



## **GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET) REPORT 24-001**

January and February 2024  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

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### **January 16, 2024**

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

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### **January 19, 2024**

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

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### **January 22, 2024**

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

**Absent:** Mayor A. Horwath, Councillors T. Hwang and M. Tadeson – City  
Business

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### **January 23, 2024**

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

**Absent:** Councillors T. Hwang, and M. Tadeson – City Business  
Councillor M. Spadafora - Personal

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**January 25, 2024**

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

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**January 26, 2024**

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

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**January 30, 2024**

**Present:** Mayor A. Horwath, Councillors J. P. Danko (Chair)  
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, M. Wilson

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**February 15, 2024**

**Present:** Mayor A. Horwath, Councillors J. P. Danko (Chair)  
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, M. Wilson

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**THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (BUDGET) PRESENTS REPORT 24-001 AND  
RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

- 1. Living Wage (HUR20003(d) / FCS20013(d)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1) (January 25, 2024)**
  - (a) That staff be directed to implement the 2024 Living Wage of \$20.80 per hour for School Crossing Guards effective September 1, 2024; and
  - (b) That staff be directed to bring forward a report to Council for approval should there be any future changes to the Living Wage rate prior to implementation in order to consider budget impacts and to assess the effects on the City's internal compensation system.

**2. Municipally Generated Tax Cap (Item 8.1) (January 26, 2024)**

WHEREAS, municipal property tax is generally considered a regressive form of taxation;

WHEREAS, Hamilton residential taxpayers are subject to amongst the highest per-capita municipal taxes in the country;

WHEREAS, many Hamilton citizens are being hammered and facing their own financial crisis which includes high inflation, high housing rental rates (eg. a 103% rise in the cost of a bachelor apartment from 2021 to 2023); escalating mortgage costs; A Bank of Canada rise in interest rates (raised up eight times in the last ten months) and the soaring increase in the price of essentials, like food, as evidenced by a reported 40% increased use of area food banks.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Hamilton City Council go on record to embrace a municipally generated tax cap no greater than 4% for the 2024 Budget.

**3. Correspondence Respecting 2023 Housing Targets and Performance (Added Item 11.1) (February 15, 2024)**

That the Correspondence Respecting 2023 Housing Targets and Performance, be received and remain confidential.

**4. 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1) (February 15, 2024)**

**(i) Police Service Budget**

(a)(iv)(1) That the net levy of \$207.5M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$13.9M, for the Hamilton Police Service be approved;

**(ii) Rental Property Budget Items**

(a)(i)(1) That the introduction of the Renovation Licence By-law, Safe Apartment Rental and Tenant Support Programs representing a net levy of \$1.0M be approved;

**(iii) (a)** That the amended 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan be approved, inclusive of:

(i) The net tax levy of \$719.1M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$55.1M, for City Departments excluding the Renovation Licence By-law, Safe Apartment Buildings By-law, and Tenant Support Program, as detailed in Appendix "A" to Report FCS24002 and inclusive of Business Cases and

Council Referred Items outlined in Appendix “C” to Report FCS24002;

- (ii) The Capital Levy of \$155.8M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$14.3M;
  - (iii) The Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Levy of \$13.4 M, representing no change over 2023;
  - (iv) The net tax levy of \$59.8M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$2.7M, for external Boards and Agencies, excluding the Hamilton Police Service, inclusive of proposed service level adjustments as outlined in Appendix “G” to Report FCS24002;
  - (v) One-time financing of \$72.3 M to support the Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS24002;
  - (vi) One-time financing of \$26.1M to phase-in statutory and discretionary development charge exemptions permitted under the Development Charges Act, 1997 and the City of Hamilton’s Development Charges Bylaw as outlined in Appendix “E” as amended to Report FCS24002;
  - (vii) One-time financing of \$20.9M to support tax affordability as outlined in Appendix “E” as amended to Report FCS24002;
  - (viii) The 2024 gross capital budget of \$372.9M and financing sources outlined in Appendix “F” as amended to Report FCS24002;
- (b) That the Tax Supported Multi-Year Operating Budget 2025 to 2027, attached as Appendix “H” as amended to Report FCS24002, and the Capital Financing Plan 2025 to 2033, attached as Appendix “I” as amended to Report FCS24002, be approved, in principle, and subject to deliberations by Council each budget year;
  - (c) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized and directed to implement the reserve financing strategy, including closure of the identified reserves, as outlined in Appendix “E” as amended to Report FCS24002;
  - (d) 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), in either a public or private market and / or bank loan agreements and debenture issue(s), in and / or variable interest rate bank loan agreement and

debenture issue(s), in an amount not to exceed \$21.1 M Canadian currency, as attached in Appendix "F" to Report FCS24002, which includes \$3.7 M in Tax Supported municipal debt and \$17.4 M in Development Charges municipal debt;

