



EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

1:30 p.m.
Monday, May 25, 2015
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present: Councillor T. Whitehead, Chair
Councillor M. Green, Vice-Chair
Councillors A. Johnson, S. Merulla, T. Jackson, J. Partridge and S. Duvall

Regrets: Councillor J. Farr

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL:

1. 2015 Budget Submission - Seniors Advisory Committee (FSC15033(b)) (City Wide) (Item 5.4)

(Jackson/Partridge)

That the Report FSC15033(b) respecting the 2015 Budget Submission – Seniors Advisory Committee, be received.

CARRIED

2. Establishment of a Revolving Loan Fund Reserve Account for the Ontario Renovates Program (CES15019) (City Wide) (Item 5.5)

(Jackson/Green)

- (a) That a Revolving Loan Fund Reserve Account for the Ontario Renovates Program be established in accordance with the Investment in Affordable Housing Extension Administration Agreement dated November 21, 2014 between the Province of Ontario and the City of Hamilton; and,
- (b) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services or her designate be authorized to approve funding for eligible applicants from the Revolving Loan Fund Reserve Account for the Ontario Renovates Program.

- (c) *That staff be directed to report back respecting the statistics associated with waiting lists, the eligibility criteria for the allocation of funding, allocation of funds for 2014 and information on comparable programs to Ontario Renovates at a future meeting.*

**AMENDMENT CARRIED
MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED
CARRIED**

3. **Social Housing Capital Reserve Fund - CityHousing Hamilton - 405 York Boulevard (CES15022) (City Wide) (Item 5.6)**

(Green/Duvall)

That the General Manager of the Community & Emergency Services Department be authorized and directed to fund CityHousing Hamilton up to a total of \$83,000 for the creation of six accessible units at 405 York Boulevard from the Social Housing Capital Reserve Fund (#112248).

CARRIED

4. **Neighbourhood Action Strategy Small Grants Funding (CES15024) (Wards 2 and 8) (Item 5.7)**

(Green/Partridge)

That a maximum of \$16,500 annually be funded to the Hamilton Community Foundation from the Neighbourhood Action Fund (project #2051255204) to align with their Neighbourhood Small Grants program to support resident-led activities in the Beasley, Stinson and Rolston neighbourhoods.

CARRIED

5. **Community Heat Response Plan (CES15028) (City Wide) (Item 5.8)**

(Green/Duvall)

That the Report CES15028 respecting the Community Heat Response Plan, be received.

CARRIED

6. **McQuesten Urban Farm Design and Construction (CES15023) (Ward 4) (Item 7.1)**

(Merulla/Partridge)

- (a) That a competitive procurement process be undertaken in accordance with the City's Procurement Policy 13-317 for the provision of construction services for the McQuesten Urban Farm Project, including site preparation, surfacing, tree planting, structures, water servicing and the installation of entrance features;

- (b) That the project identified in subsection (a) be funded from the Neighbourhood Action Strategy (Project # 2051255204) at an estimated cost of \$350,000; and,
- (c) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services be authorized and directed to take all necessary steps and execute any agreements or documents, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and with content acceptable to the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services, in order to give effect to and implement subsection (a) above.

CARRIED

**7. Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women
(CS13051(b)) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

(Merulla/Duvall)

- (a) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services be authorized and directed to extend the service agreement with Good Shepherd Mary's Place for 10 temporary emergency shelter beds for single women experiencing homelessness from June 1, 2015 to November 28, 2015 at a cost of \$76,075 to be funded from the 100% provincially funded Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative;
- (b) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services be authorized and directed to enter into a service agreement with Good Shepherd Mary's Place for five permanent emergency shelter beds at an annualized cost of \$76,075 effective November 29, 2015 to be funded from the 100% provincially funded Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative;
- (c) That staff be directed to conduct a Call for Applications for an agency to provide 15 temporary emergency shelter beds for single women experiencing homelessness from November 29, 2015 to December 31, 2016 to be funded from the 100% Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative and the Delivering Opportunities for Ontario Renters Reserve (Account #112239);
- (d) That staff be directed to conduct a Call for Applications for an agency to provide five mobile case managers to assist women who are staying in emergency shelter beds to access and maintain permanent housing from November 30, 2015 to December 31, 2016 to be funded from the Delivering Opportunities for Ontario Renters Reserve (Account #112239); and,
- (e) That the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write to the CEO of the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network and the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to request that they fund a

Withdrawal Support Program for single women experiencing homelessness.

CARRIED

**8. Purchase of New Stretchers and Loading Systems (CS15026) (City Wide)
(Item 8.2)**

(Jackson/Green)

- (a) That the Stryker Power Cot/Power Load system be designated a “Standard” system pursuant to Procurement Policy #14 – Standardization, with this designation being subject to review at the end of the expected service life of the system (7 years);
- (b) That staff be authorized to negotiate a contract on a single-source basis with Rowland Emergency Vehicle Products Inc. for the purchase, installation and certification of Stryker power-assisted stretchers/accessories and stretcher loading systems to be installed in all current transport ambulances at an estimated cost of \$1,593,661 to be funded as follows;
 - (i) From existing capital project 7641451401-Stretcher Replacement Program in the amount of \$180,670; and
 - (ii) From borrowings from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020 in the amount of \$1,412,991; and
- (c) That the reserve borrowings be repaid to the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020 from savings resulting from WSIB cost reductions and from Modified Duty/Duty to Accommodate cost reductions over a term of 6 years at the effective interest rate at the time of borrowing.

CARRIED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Clerk indicated there were 3 changes to the agenda:

- (i) Item 6.1 – Delegation from Joseph DiFrancesco, respecting Suicide Awareness would be deferred to a future meeting due to illness.
- (ii) Added as Item 4.3 - Medora Uppal, Women’s Housing and Planning Collaborative (WHPC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton (for today’s meeting)

- (iii) Added as Item 4.4 - Deirdre Pike and Sara Mayo, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (SPRC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton (for today's meeting)

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

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

(i) April 13, 2015 (Item 3.1)

(Duvall/Green)

That the Minutes of the April 13, 2015 meeting be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)

(i) Request from Alfredine Plourde Protecting Canadian Children, respecting the protection of children while in foster care (for a future meeting) (Item 4.1)

(Duvall/Green)

That the delegation request from Alfredine Plourde, Protecting Canadian Children, respecting the protection of children while in foster care be approved, for a future meeting.

CARRIED

(ii) Request from Robert Manley, respecting accountability and transparency of Access to Housing (Item 4.2)

(Green/A. Johnson)

That the delegation request from Robert Manley, respecting accountability and transparency of Access to Housing be approved, for today's meeting.

CARRIED

(iii) Request from Medora Uppal, Women's Housing and Planning Collaborative (WHPC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton (Added as Item 4.3)

(Duvall/A. Johnson)

That the delegation request from Medora Uppal, Women's Housing and Planning Collaborative (WHPC), respecting Pressure at Emergency

Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton be approved, for today's meeting.

CARRIED

- (iv) Request from Deirdre Pike and Sara Mayo, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (SPRC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton (Added as Item 4.4)**

(Duvall/A. Johnson)

That the delegation request from Deirdre Pike and Sara Mayo, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (SPRC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton be approved, for today's meeting.

CARRIED

(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)

- (i) Correspondence from Dr. John Beard, Director, Department of Ageing and Life Course, World Health Organization (WHO), respecting the City of Hamilton's induction as a member of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC) (Item 5.1)**

(Jackson/Green)

That the correspondence from Dr. John Beard, Director, Department of Ageing and Life Course, World Health Organization (WHO), respecting the City of Hamilton's induction as a member of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities (GNAFCC), be received.

CARRIED

- (ii) Minutes of the Tenant Advisory Committee (Item 5.2)**

(A. Johnson/Partridge)

That the March 12, 2015 and April 9, 2015 Minutes of the Tenant Advisory Committee, be received.

CARRIED

- (iii) Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee (Item 5.3)**

(Jackson/Green)

That the March 6, 2015 and April 10, 2015 Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee, be received.

CARRIED

(iv) Establishment of a Revolving Loan Fund Reserve Account for the Ontario Renovates Program (CES15019) (City Wide) (Item 5.5)

The following subsection (c) was added to the recommendations of Report CES 15019:

- (c) *That staff be directed to report back respecting the statistics associated with waiting lists, the eligibility criteria for the allocation of funding, allocation of funds for 2014 and information on comparable programs to Ontario Renovates at a future meeting.***

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

(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Delegation from Joseph DiFrancesco, respecting Suicide Awareness (Item 6.1)

This item was deferred to a future meeting, as the delegate was ill and could not attend.

(ii) Delegation from Robert Manley, respecting accountability and transparency of Access to Housing (Added as Item 6.2)

Mr. Robert Manley addressed the Committee respecting accountability and transparency of Access to Housing, with the aid of written notes. A copy of those notes has been retained for the official record.

