



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE REPORT 23-017

9:30 a.m.

May 17, 2023

Council Chambers, City Hall, 2nd Floor
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Mayor A. Horwath
Deputy Mayor E. Pauls (Chair)
Councillors J. Beattie, C. Cassar, B. Clark, M. Francis, T. Hwang,
T. Jackson, C. Kroetsch, T. McMeekin, N. Nann, M. Spadafora,
M. Tadeson, A. Wilson, M. Wilson

Absent: Councillor J. P. Danko – Personal

THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 23-017 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)) (Item 8.1)

- (c) That staff be directed to make the Proposed Encampment Protocol attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC20038(f) / PED21188(c) available for public comment (including written comments) until June 30, 2023, and that staff report back with a final recommended protocol at the General Issues Committee on August 2023;
- (d) That staff be directed to conduct a scan of jurisdictions that currently operate sanctioned encampments and further research/consultation as required and bring back options regarding operating models, parameters and criteria for site identification and potential sites with the goal of incorporating sanctioned sites into a new encampment protocol once site(s) and operating model are approved by Council;
- (e) That staff be directed to work with stakeholders to:
 - i. Address washrooms, showers, and access to drinking water;
 - ii. Integrate of peer and Indigenous supports into encampment response;
 - iii. Develop a task force or committee, comprised of City staff, community stakeholders, and people with lived experience to advise on the development and policy of encampment response and appeals process;

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- iv. Report back to the General Issues Committee with recommendations and required resourcing; and,
- (f) That prior to May 24, 2023 Council meeting staff incorporate - a process to inform residents of nearby compliant sites in the case of any enforcement measures (voluntary compliance notices, etc.), ensuring no residents are facing enforcement measures without being made aware of sanctioned and permitted sites where they can go - into the Proposed Encampment Protocol attached as Appendix "A" to Report HSC20038(f) / PED21188(c).

2. Dundas Business Improvement Area (BIA) Revised Board of Management (PED23109) (Ward 13) (Item 9.1)

That the following individuals be appointed to the Dundas Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board of Management for the 2022-2026 term:

- (a) Jennifer Hayes, Jax Sweet Shoppe;
- (b) Lily Zoghaib, Urban Vine;
- (c) Dave Maciulis, Red Door Cucina;
- (d) Melanie Barlow, Dundas Community Services;
- (e) Donna Cole, The Kitchen Witch.

3. Dundas Business Improvement Area (BIA) Proposed Budget and Schedule of Payments (PED23110) (Ward 13) (Item 10.1)

- (a) That the 2023 Operating Budget for the Dundas Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix "A" to General Issues Committee Report 23-017, in the amount of \$268,214.00 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the Operating Budget for the Dundas Business Improvement Area (BIA) in the amount of \$178,880.00 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, The *Municipal Act, 2001*, to levy the 2023 Budget as referenced in Recommendation of Report PED23110; and,
- (d) That the following schedule of payments for 2023 Operating Budget for the Dundas Business Improvement Area (BIA) be approved:
 - (i) February \$89,440.00
 - (ii) June \$89,440.00

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

4. Airport Sub-Committee Report 23-001 - April 27, 2023 (Item 10.2)

(a) Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair (Item 1)

That Councillor M. Tadeson be appointed as Co-Chair of the Airport Sub Committee on a rotating basis for the term of 2022-2026.

(b) 2023-2024 John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport – City of Hamilton Joint Marketing Incentives (PED23121) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)

That the City of Hamilton approve and allocate \$100K, from the Airport Joint Marketing Reserve Fund No. 112217 as the City's contribution to the 2023-2024 John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport – City of Hamilton Joint Marketing Initiatives outlined in Report PED23121.

(c) Airport Lease – Status Update (PED19084(g)) (City Wide) (Item 14.1)

That Report PED19084(g) and Appendix 'A' to Report PED19084(g), respecting Airport Lease – Status Update, be received and remain confidential.

5. 2023 Tax Policies and Area Rating (FCS23049) (City Wide) (Item 10.3)

(a) That the following optional property classes be continued for the 2023 taxation year:

- (i) Parking Lot and Vacant Land;
- (ii) Large Industrial;

(b) That, the following final tax ratios be established for the 2023 taxation year:

(i)	Residential	1.0000
(ii)	Multi-Residential	2.2174
(iii)	New Multi-Residential	1.0000
(iv)	Commercial	1.9800
(v)	Parking Lot and Vacant Land	1.9800
(vi)	Industrial	3.1025
(vii)	Large Industrial	3.6381
(viii)	Pipeline	1.7947
(ix)	Farm	0.1767
(x)	Managed Forest	0.2500
(xi)	Landfills	2.9696

- (c) That the following tax reductions be established for the 2023 taxation year:

(i)	Farmland awaiting development (1st Subclass)	25%
(ii)	Farmland awaiting development (2nd Subclass)	0%
(iii)	Excess land Subclass (Residual Commercial)	0%
(iv)	Excess land Subclass (Residual Industrial)	0%
(v)	Vacant land Subclass (Residual Industrial)	0%
(vi)	Excess land Subclass (Large Industrial)	0%

- (d) That the Deferral of Tax Increases for Seniors and Low Income Persons with Disabilities Program (Deferral of Tax Increases Program) be continued for the 2023 taxation year;

- (e) That the Full Tax Deferral Program for Seniors and Low Income Persons with Disabilities Program (Full Tax Deferral Program) be continued for the 2023 taxation year;

- (f) That the Seniors' (65+) Tax Rebate Program be continued for the 2023 taxation year;

- (g) That the 40% Tax Rebate for eligible charities and similar organizations be continued for the 2023 taxation year;

- (h) That, for the 2023 taxation year, the Area Rated Levies be approved as identified in Appendix "B" to General Issues Committee Report 23-017, "2023 Tax Policies and Area Rating", attached hereto; and,

- (i) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax policies and tax rates for the 2023 taxation year.

6. Pier 8 Animation Q4 2023 (PED23116) (City Wide) (Item 10.4)

- (a) That up to \$125,000, to be funded from the Economic Development Initiatives Capital Project 3621708900, be approved, to support special public programming and animation of Pier 8 during the month of November 2023; and,

- (b) That the General Manager of Planning and Economic Development be authorized to enter into the necessary agreements to execute the special programming and animation, including securing a temporary art installation.

7. Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) Report 23-005 - May 9, 2023 (Item 10.5)

(a) Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities' "Ability First" Accessibility Fair, September 28, 2023 (Item 12.2)

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities has received permission to begin organizing the "Ability First" Accessibility Fair annually;

WHEREAS, the date of the 2023 "Ability First" Accessibility Fair is scheduled for September 28th;

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for "Ability First" is an upset limit of \$5811.67 to be funded from the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities' reserve; and,

WHEREAS, in order to organize and promote the event, Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities' members and volunteers will be required to contact City of Hamilton staff, outside agencies and media to arrange attendance, but will exclude official media releases which will still need to be approved by Committee and Council.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities "Ability First" Accessibility Fair, to be held on Thursday September the 28th, 2023 on the Forecourt of City Hall, be approved;
- (ii) That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities "Ability First" Accessibility Fair budget with an upset limit of \$5811.67, attached as Appendix "A" to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Report 23-005, to be funded from the ACPD Reserve Fund (#112212), be approved; and
- (iii) That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities' members and volunteers be permitted to contact City of Hamilton staff (when appropriate and available), outside agencies and media in order to organize, promote and arrange attendance to the event.

8. Facility Naming Sub-Committee Report 23-001 - May 11, 2023 (Added Item 10.6)

(a) Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair (Item 1)

- (i) That Councillor C. Cassar be appointed as Chair of the Facility Naming Sub-Committee for the 2022-2026 term.

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- (ii) That Councillor M. Francis be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Facility Naming Sub-Committee for the 2022-2026 term.

**(b) Renaming of Ryerson Recreation Centre (HSC23031) (Ward 1)
(Added Item 10.2)**

- (i) That the Ryerson Recreation Centre at 251 Duke Street be renamed “Kanétskare” (pronounced Ga-nét-sga-re, a Mohawk term meaning Bay or Inlet) Recreation Centre as it meets the guidelines as set out in Section 4(b)(i) of the City of Hamilton Municipal Property and Building Naming Policy;
- (ii) That a budget of \$20K funded from the City’s Tax Stabilization Reserve, (110046) be established for costs associated with the removal, repair, preparation and installation of new facility signage at the 251 Duke Street site;
- (iii) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,
- (iv) That the renaming of Ryerson Recreation Centre to Kanétskare Recreation Centre be considered complete and removed from the Facility Naming Sub Committee Outstanding Business List.

9. Advocate Registry for Homelessness (Added Item 11.1)

WHEREAS, the compassionate nature of advocates and Council members compels us to seek innovative solutions to address the challenges faced by individuals experiencing homelessness;

WHEREAS, recognizing Council members play a vital role in leading by example and demonstrating compassion for individuals experiencing homelessness, this too will be extended to members of Council to participate if desired

WHEREAS, the voluntary nature of the registry allows participants the flexibility to opt out of the program at any time, ensuring that it respects the preferences and needs of both hosts and houseless individuals;

WHEREAS, the creation of a registry aligns with our city's commitment to foster a compassionate and inclusive community that values the dignity and well-being of all its residents;

WHEREAS, the registry program offers a practical and cost-effective approach to expanding available housing options for individuals experiencing homelessness;

WHEREAS, other municipalities like Oshawa have championed community led programs like Spirit in Service Sponsorship Program that is modelled after Refugee Sponsorship Programs and providing an opportunity for residents to contribute to solution building;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to determine the feasibility, financial impacts to the municipality, and potential liability of a registry for advocates, members of Council, and residents to voluntarily add their name to host a person experiencing homelessness as identified by housing support staff, and report back to the General Issues Committee.

10. Encampment Litigation Update (LS20023(g)) (City Wide) – REVISED (Item 14.1)

That Report LS20023(g), respecting Encampment Litigation Report, be received and remain confidential.

11. Safety and Security at City Hall (No Copy) (Added Item 14.2)

That the verbal update respecting Safety and Security at City Hall, be received and remain confidential.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

5. COMMUNICATIONS

5.1 Correspondence respecting Item 8.1, Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)) (Item 8.1), from the following individual:

(b) Keeping Six and HAMSMaRT

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the consideration of Item 8.1.

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

6.2 Delegation Requests respecting Item 8.1, Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)), from the from the following individuals (For today's meeting):

- (a) Gessie Stearns (In Person)
- (b) Lisa Nussey (In Person)
- (c) Jammy Lo, Keeping Six (In Person)
- (d) Leon Blaze (In Person)

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.6 Facility Naming Sub-Committee Report 23-001 - May 11, 2023

14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

14.1 Encampment Litigation Update (LS20023(g)) (City Wide) – REVISED

14.2 Safety and Security at City Hall (No Copy)

The agenda for the May 17, 2023 General Issues Committee meeting, was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

Councillor T. McMeekin declared a non-disqualifying interest, however, opted to vote with a conflict to Report PED23116, respecting Pier 8 Animation Q4 2023 as his daughter is employed by the City of Hamilton as an animator.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Item 4)

The following Minutes of the General Issues Committee were approved, as presented:

- (i) May 3, 2023 (Item 4.1)
- (ii) May 5, 2023 – Special GIC (Item 4.2)

(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

The following Communications Items, were approved, as presented:

- (i) Correspondence respecting Item 8.1, Report HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c), Proposed Encampment Protocol, from the following individuals (Item 5.1):
 - (1) Brooke Beney (Item 5.1(a))
 - (2) Keeping Six and HAMSMaRT (Added Item 5.1(b))

Recommendation: Be received and referred to consideration of Item 8.1.

- (ii) Correspondence from Grant Bivol, Clerk, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) respecting the Financial Statements of the NPCA for the year ended December 31, 2022 (Item 5.2).

Recommendation: Be received.

(e) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

- (i) Hafeez Hussain, respecting more about my experience on Unconscious Bias and EDI and how as a resident it is hard to navigate the city of Hamilton to address these matters to management (Virtually) (For a future meeting) (Item 6.1)**

The delegation request from Hafeez Hussain, respecting more about my experience on Unconscious Bias and EDI and how as a resident it is hard to navigate the city of Hamilton to address these matters to management, was approved for a future meeting.

- (ii) That the following Delegation requests respecting Item 8.1, Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)) (For today's meeting), be approved, as follows:**

- (1) Gessie Stearns (In Person) (Added Item 6.2(a))
- (2) Lisa Nussey, HAMSMaRT (In Person) (Added Item 6.2(b))
- (3) Jammy Lo, Keeping Six (In Person) (Added Item 6.2(c))
- (4) Leon Blaze (In Person) (Added Item 6.2(d))

(f) DELEGATIONS (Item 7)

(i) Delegations respecting Item 8.1, Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)) (Added Item 7.1):

The following Delegates addressed the Committee respecting Item 8.1, Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)):

- (1) Gessie Stearns (In Person) (Added Item 7.1(a))
- (2) Lisa Nussey, HAMSMaRT (Added Item 7.1(b))
- (3) Jammy Lo, Keeping Six (In Person) (Added Item 7.1(c))
- (4) Leon Blaze (In Person) (Added Item 7.1(d))

The following Delegations, respecting Item 8.1, Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)), were received:

- (1) Gessie Stearns (In Person) (Added Item 7.1(a))
- (2) Lisa Nussey, HAMSMaRT (Added Item 7.1(b))
- (3) Jammy Lo, Keeping Six (In Person) (Added Item 7.1(c))
- (4) Leon Blaze (In Person) (Added Item 7.1(d))

(g) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 8)

(i) Proposed Encampment Protocol (HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c)) (Item 8.1)

Angela Burden, General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities introduced Michelle Baird, Director, Housing Services Division; and Monica Ciriello, Director, Licensing and By-law Services who addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting Report HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c), Proposed Encampment Protocol.

The General Issues Committee recessed for 40 minutes until 1:30 pm.

The staff presentation respecting Report HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c), Proposed Encampment Protocol, was received.

The report recommendations were placed on the floor as follows:

- (a) That Council adopt the Proposed Encampment Protocol attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC20038(f) / PED21188(c) and that staff be directed to implement the Proposed Encampment Protocol upon Council ratification on May 24, 2023.
- (b) That the staff and budget resources for the Coordination Response Team previously approved through Report HSC20038(e) / PED21188(b) be allocated to the implementation of the Proposed Encampment Protocol attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC20038(f) / PED21188(c).
- (c) That, following Council ratification, staff be directed to make the Proposed Encampment Protocol attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC20038(f) / PED21188(c) available for public comment, and that staff monitor the implementation of the protocol, and that staff report back with a final recommended protocol at the General Issues Committee on August 2023.
- (d) That staff be directed to conduct a scan of jurisdictions that currently operate sanctioned encampments and further research/consultation as required and bring back options regarding operating models, parameters and criteria for site identification and potential sites with the goal of incorporating sanctioned sites into the new encampment protocol once site(s) and operating model are approved by Council; and,
- (e) That staff be directed to work with stakeholders to address washrooms, showers, and access to drinking water, as well as integration of peer and Indigenous supports into encampment response, and report back to the General Issues Committee with recommendations and required resourcing.