- (e) 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 recommendation (d) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel and fiscal agents;
- (f) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be 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 recommendation (d), on terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (g) 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 (d);
- (h) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements and any agreements with Community Services Provider(s), as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with, or arising out of, Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, which also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting, as well as, the authority to make appropriate payments to community service providers, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (i) That, where required for Public Health Services, the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, or the Medical Officer of Health, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements, as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with or arising out of Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, and includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting;
- (j) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of

establishing the tax levy, totalling \$1,156.5M exclusive of Education per Recommendation (a);

- (k) That in accordance with the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy”, the requested change in staff complement as outlined in Appendix “L” to Report FCS24002, be approved; and
- (l) That the budget exclusions related to Regulation 284/09 of the *Municipal Act* titled “Budget Matters – Expenses”, as per Appendix “L” attached to Report FCS23007(a), be received as information.

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January 16, 2024

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

**4. COMMUNICATIONS**

4.1 Correspondence respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget, from the following individuals:

- (d) Katrina Jackson
- (e) Nola Stewart
- (f) Daniel Innis
- (g) Rose Janson
- (h) Michelle Gallagher
- (i) Melissa Stark
- (j) Michael Chiarelli
- (k) Montana Mellett
- (l) Brian Murray
- (m) Kim Zivanovich
- (n) Sylvia Perrone
- (o) Hollie Pocsai
- (p) Christie McNabb
- (q) Bill Johnston
- (r) Zoë Hayes
- (s) Francesca Morreale
- (t) Jon Davey
- (u) Olivia O'Connor, ACORN Hamilton
- (v) Abigail Samuels, Vice-President (Education) and Kerry Yang, Associate Vice-President (Municipal Affairs), McMaster Students Union
- (w) Lyndon George, Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre

Recommendation: Be received.

## 5. DELEGATION REQUESTS

5.1 Delegation Requests respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget, from the following individuals:

- (i) Katie King (In-Person)
- (j) Daniel Rankin (In-Person)
- (k) Mary Aduckiewicz, Denningers Limited, and Troy Thompson, Thompson Pawnbroker Inc. (In-Person)
- (l) Ted Hildebrandt, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (In-Person)
- (m) Christina Erie, Acorn (In-Person)
- (n) Tanya Collins, Equity Network (Virtual)
- (o) Greg Dunnett, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (In-Person)
- (p) Ke Xu (Virtual)
- (q) Arianne Dinardo (In-Person)
- (r) Rana Guler (Virtual)
- (s) Nicole Tollenaar (Virtual)
- (t) Elizabeth Bloomfield (In-Person)
- (u) Julie Sergi, Realtors Association of Hamilton Burlington (In-Person)
- (v) Vic Wojciechowska (In-Person)
- (w) Evan Ubene (In-Person)
- (x) Dr. Emily Scherzinger (In-Person)
- (y) Becky Katz (Virtual)
- (z) Adeola Egbeyemi (In-Person)
- (aa) Merima Menzildzic, Hamilton Community Legal Clinic (In-Person)
- (ab) Barbara Silwa (Virtual)
- (ac) Ocean Datiao, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded)
- (ad) Marnie Schurter, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded)
- (ae) Mason Fitzpatrick (In-Person)
- (af) Anica Rak, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded)
- (ag) Liz Scott, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded)
- (ah) Shannon McKnight (Pre-Recorded)
- (ai) Bill Johnston (Pre-Recorded)
- (aj) Abedar Kamgari (Virtual)
- (ak) Alex Ballagh, ACORN Hamilton (In-Person)
- (al) Elia Hamelin (In-Person)
- (am) Karl Andrus, Hamilton Community Benefits Network (In-Person)
- (an) Laura Katz (Virtual)
- (ao) Christine Neale, ACORN (In-Person)
- (ap) Don McLean, Hamilton 350 Committee (Virtual)
- (aq) Katherine Walker-Jones (Virtual)
- (ar) John Laudonio (Virtual)
- (as) Steacy Easton (In-Person)
- (at) Ben Cullimore, HESN (In-Person)
- (au) Nala Ismacil (In-Person)

- (av) Sherly Kyorkis, HCCI (In-Person)
- (aw) Lyndon George, Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre (Virtual)

The agenda for the January 16, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

**(i) November 27, 2023 General Issues Committee (Rate Budget) (Item 3.1)**

The Minutes of the November 27, 2023 General Issues Committee (Rate Budget) meeting were approved, as presented.

**(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 4)**

**(i) The following Communications Items respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget, were received:**

- (1) Joshua Weresch (Item 4.1(a))
- (2) Elizabeth Aquila (Item 4.1(b))
- (3) Robert Hooshley (Item 4.1(c))
- (4) Katrina Jackson (Added Item 4.1(d))
- (5) Nola Stewart (Added Item 4.1(e))
- (6) Daniel Innis (Added Item 4.1(f))
- (7) Rose Janson (Added Item 4.1(g))
- (8) Michelle Gallagher (Added Item 4.1(h))
- (9) Melissa Stark (Added Item 4.1(i))
- (10) Michael Chiarelli (Added Item 4.1(j))
- (11) Montana Mellett (Added Item 4.1(k))
- (12) Brian Murray (Added Item 4.1(l))



- (13) Kim Zivanovich (Added Item 4.1(m))
- (14) Sylvia Perrone (Added Item 4.1(n))
- (15) Hollie Pocsai (Added Item 4.1(o))
- (16) Christie McNabb (Added Item 4.1(p))
- (17) Bill Johnston (Added Item 4.1(q))
- (18) Zoë Hayes (Added Item 4.1(r))
- (19) Francesca Morreale (Added Item 4.1(s))
- (20) Jon Davey (Added Item 4.1(t))
- (21) Olivia O'Connor, ACORN Hamilton (Added Item 4.1(u))
- (22) Abigail Samuels, Vice-President (Education) and Kerry Yang, Associate Vice-President (Municipal Affairs), McMaster Students Union (Added Item 4.1(v))
- (23) Lyndon George, Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre (Added Item 4.1(w))

**(e) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 5)**

The delegation requests for today's meeting, respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget, from the following individuals were approved, as follows:

- (i) Carol Andrews (In-Person) (Item 5.1(a))
- (ii) Bryan Dittrich (In-Person) (Item 5.1(b))
- (iii) Abigail Samuels, Vice-President (Education) & Kerry Yang, Associate Vice-President (Municipal Affairs), McMaster Students Union (In-Person) (Item 5.1(c))
- (iv) Anthony Marco, Hamilton and District Labour Council (In-Person) (Item 5.1(d))
- (v) Michelle Diplock, West End Home Builders' Association (In-Person) (Item 5.1(e))
- (vi) Kayla Leet (In-Person) (Item 5.1(f))
- (vii) Sahra Soudi (In-Person) (Item 5.1(g))

- (viii) Stewart Klazinga, ACORN Hamilton (Virtual) (Item 5.1(h))
- (ix) Katie King (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(i))
- (x) Daniel Rankin (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(j))
- (xi) Mary Aduckiewicz, Denningers Limited, and Troy Thompson, Thompson Pawnbroker Inc. (In-Person) Added (Added Item 5.1(k))
- (xii) Ted Hildebrandt, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(l))
- (xiii) Christina Erie, Acorn (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(m))
- (xiv) Tanya Collins, Equity Network (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(n))
- (xv) Greg Dunnett, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(o))
- (xvi) Ke Xu (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(p))
- (xvii) Arianne Dinardo (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(q))
- (xviii) Rana Guler (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(r))
- (xix) Nicole Tollenaar (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(s))
- (xx) Elizabeth Bloomfield (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(t))
- (xxi) Julie Sergi, Realtors Association of Hamilton Burlington (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(u))
- (xxii) Vic Wojciechowska (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(v))
- (xxiii) Evan Ubene (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(w))
- (xxiv) Dr. Emily Scherzinger (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(x))
- (xxv) Becky Katz (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(y))
- (xxvi) Adeola Egbeyemi (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(z))
- (xxvii) Merima Menzildzic, Hamilton Community Legal Clinic (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(aa))
- (xxviii) Barbara Silwa (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(ab))

- (xxix) Ocean Datiao, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 5.1(ac))
- (xxx) Marnie Schurter, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 5.1(ad))
- (xxxi) Mason Fitzpatrick (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(ae))
- (xxxii) Anica Rak, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 5.1(af))
- (xxxiii) Liz Scott, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 5.1(ag))
- (xxxiv) Shannon McKnight (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 5.1(ah))
- (xxxv) Bill Johnston (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 5.1(ai))
- (xxxvi) Abedar Kamgari (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(aj))
- (xxxvii) Alex Ballagh, ACORN Hamilton (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(ak))
- (xxxviii) Elia Hamelin (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(al))
- (xxxix) Karl Andrus, Hamilton Community Benefits Network (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(am))
- (xxxx) Laura Katz (Virtually) (Added Item 5.1(an))
- (xxxxi) Christine Neale, ACORN (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(ao))
- (xxxxii) Don McLean, Hamilton 350 Committee (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(ap))
- (xxxxiii) Katherine Walker-Jones (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(aq))
- (xxxxiv) John Laudonio (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(ar))
- (xxxxv) Steacy Easton (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(as))
- (xxxxvi) Ben Cullimore, HESN (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(at))
- (xxxxvii) Nala Ismacil (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(au))
- (xxxxviii) Sherly Kyorkis, HCCI (In-Person) (Added Item 5.1(av))
- (xxxxix) Lyndon George, Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre (Virtual) (Added Item 5.1(aw))

**(f) DELEGATIONS (Item 6)**

- (i) The following Delegates addressed the Committee respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget:
- (1) Carol Andrews (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(a))
  - (2) Bryan Dittrich (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(b))
  - (3) Abigail Samuels, Vice-President (Education) & Kerry Yang, Associate Vice-President (Municipal Affairs), McMaster Students Union (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(c))
  - (4) Anthony Marco, Hamilton and District Labour Council (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(d))
  - (5) Michelle Diplock, West End Home Builders' Association (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(e))
  - (6) Kayla Leet (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(f))
  - (7) Sahra Soudi (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(g))
  - (8) Stewart Klazinga, ACORN Hamilton (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(h))
  - (9) Katie King (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(i))
  - (10) Daniel Rankin (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(j))
  - (11) Mary Aduckiewicz, Denningers Limited (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(k))
  - (12) Ted Hildebrandt, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(l))
  - (13) Christina Erie, Acorn (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(m))
  - (14) Tanya Collins, Equity Network (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(n))
  - (15) Greg Dunnett, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(o))
  - (16) Ke Xu (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(p))
  - (17) Arianne Dinardo (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(q))
  - (18) Elizabeth Bloomfield (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(t))

- (19) Julie Sergi, Realtors Association of Hamilton Burlington (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(u))
- (20) Vic Wojciechowska (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(v))
- (21) Evan Ubene (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(w))
- (22) Dr. Emily Scherzinger (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(x))
- (23) Becky Katz (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(y))
- (24) Adeola Egbeyemi (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(z))
- (25) Merima Menzildzic, Hamilton Community Legal Clinic (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(aa))
- (26) Ocean Datiao, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ac))
- (27) Marnie Schurter, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ad))
- (28) Mason Fitzpatrick (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(ae))
- (29) Anica Rak, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(af))
- (30) Liz Scott, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ag))
- (31) Shannon McKnight (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ah))
- (32) Bill Johnston (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ai))
- (33) Abedar Kamgari (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(aj))
- (34) Alex Ballagh, ACORN Hamilton (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(ak))
- (35) Elia Hamelin (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(al))
- (36) Laura Katz (Virtually) (Added Item 6.1(an))
- (37) Christine Neale, ACORN (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(ao))
- (38) Don McLean, Hamilton 350 Committee (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(ap))
- (39) Katherine Walker-Jones (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(aq))
- (40) John Laudonio (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(ar))

- (41) Nala Ismacil (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(au))
- (42) Sherly Kyorkis, HCCI (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(av))
- (43) Lyndon George, Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(aw))

**(ii)** The following delegates were not present when called upon:

- (1) Rana Guler (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(r))
- (2) Nicole Tollenaar (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(s))
- (3) Barbara Silwa (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(ab))
- (4) Karl Andrus, Hamilton Community Benefits Network (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(am))
- (5) Steacy Easton (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(as))
- (6) Ben Cullimore, HESN (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(at))

**(iii)** The delegations respecting various aspects of the 2024 Budget, were received, as follows:

- (1) Carol Andrews (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(a))
- (2) Bryan Dittrich (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(b))
- (3) Abigail Samuels, Vice-President (Education) & Kerry Yang, Associate Vice-President (Municipal Affairs), McMaster Students Union (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(c))
- (4) Anthony Marco, Hamilton and District Labour Council (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(d))
- (5) Michelle Diplock, West End Home Builders' Association (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(e))
- (6) Kayla Leet (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(f))
- (7) Sahra Soudi (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(g))
- (8) Stewart Klazinga, ACORN Hamilton (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(h))
- (9) Katie King (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(i))
- (10) Daniel Rankin (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(j))

- (11) Mary Aduckiewicz, Denningers Limited (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(k))
- (12) Ted Hildebrandt, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(l))
- (13) Christina Erie, Acorn (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(m))
- (14) Tanya Collins, Equity Network (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(n))
- (15) Greg Dunnett, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(o))
- (16) Ke Xu (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(p))
- (17) Arianne Dinardo (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(q))
- (18) Elizabeth Bloomfield (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(t))
- (19) Julie Sergi, Realtors Association of Hamilton Burlington (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(u))
- (20) Vic Wojciechowska (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(v))
- (21) Evan Ubene (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(w))
- (22) Dr. Emily Scherzinger (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(x))
- (23) Becky Katz (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(y))
- (24) Adeola Egbeyemi (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(z))
- (25) Merima Menzildzic, Hamilton Community Legal Clinic (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(aa))
- (26) Ocean Datiao, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ac))
- (27) Marnie Schurter, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ad))
- (28) Mason Fitzpatrick (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(ae))
- (29) Anica Rak, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(af))
- (30) Liz Scott, ACORN Hamilton (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ag))

- (31) Shannon McKnight (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ah))
- (32) Bill Johnston (Pre-Recorded) (Added Item 6.1(ai))
- (33) Abedar Kamgari (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(aj))
- (34) Alex Ballagh, ACORN Hamilton (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(ak))
- (35) Elia Hamelin (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(al))
- (36) Laura Katz (Virtually) (Added Item 6.1(an))
- (37) Christine Neale, ACORN (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(ao))
- (38) Don McLean, Hamilton 350 Committee (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(ap))
- (39) Katherine Walker-Jones (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(aq))
- (40) John Laudonio (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(ar))
- (41) Nala Ismacil (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(au))
- (42) Sherly Kyorkis, HCCI (In-Person) (Added Item 6.1(av))
- (43) Lyndon George, Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre (Virtual) (Added Item 6.1(aw))

**(g) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL (Item 10)**

**(ii) Closed Session Minutes – November 27, 2023 General Issues Committee (Rate Budget) (Item 10.1)**

The Closed Session Minutes of the November 27, 2023 General Issues Committee (Rate Budget) meeting were approved and remain confidential.

**(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 11)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

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**January 19, 2024**

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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



**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

3.1 November 27, 2023 – WITHDRAWN

**11. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

11.1 Closed Session Minutes - November 27, 2023 – WITHDRAWN

Note these Items were withdrawn as they were previously approved.

The agenda for the January 19, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 6)**

**(i) Economic Overview - Navigating the Path Back Down (Item 6.1)**

Mike Zegarac, General Manager of Finance & Corporate Services, introduced Andrew Grantham, Executive Director and Senior Economist, Capital Markets, CIBC who provided Committee with a presentation on the Economic Overview - Navigating the Path Back Down.

The presentation respecting Economic Overview - Navigating the Path Back Down, was received.

**(ii) Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) (Item 6.2)**

Marnie Cluckie, City Manager, provided opening remarks and introduced Mike Zegarac, General Manager of Finance & Corporate Services, who addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting Report FSC24002, Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan.

The General Issues Committee recessed for 40 minutes until 1:00 pm.

The staff presentation respecting Report FSC24002, Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, was received.

Report FSC24002, Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, was DEFERRED until the January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting.

**(d) NOTICES OF MOTION (Item 9)**

Councillor Danko relinquished the Chair to Vice-Chair M. Wilson to introduce the following notice of motion:

**(i) Financial Impact of Provincial Polices and Downloaded Expenses**

That the financial impact of Provincial policies and downloaded expenses be included as an individual line item on the 2024 City of Hamilton property tax bills and accompanying property tax information package.

Councillor Danko assumed the Chair.

**(e) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

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**January 22, 2024**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

3.1 January 16, 2024

3.1 January 19, 2024

**7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

7.1(a) Conservation Halton - Supplementary Information

The agenda for the January 22, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

**(i)** The minutes of the following General Issues Committee (Budget) meetings, were approved, as presented:

**(1) January 16, 2024 (Added Item 3.1)**

**(2) January 19, 2024 (Added Item 3.2)**

**(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 6)**

**(i) Hamilton Public Library – 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.1)**

Nicolas Van Velzen, Hamilton Public Library Board Chair; Paul Takala, Hamilton Public Library CEO and Chief Librarian; and, Tony Del Monaco, Director of Finance and Facilities; Hamilton Public Library, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the 2024 Budget for the Hamilton Public Library.

The presentation respecting the Hamilton Public Library – 2024 Budget, was received.

**(ii) Hamilton Conservation Authority – 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.2)**

Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer; and Scott Peck, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer / Director, Watershed Management Services; Hamilton Conservation Authority, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the 2024 Budget for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

The presentation respecting the Hamilton Conservation Authority – 2024 Budget, was received.

**(iii) Hamilton Police Services Board – 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.3)**

Pat Mandy, Board Chair; and Police Chief Frank Bergen, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the 2024 Budget for the Hamilton Police Services Board.

The presentation respecting the Hamilton Police Services Board – 2024 Budget, was received.

**(iv) Recess**

The General Issues Committee (Budget) recessed for 35 minutes until 1:30 pm.

**(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 7)**

**(i) Conservation Halton - 2024 Budget Discussion (Item 7.1 and Added Item 7.1(a))**

The discussion and materials provided respecting the Conservation Halton 2024 Budget, were received.

**(ii) Grand River Conservation Authority - 2024 Budget Discussion (Item 7.2)**

The discussion and materials provided respecting the Grand River Conservation Authority 2024 Budget, were received.

**(iii) Hamilton Beach Rescue - 2024 Budget Discussion (Item 7.3)**

The discussion and materials provided respecting the Hamilton Beach Rescue 2024 Budget, were received.

**(iv) Hamilton Farmers' Market - 2024 Budget Discussion (Item 7.4)**

The discussion and materials provided respecting the Hamilton Farmers' Market 2024 Budget, were received.

**(v) Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority - 2024 Budget Discussion (Item 7.5)**

The discussion and materials provided respecting the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority 2024 Budget, were received.

**(vi) Royal Botanical Gardens - 2024 Budget Discussion (Item 7.6)**

That the discussion and materials provided respecting the Royal Botanical Gardens 2024 Budget, were received.

**(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

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**January 23, 2024**

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

The agenda for the January 23, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, was approved, as presented.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 6)**

**(i) Housing - 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.1)**

Jason Thorne, General Manager of Planning and Economic Development introduced Michelle Baird, Director, Housing Services; Justin Lewis, Director, Housing Secretariat; and Steve Robichaud, Director of Planning and Chief Planner who addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the Housing Services - 2024 Budget.

The staff presentation respecting Housing – 2024 Budget, was received.

**(ii) Healthy and Safe Communities - 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.2)**

Chris Herstek, Acting General Manager, Community Services, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting Healthy and Safe Communities – 2024 Budget.

The staff presentation respecting Healthy and Safe Communities – 2024 Budget, was received.

**(d) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

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**January 25, 2024**

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

- 3.1 January 22, 2024
- 3.2 January 23, 2024

The agenda for the January 25, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

(i) The minutes of the following General Issues Committee (Budget), were approved, as presented:

- (1) January 22, 2024 (Added Item 3.1)
- (2) January 23, 2024 (Added Item 3.2)

**(d) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 6)**

(ii) **Corporate Services Department - 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.1)**

Mike Zegarac, General Manager of Finance & Corporate Services addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the Corporate Services Department - 2024 Budget.

The staff presentation respecting Corporate Services Department – 2024 Budget, was received.

(ii) **City Manager’s Office - 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.2)**

Marnie Cluckie, City Manager, provided an introduction and Jason Thorne, General Manager, Planning and Economic Development, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the City Manager’s Office – 2024 Budget.

The staff presentation respecting City Manager’s Office – 2024 Budget, was received.

**(e) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

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**January 26, 2024**

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

**9. NOTICES OF MOTION**

- 9.1 Litter Management Service Enhancements (PW23076) - Council Referred Item #39: Litter Collection – Service Level Review

- 9.2 Reporting of Annual Expenditures on the Transportation Network in Alignment with the Asset Management Plan
- 9.3 Hamilton Police Services Board
- 9.4 Hamilton Apartment Rental Program
- 9.5 Hospital Capital Contribution (FCS23108)
- 9.6 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions

The agenda for the January 26, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 6)**

**(i) Planning and Economic Development - 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.1)**

Jason Thorne, General Manager of Planning and Economic Development addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the Planning and Economic Development - 2024 Budget.

The staff presentation respecting Planning and Economic Development – 2024 Budget, was received.

**(ii) The General Issues Committee recessed for 10 minutes until 11:16 am.**

**(iii) Public Works Department - 2024 Budget Presentation (Item 6.2)**

Carlyle Khan, General Manager, Public Works Department, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the Public Works Department - 2024 Budget.

The staff presentation respecting Public Works Department - 2024 Budget, was received.

**(iv) The General Issues Committee recessed for until 2:15 pm.**

**(d) NOTICES OF MOTION (Item 9)**

Councillor Hwang introduced the following Notice of Motion:

(i) **Litter Management Service Enhancements (PW23076) - Council Referred Item #39: Litter Collection – Service Level Review (Added Item 9.1)**

WHEREAS, Council is in the midst of the 2024 Budget Review;

WHEREAS, Council has referred a business case for Litter Management Service Enhancements to the 2024 Budget listed in the Budget as item 39 of the Council Referred Items;

WHEREAS, in Report PW23076, respecting Litter Management Service Enhancements a survey was completed and the findings concluded that 62% of respondents answered that litter within the city is a big problem and also cited that the downtown and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) would benefit from enhanced litter cleanup services;

WHEREAS, the total recommended ask in the report PW23076 an annualized operating budget of \$2,073,600 and 27.96 full-time equivalent employees (FTE), a capital budget of \$2,245,000, and operating impacts from capital beginning in 2025 of \$307,000.

WHEREAS, Council has been charged to find savings in the 2024 Budget while aligning to the Council Strategic Priorities of Safe and Thriving Neighborhoods and Economic Sustainability;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Council adopt a new Alternative 3; to Report PW23076, Litter Management Service Enhancements, as this recommendation prioritizes downtown enhancements, expanded street sweeping in BIAs, broadened litter collection in parks and trails and the ability to promote and support volunteer cleanup programs;
- (b) That as per the new Alternative 3; an annualized 2024 operating budget of \$747,000 which includes 10.96 FTE; a capital budget of \$575,000 which is already included in the 2024 waste management capital request; and operating impacts from capital beginning in 2025 of \$83,800; be approved. Councillor Danko assumed the Chair.

Councillor M. Wilson introduced the following Notice of Motion:

(ii) **Reporting of Annual Expenditures on the Transportation Network in Alignment with the Asset Management Plan (Added Item 9.2)**

WHEREAS, the Transportation network refer to the roads distribution network that facilitates the safe, accessible, and efficient movement of people, goods, and services across the City. It encompasses road



pavement, active transportation, traffic assets, as well as the engineered structures including bridges, major culverts, and retaining walls, etc. within the transportation network;

WHEREAS, Public Works Department is entrusted with delivering the capital program, as it relates to roads construction, rehabilitation and reconstruction projects and programs for the City of Hamilton's approximate 6,500 lane-kilometers of road network;

WHEREAS, Public Works Department is assigned the responsibility of formulating capital investment plans for the Transportation network, encompassing long-, medium-, and short-term strategies, and delineating the costs associated with executing capital rehabilitation and reconstruction projects and programs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the General Managers of Public Works and Finance & Corporate Services, be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee by the third quarter of 2024 following the:

- (i) examination of the entire capital planning procedure in creating capital program pertaining to the Transportation network, independent of department or division responsible for executing the capital works;
- (ii) examination of the historic Transportations network capital funding levels, adjusted for inflation, compared to the 2024 capital spending, including the multi-year outlook in the 2024 Budget presentation(s);
- (iii) examination of the historical classification or categorization of the capital projects, and recommended strategies, in accordance with current and future known administrative procedures, such as the Corporate Asset Management framework, to maintain the City's Transportation network in "fair to good" condition; and
- (iv) development of a methodology and report format for consistent communication of the information as described in above paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii).

Councillor Kroetsch introduced the following Notice of Motion:

**(iii) Hamilton Police Services 2024 Budget (Added Item 9.3)**

WHEREAS, in 2011 Council voted 8-7 to approve a motion tabled by Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson and Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson that the budget submitted by the Hamilton Police Services Board of a \$130,752,220 increase or 4.97% "be referred back to the Police

Services Board requesting further review and consideration of their budget”;

WHEREAS, in 2024, the Hamilton Police Services Board has put forward a total budget increase of \$19,826,637 or 10.24% for a total budget of \$213M;

WHEREAS Mayoral Directive MDI-2023-02, released on August 31, 2023, states that the City of Hamilton must “reduce the burden on residential property taxes” and all budget asks are reviewed prior to submission “to ensure that redundancies and efficiencies have been identified and addressed and that program lines are assessed for ongoing public benefit before continued funding is recommended”;

WHEREAS further deliberation by the Hamilton Police Services Board toward this directive may result in finding further redundancies and efficiencies; and

WHEREAS the City recognizes its fiduciary obligation to fund any mandatory capital costs as outlined in the Police Services Act 4(3).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That City Council refer the proposed Hamilton Police Services Board budget increase of \$19,826,637 or 10.24% back to the Hamilton Police Services Board requesting further review and consideration and report back with an amended budget, outlining any additional redundancies and efficiencies, by February 15, 2024.

Councillor Nann introduced the following Notice of Motion:

**(iv) Hamilton Apartment Rental Program (Added Item 9.4)**

That Staff be directed to review the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program inclusive of the Tenant Support Program, Safe Apartment By-Law, and Renovation License & Relocation By-Law programs and report back on any opportunities for 2024 Tax Levy savings from the coordinated and staggered implementation of the program.

Councillor Spadafora introduced the following Notice of Motion:

**(v) Hospital Capital Contribution (FCS23108) (Added Item 9.5)**

WHEREAS, On June 14, 2023, at the General Issues Committee (GIC) meeting, Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation (HHSC) and St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH) provided an overview of major hospital redevelopment projects to seek support to work with City staff to explore local share funding options.

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2023 staff presented Report FCS23108, Hospital Capital Contribution to the General Issues Committee that directed staff to report back to the General Issues Committee with recommendations on financing options for the City's local share contribution in Q1 of 2024;

WHEREAS, The Ontario Government provides funding for hospital capital projects under the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund, Major Capital Projects Program and project planning

WHEREAS, the Ontario government funds 90% of eligible hospital construction project costs and 100% of eligible planning, design, financing and transaction costs. The balance of the construction project costs, hospital furniture/ equipment and non-shareable costs including constructing a parking facility or renovating or constructing a gift or coffee shop which are revenue producing are the financial responsibility of the hospital funded under the Local Share Plan

WHEREAS, the local share is estimated at \$363.6 M for HHSC and \$265.0 M for SJHH.

WHEREAS, expected contributions from the hospital foundations of between 25% and 28% of the local share, there is a balance of approximately \$462 M requested from contributions by the City of Hamilton.

WHEREAS, the Proposed 2024 Tax Budget contains a placeholder of 1% (\$12M) residential tax levy increase as a potential municipal contribution to the Local Share Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to remove the 1% placeholder for the Hospital redevelopment from the 2024 tax budget.