Mr. Manley's presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Due to a disability, had to retire early and has struggled to find permanent housing;
- Defined as homeless as he lives in transitional housing via Transition to Homes (T2H);
- There are many ongoing issues with T2H, but expressed gratitude for the support provided to him;
- A year following making an application to Access to Housing, it was discovered that his paperwork was lost through no fault of his own;
- He met with all parties and filed a grievance with his alderman respecting Access to Housing procedures;
- After two years of waiting, multiple unsuccessful meetings and filing for a grievance, he wanted to bring these issues before the committee for their knowledge; and
- Would like to see more accountability and transparency in the Access to Housing process moving forward

(Green/A. Johnson)

That the delegation from Robert Manley, respecting accountability and transparency of Access to Housing, be received.

CARRIED

(iii) Delegation from Medora Uppal, Women's Housing and Planning Collaborative (WHPC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton (Added as Item 6.3)

Ms. Medora Uppal, Women's Housing and Planning Collaborative (WHPC), addressed the committee respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton.

Ms. Uppal's comments include, but were not limited to, the following:

- Noted that the closing of certain shelters, including Honouring the Circle, will be detrimental for women in shelters;
- Indicated that not only is housing important, but the services shelters provide are invaluable as well;
- In support of the report being brought forward to the committee today and the support it provides therein;

(Green/A. Johnson)

That the delegation from Medora Uppal, Women's Housing and Planning Collaborative (WHPC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton, be received.

CARRIED

(iv) Request from Deirdre Pike and Sara Mayo, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (SPRC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton (Added as Item 6.4)

Ms. Deirdre Pike and Ms. Sara Mayo, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (SPRC), addressed the committee respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been retained for the official record.

Ms. Pike and Ms. Mayo's comments include, but were not limited to, the following:

- A key aspect of the pressure on emergency shelters in the city is the rising cost of rent and the reduced availability of affordable housing;
- The average wait time for many shelters is approximately one year, and many women are turned away every night which can lead to increasingly dangerous situations for those individuals;

- Made a series of short, medium and long term recommendations to the committee concerning this subject; and
- In support of the recommendations being brought forward today and would like to see continued and increased support moving forward.

(Green/A. Johnson)

That the delegation from Deirdre Pike and Sara Mayo, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (SPRC), respecting Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women in Hamilton be received.

CARRIED

(g) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) McQuesten Urban Farm Design and Construction (CES15023) (Ward 4) (Item 7.1)

(Merulla/Partridge)

That the presentation from Mr. Adam Watson, Project Manager - McQuesten Urban Farm, respecting the McQuesten Urban Farm Design and Construction, be received.

CARRIED

For disposition on this matter, please refer to Item 6.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Verbal Update from Joe-Anne Priel, General Manager, Community and Emergency Services, respecting the Ontario Works Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) (Item 11.1)

Joe-Anne Priel, General Manager, Community and Emergency Services, provided a verbal update respecting the Ontario Works Social Assistance Management System (SAMS).

Ms. Priel's comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- A report will be brought back to the committee on June 22, 2015 outlining the full cost of the transition of this system from the Province to the city;
- Challenges have outpaced the successes during the transition, and have resulted in a significant shift in staffing of case managers;
- The Province has outlined the strategy from March 31, 2015 until March 31, 2016 but has provided no information as to what will occur after that time period;
- The department is now focusing on business transformation;

- Acknowledged that many other municipalities are experiencing the same challenges; and
- Will continue to report on the progress of this transition.

(Partridge/Duvall)

That the Verbal Update from Joe-Anne Priel, General Manager, Community and Emergency Services, respecting the Ontario Works Social Assistance Management System (SAMS), be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Outstanding Business List (Item 11.2)

(Partridge/Duvall)

That the following changes to the Outstanding Business List be approved:

(a) Items Completed and To Be Removed:

Item F(3) - Increased Signage on Front of Buses (ECS 14-003)

Item (i) - Seniors Advisory Committee Annual Achievements (ECS 07-012)

(b) Items to be Added:

Item L - Potential Housing Options and Alternatives for Housing in the West Harbour/Setting Sail Area (GIC Report 15-008)
Due Date: TBD

(c) Items requiring a revised due date:

Item B - Hamilton Living Wage for Part-Time Staff and Purchasing Policy
Current Date: May 11, 2015
Revised Date: November 9, 2015

Item I - Identification of Possible Enhancements to Current Child Care Programs
Current Date: TBD
Revised Date: October 26, 2015

Item J - Accommodation of Children with Special Needs in Day Care Centres
Current Date: April 13, 2015
Revised Date: November 9, 2015

CARRIED

(i) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(Merulla/A.Johnson)

That there being no further business, the Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

T. Whitehead, Chair
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Tristin McCredie
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk