meeting.

6. MOTIONS

6.1 2012 Budget Deliberations – Full-Time Equivalent
(Introduced as Notice of Motion on February 7, 2012)

Withdrawn.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

None

8. ADJOURNMENT

(Ferguson/Johnson)

There being no further business, the Committee recessed at 2:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

Councillor T. Whitehead
Deputy Mayor

Carolyn Biggs, Co-ordinator
Committee Services/Council/Budgets
February 24, 2012