

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

General Issues Committee: August 8, 2016

MOVED BY MAYOR / COUNCILLOR L. FERGUSON.....

Hamilton Bulldogs Ontario Hockey League Team Practices

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Bulldogs Ontario Hockey League Team begins its second year of operation within the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Bulldogs Foundation aims to promote the creativity of interactive programs involving education, physical fitness and personal well-being;

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Bulldogs Foundation's main purpose "is to strengthen and broaden the base of the Hamilton Bulldogs community support by providing funds to non-profit community groups and by supporting educational and community programs";

WHEREAS, the majority of the Hamilton Bulldogs' players live and attend school in the Town of Ancaster; and,

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Bulldogs are committed to providing in-kind support to the Ancaster Avalanche, their affiliated hockey association;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Hamilton Bulldogs be allowed to utilize ice time at Morgan Firestone Arena for the purpose of team practices when the First Ontario Centre is not available;
- (b) That the Hamilton Bulldogs receive two hours of practice time and be charged for one hour of non-prime time ice at a rate of \$194.90 plus HST, in recognition for the in-kind services provided to the Ancaster community; and,
- (c) That staff be directed to prepare all necessary rentals permits, for the Hamilton Bulldogs Hockey Team, for the 2016-2017 hockey season.



HAMILTON BULLDOGS HOCKEY CLUB

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July 15, 2016

Dear Councillor Ferguson, Mayor Eisenberger and members of City Council,

It has been a year now since the Hamilton Bulldogs transitioned from an AHL team to the Ontario Hockey League (OHL). In that time, there have been many changes in our organization with a focus on making our team part of the community. The Bulldogs take this responsibility very seriously and are dedicated to giving back.

As you may be aware, under the vision of our owner Michael Andlauer, we have the Bulldogs Foundation with a mandate to enrich the lives of youth in the Hamilton region. Through our Foundation, we offer tickets to youth groups who otherwise would not have an opportunity to see a game at FirstOntario Centre. As well, our players participate with local charities and groups, and are in local schools talking to students about anti-bullying and healthy living. Perhaps most significantly, the Foundation has a Breakfast Program which allows more than 5,000 students at 20 high-needs Hamilton schools to start the day with a healthy and nutritious breakfast.

Now that we are preparing for our second season, we want to continue our reach into the community. One of the key components of being an OHL team is a focus on player education and also its Billet Program. Our players are billeted near the school they attend – Ancaster High. After only one year, the players have been welcomed and embraced by the school. Although the Bulldogs play our games in FirstOntario Centre, and have most of our practices in the arena, there are times when the ice is not available due to other events taking place. This means we need to find ice elsewhere. Because of this, we are requesting the opportunity to book our practice ice at the Morgan Firestone Arena which is convenient to the high school. This would allow us to have our practices accessible to the community and school where the players attend while letting us work with our affiliate team, the Ancaster Avalanche. We see this opportunity as a win-win for the hockey community and fans who would like to see us practice.

Thank you for your consideration of the motion before council today. We want to thank the City, staff and council for showing us so much support in our first season.

Respectfully,

Steve Staios
President and General Manager
Hamilton Bulldogs Hockey Club

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