



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (RATE BUDGET) MINUTES 23-032

9:30 a.m.

November 21, 2023

Council Chambers, City Hall, 2nd 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. Alectra Utilities Water, Wastewater and Storm 2023 Service Activity Report (FCS23102) (City Wide) (Item 6.1)

(A. Wilson/Cassar)

That Report FCS23102, Alectra Utilities Water, Wastewater and Storm 2023 Service Activity Report, be received.

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

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised that there are no changes to the agenda.

(Kroetsch/Beattie)

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

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Absent	-	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
Absent	-	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
Absent	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Absent	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 5)

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

Carlyle Khan, General Manager, Public Works, introduced Nick Winters, Director, Hamilton Water, who provided the first portion of the presentation.

Brian McMullen, Director, Financial Planning, Administration and Policy, provided the second portion of the presentation.

(Hwang/Cassar)

That the presentation respecting Report FCS22100, 2024 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Budget, be received.

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

(Hwang/Cassar)

- (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.

(Clark/Tadeson)

That Report FCS23100, 2024 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Supported Budget, be DEFERRED to the November 27, 2023 General Issues Committee (Rate Budget) meeting.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 5, as follows:

No	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
No	-	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
No	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
No	-	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

No - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(d) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(Tadeson/Jackson)

That there being no further business, the General Issues Committee (Budget) be adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

Angela McRae
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk