



**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
(Formerly the Board of Health)
MINUTES 24-001**

9:30 a.m.

Monday, January 15, 2024

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

Present: Councillor M. Wilson (Acting Chair)
Councillors C. Cassar, B. Clark, J.P. Danko, M. Francis, T. Hwang, T. Jackson, C. Kroetsch, T. McMeekin, N. Nann, M. Spadafora, M. Tadeson, E. Pauls, J. Beattie, and A. Wilson

**Absent with
Regrets:** Mayor A. Horwath – City Business

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR
CONSIDERATION:**

1. Options for the City of Hamilton's Board of Health Governance (BOH23039) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)

(Kroetsch/Danko)

- (a) That Council approve, in principle, a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance structure with features similar to the City of Toronto and City of Ottawa:
- (i) That Council direct staff to prepare and submit an application to the Province of Ontario for special legislation amending the City of Hamilton Act, 1999 and the Health Promotion and Protection Act to authorize the City to implement a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance model, with features similar to the City of Toronto and City of Ottawa Board of Health governance structures; and,
 - (ii) That Council direct staff to report back to the Public Health **Sub-Committee**, **subject to the approval of (b)**, following approval of legislative changes with a plan to implement legislative changes and establish a semi-autonomous Board of Health for the City of Hamilton;
- (b) That as an interim solution until legal authorization is received to implement a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance model, a Public Health **Sub-**

Committee be established to include six City Council members, six community representatives, and one education representative, using the City of Hamilton's existing selection processes and that for the foregoing purposes staff be directed to report back to the Public Health Committee to:

- (i) Prepare any amendments to the Procedural By-law that shall create a new Public Health **Sub-Committee that reports directly to the Board of Health** which By-law shall be drafted to become effective not earlier than the date on which the existing Public Health **Standing** Committee has been dissolved by the Mayor pursuant to section 284.8(1) of the *Municipal Act*;
 - (ii) **Prepare the Terms of Reference for the Public Health Sub-Committee; and,**
 - (iii) Prepare for approval the qualifications and criteria for the selection of the community representatives to ensure that the Public Health **Sub-Committee** members represent the community and have the necessary skills and competencies.
- (c) That Item 2023-C, respecting a consultation with stakeholders to identify issues, opportunities, and options for Board of Health governance, be removed from the Public Health Committee Outstanding Business List.

Result: Main Motion as Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

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

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- 6.2 Kim Ritchie, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, respecting Item 10.2 Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot (HSC24001/BOH23021(a)) (City Wide) (for today's meeting)

(McMeekin/Nann)

That the agenda for the January 15, 2024, Public Health Committee be approved, as amended.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

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

(i) December 4, 2023 (Item 4.1)

(Cassar/Hwang)

That the Minutes of the December 4, 2023 meeting of the Public Health Committee be approved, as presented.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

(i) Correspondence from Kathryn Wilson, Board of Health Chair, Peterborough Public Health, respecting Public Health Strengthening (Item 5.1)

(Tadeson/Jackson)

That the Correspondence from Kathryn Wilson, Board of Health Chair, Peterborough Public Health, respecting Public Health Strengthening, be received.

Result: Motion, CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis

Yes	-	Ward 4	Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2	Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1	Councillor Maureen Wilson

(e) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

(i) (Nann/A.Wilson)

That the following Delegation Requests, be approved as follows:

- (1) Kojo Dampety, respecting Item 10.1 Options the City of Hamilton's Board of Health Governance (BOH23039) (City Wide) (for today's meeting) (Item 6.1)
- (2) Kim Ritchie, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, respecting Item 10.2 Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot (HSC24001/BOH23021(a)) (City Wide) (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.2)

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath	
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8	Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5	Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4	Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2	Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1	Councillor Maureen Wilson

(f) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 7)

- (i) Kojo Dampthey, respecting Item 10.1 Options the City of Hamilton's Board of Health Governance (BOH23039) (City Wide) (for today's meeting) (Added Item 7.1)**

Kojo Dampthey addressed the Committee, respecting Item 10.1 Options the City of Hamilton's Board of Health Governance (BOH23039) (City Wide).

- (ii) Kim Ritchie, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, respecting Item 10.2 Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot (HSC24001/BOH23021(a)) (City Wide) (for today's meeting) (Added Item 7.2)**

Kim Ritchie addressed the Committee, respecting Item 10.2 Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot (HSC24001/BOH23021(a)) (City Wide).

(McMeekin/Beattie)

That the Delegations from Kojo Dampthey, respecting Item 10.1 Options the City of Hamilton's Board of Health Governance (BOH23039) and Kim Ritchie, Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, respecting Item 10.2 Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot (HSC24001/BOH23021(a)), be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

(g) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

(i) Options for the City of Hamilton's Board of Health Governance (BOH23039) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)

(1) (Cassar/Nann)

- (a) That Council approve, in principle, a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance structure with features similar to the City of Toronto and City of Ottawa;
 - (i) That Council direct staff to prepare and submit an application to the Province of Ontario for special legislation amending the *City of Hamilton Act, 1999* and the *Health Promotion and Protection Act* to authorize the City to implement a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance model, with features similar to the City of Toronto and City of Ottawa Board of Health governance structures; and,
 - (ii) That Council direct staff to report back to the Public Health Committee, following approval of legislative changes with a plan to implement legislative changes and establish a semi-autonomous Board of Health for the City of Hamilton;
- (b) That as an interim solution until legal authorization is received to implement a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance model, a change be made to the membership of the Public Health Standing Committee to include six City Council members, six community representatives, and one education representative, using the City of Hamilton's existing selection processes, and that for the foregoing purposes staff be directed to report back to the Public Health Committee to; and,
 - (i) Prepare any amendments to the Procedure By-law that shall create a new Public Health Standing Committee, which By-law shall be drafted to become effective not earlier than the date on which the existing Public Health Standing Committee has been dissolved by the Mayor pursuant to section 284.8(1) of the *Municipal Act*; and,
 - (ii) Prepare for approval the qualifications and criteria for the selection of the community representatives to ensure that the Public Health Standing Committee members represent the community and have the necessary skills and competencies.

- (c) That Item 2023-C, respecting a consultation with stakeholders to identify issues, opportunities, and options for Board of Health governance, be removed from the Public Health Committee Outstanding Business List.

(2) **(Kroetsch/Danko)**

That Report BOH23039, respecting the Options for the City of Hamilton's Board of Health Governance, be **amended** as follows:

- (a) That Council approve, in principle, a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance structure with features similar to the City of Toronto and City of Ottawa:
 - (i) That Council direct staff to prepare and submit an application to the Province of Ontario for special legislation amending the City of Hamilton Act, 1999 and the Health Promotion and Protection Act to authorize the City to implement a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance model, with features similar to the City of Toronto and City of Ottawa Board of Health governance structures; and,
 - (ii) That Council direct staff to report back to the Public Health **Sub-Committee, subject to the approval of (b)**, following approval of legislative changes with a plan to implement legislative changes and establish a semi-autonomous Board of Health for the City of Hamilton;
- (b) That as an interim solution until legal authorization is received to implement a semi-autonomous Board of Health governance model, a Public Health **Sub-Committee be established** to include six City Council members, six community representatives, and one education representative, using the City of Hamilton's existing selection processes and that for the foregoing purposes staff be directed to report back to the Public Health Committee to:
 - (iii) Prepare any amendments to the Procedural By-law that shall create a new Public Health **Sub-Committee that reports directly to the Board of Health** which By-law shall be drafted to become effective not earlier than the date on which the existing Public Health **Standing** Committee has been dissolved by the Mayor pursuant to section 284.8(1) of the *Municipal Act*;
 - (iv) **Prepare the Terms of Reference for the Public Health Sub-Committee; and,**

- (iii) Prepare for approval the qualifications and criteria for the selection of the community representatives to ensure that the Public Health **Sub-Committee** members represent the community and have the necessary skills and competencies.
- (c) That Item 2023-C, respecting a consultation with stakeholders to identify issues, opportunities, and options for Board of Health governance, be removed from the Public Health Committee Outstanding Business List.

Result: Amendment, CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

For disposition of this matter, refer to item 1.

- (ii) **Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot (HSC24001/BOH23021(a)) (City Wide) (Item 10.2)**
 - (1) **(Hwang/Francis)**
 - (a) That Council approve, and staff be authorized to implement an immediate 12-month pilot for Embedded Harm Reduction in Men's Emergency Shelters, from March 1, 2024 – February 28, 2025 to support vulnerable individuals within the homeless-serving systems who use opioids;
 - (b) That the Embedded Harm Reduction pilot program be funded approximately \$607,270 and be funded from a reserve as determined by

the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services Department and General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities Department;

- (c) That Public Health Services conduct an evaluation of the pilot Embedded Harm Reduction in Men’s Emergency Shelters and report back in Q4 2024; and,
- (d) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities Department or delegate be authorized and directed, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, to enter into, execute and administer all agreements and documents necessary to implement a shelter based harm reduction staffing enhancement, on terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities Department, or their designate, and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor

(2) (A. Wilson/Tadeson)

That sub-section (c) of Report HSC24001/BOH23021(a), respecting Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot be **amended** as follows:

- (c) That Public Health Services conduct an evaluation of the pilot Embedded Harm Reduction in Men’s Emergency Shelters and **engage in confidential consultation with those with lived experiences, and** report back in Q4 2024; and,

Result: Amendment, CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

(3) (M. Wilson/A.Wilson)

- (a) That Report HSC24001/BOH23021(a), respecting Hamilton Opioid Action Plan: Embedded Harm Reduction Pilot BE DEFERRED to the April 2, 2024, Public Health Committee meeting; and
- (b) That Public Health Services staff be directed to report back upon further consultation with the Opioid Action Table and the Hamilton Drug Strategy Steering Committee.

Result: Motion, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 5, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
No	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
No	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
No	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
No	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
No	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(McMeekin/Nann)

That, there being no further business, the Public Health Committee be adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Result: Motion, CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin
Yes	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 1	Councillor Maureen Wilson

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Maureen Wilson
Chair, Public Health Committee

Aleah Whalen
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk