

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

General Issues Committee: January 18, 2023

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR J.P. DANKO.....

SECONDED BY MAYOR/COUNICLLOR.....

Stormwater Rate Review

WHEREAS, in December 2021, Council directed staff, through Report PW21074 to report back to the Public Works Committee with a review of the benefits and challenges of various stormwater program funding options including water rates, a dedicated stormwater fee or tax levy or any other options and provide a recommendation for the preferred financing model for the City’s stormwater programs, including a preliminary plan and any resource requirements necessary to conduct a detailed review of the preferred financing model;

WHEREAS, in June 2022, Council approved Report FCS22043 - Stormwater Funding Review that directed staff to report back to the General Issues Committee to provide Guiding Principles for consideration that will direct the evaluation of alternative stormwater rate funding structures as part of the Stormwater Funding Review;

WHEREAS, Report FCS22043 Stormwater Funding Review outlined three phases for the project with an estimated timeline for completion of all three phases of January 2026;

WHEREAS, Report FCS22043(a) Stormwater Funding Review on the November 30, 2022 General Issues Committee (GIC) agenda recommends a set of guiding principles for council to consider;

WHEREAS, Report FCS22043(a) Stormwater Funding Review highlights that Phase 1 of the project was completed three months earlier than originally planned;

WHEREAS, a new Utility Billing System is required to be in place at the expiry of the current contract with Alectra expected at December 31, 2024; and;

WHEREAS, synergies could be achieved if a new Stormwater Funding model could be integrated into a new Utility Billing System;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee in the first quarter of 2023 on the steps and resources required to implement a dedicated user fee for stormwater services, with an implementation date no later than January 2025; and,
- (b) That, in addition to the guiding principles that may be adopted by Council through Report FCS22043(a), staff be directed to include all aspects of the City's stormwater services to be funded from the revenues associated with this dedicated user fee.