Upon request, Committee considered the sub-sections of Report HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c), Proposed Encampment Protocol separately, as follows:

- (a) That Council adopt the Proposed Encampment Protocol attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC20038(f) / PED21188(c) and that staff be directed to implement the Proposed Encampment Protocol upon Council ratification on May 24, 2023.

Sub-Section (a) of Report HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c), respecting Proposed Encampment Protocol was DEFEATED.

- (b) That the staff and budget resources for the Coordination Response Team previously approved through Report HSC20038(e) / PED21188(b) be allocated to the implementation of the Proposed Encampment Protocol attached as Appendix “A” to Report HSC20038(f) / PED21188(c).

Sub-Section (a) of Report HSC20036(f) / PED21188(c), respecting Proposed Encampment Protocol was DEFEATED.

That the General Issues Committee meeting of May 17, 2023, be extended past the 5:30 pm curfew, up to an additional 60 minutes.

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 1.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

(i) Amendment to the Outstanding Business List (Item 13.1):

The amendments to the Outstanding Business List, were approved, as follows:

(a) Items Considered Complete and Needing to be Removed (Item 13.1(a)):

Encampment Pilot Evaluation (HSC20038(e) / PED21188(b)) (City Wide)

OBL Item: 2023-E

Added: February 1, 2023 at GIC (Item 10.4)

Completed: May 17, 2023 at GIC (Item 8.1)

(i) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Item 14)

Committed moved into Closed session pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-sections (a), (b), (e), (f) and (k) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (a), (b), (e), (f) and (k) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to the security of the property of the City or a local board; personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City or local board employees; litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.

**(i) Encampment Litigation Update (LS20023(g)) (City Wide) – REVISED
(Item 14.1)**

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 10.

(ii) Safety and Security at City Hall (No Copy) (Added Item 14.2)

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 11.

(j) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Mayor Esther Pauls
Chair, General Issues Committee

Angela McRae
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

**Downtown Dundas BIA
2023 BIA Budget**

REVENUE

	Levy	178,880.00
	HST Recovery	11,423.00
	Other income/ Reserves	35,500.00
	Surplus	42,411.00
	TOTAL REVENUE	268,214.00

EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS

	General Advertising	16100
	Easter	7500
	Scarecrow Saturday	5300
	Dickens of a Christmas	52,440
	Buskerfest/ Summer Activations	25,000
	EVENTS TOTAL	106,340.00

BEAUTIFICATION

	Hanging baskets, Planters, seasonal décor, weeding, waste management	29,200.00
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SPECIAL PROJECTS

	2023 Special Promotions or beautification projects	24,900.00
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ADMINISTRATION

	Economic Development	3000
	Rent	22374
	Office	3500
	Telephone & Utilities	2000
	Member Services	2100
	Insurance	4000
	Staff/ Wages	65,000.00
	Assessment Appeals	2000
	Audit and Bookkeeping	3800
	ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	107,774.00

	EXPENSE TOTAL	268,214.00
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	Net Gain/ Loss	0.0
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2023 AREA RATED LEVIES SUMMARY**FIRE**

Full Time	\$ 74,985,499
Volunteer	\$ 3,031,549
Full Time to Composite	\$ 20,950,779
Volunteer to Composite	\$ 1,096,548
TOTAL	\$ 100,064,376

TRANSIT

Stoney Creek	\$ 5,766,327
Glanbrook	\$ 2,014,774
Ancaster	\$ 3,812,860
Hamilton	\$ 62,243,313
Dundas	\$ 1,517,436
Flamborough	\$ 1,273,776
TOTAL	\$ 76,628,486

SPECIAL INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Hamilton	\$ 13,428,870
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AREA RATED LEVIES BEING PHASED OUT

Parkland Purchases	\$ 2,368,871
Recreation	\$ 18,684,035
Sidewalk	\$ 1,558,009
Streetlighting	\$ 2,454,929
TOTAL	\$ 25,065,842

TOTAL AREA RATED LEVIES	\$ 215,187,574
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