Councillor Cassar introduced the following Notice of Motion:

**(vi) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions – REVISED (Added Item 9.6)**

WHEREAS, Council recognizes affordability concerns in the community given the recent periods of high inflation and rising interest rates;

WHEREAS, the Mayor directed staff through MDI-2023-02 to reduce the burden on residential property taxes by prioritizing the utilization of debt and emergency reserves while responsibly maintaining the City's credit rating;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget reflects a total Development Charge exemptions expense of \$62 million, a year-over-year increase of 300%

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends a three-year phase-in strategy for unfunded discretionary development charges exemptions provided under the City's Development Charges Bylaw with funding from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve of \$9.57M;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends the continuation of an eight-year phase-in strategy that leverages \$6.50M annually between 2023 to 2030 to cover the shortfall in historical discretionary Tax Supported DC exemptions incurred from 2013 to 2020;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to revise the phase-in strategy for discretionary development charge exemptions over a longer timeline that is sustainable while reducing the tax impact in 2024 and report back to General Issues Committee (Budget) with a recommended adjustment prior to the conclusion of the 2024 budget process; and
- (b) That staff continue the annual process of reviewing the opportunity to fund discretionary development charges exemptions through the annual budget surplus.

Councillor Beattie introduced the following Notice of Motion:

**(vii) Replacement of 2018 Diesel Waster Packer Equipment**

WHEREAS, the 2024 Capital Budget Waste Management Fleet Acquisition Project Number 5120051501 contemplates replacing nine 2018 model year waste handling units (packers) at a net levy impact of \$1.195M;

WHEREAS, this purchase will replace current diesel powertrain units with compressed natural gas (CNG) powertrain units as per previous Council direction;

WHEREAS, moving from diesel to CNG powered units will require additional investment in CNG fueling stations, which is included in the budget request;

WHEREAS, there are no commercially viable zero carbon powertrain options currently available in the vocational truck market;

WHEREAS, new commercially viable low or no-carbon powertrain options including hydrogen, hybrid and battery electric options are expected to come to market within the next three years;

WHEREAS, new diesel engine powertrain systems offer substantial emissions reductions over their older model year counterparts due to changes in regulatory frameworks;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton views CNG be a transitional fuel source until commercially viable zero-emission options become available; and

WHEREAS, 16 additional diesel units are scheduled to begin a replacement process in 2027.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to replace the current block of nine diesel waste packer units in a like-for-like manner; and,
- (b) That the additional \$1.195M expenditure to replace 2018 diesel waster packer equipment with compressed natural gas (CNG) equivalents and fueling infrastructure as required be removed from the 2024 tax budget, with a view to future equipment replacements using low-carbon, commercially viable equivalents including hydrogen, hybrid or battery electric options.

**(e) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee (Budget) adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

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**January 30, 2024**

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

3.1 January 25, 2024

3.2 January 26, 2024

**7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

7.1(a) Litter Management Service Enhancements (PW23076) - Council Referred Item #39: Litter Collection – Service Level Review

7.1(b) Hamilton Police Services Board

7.1(c) Hamilton Apartment Rental Program

7.1(d) Hospital Capital Contribution (FCS23108)

7.1(e) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions

7.1(f) Replacement of 2018 Diesel Waster Packer Equipment

**8. MOTIONS**

8.2 Reporting of Annual Expenditures on the Transportation Network in Alignment with the Asset Management Plan

8.3 Attaining Efficiencies Through the Review of the Use of Consultants

8.4 Internal Facilitation of Special Events including Traffic Control Plans as per Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 7 and Implementation of Temporary Road Closures for Event Organizers

The agenda for the January 30, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

Mayor A. Horwath declared a disqualifying interest to Item 7.1(c) Hamilton Apartment Rental Program (Amending Motion), as she is a landlord.

Councillor M. Spadafora declared a disqualifying interest to Item 7.1(c) Hamilton Apartment Rental Program (Amending Motion), as he is a landlord.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Item 3)**

**(iii) January 25, 2024 and January 26, 2024 (Items 3.1 and 3.2)**

The minutes of the January 25, 2024 and January 26, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meetings, were approved.

(d) **DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 7)**

(i) **2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

- (a) That the proposed 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan be approved, inclusive of:
- (i) The net tax levy of \$727.1M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$63.2 M, for City Departments, as detailed in Appendix “A” to Report FCS24002 and inclusive of Business Cases and Council Referred Items outlined in Appendix “C” to Report FCS24002;
  - (ii) The Capital Levy of \$162.3 M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$20.8 M;
  - (iii) The Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Levy of \$13.4 M, representing no change over 2023;
  - (iv) The net tax levy of \$267.3 M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$16.5 M, for external Boards and Agencies inclusive of proposed service level adjustments as outlined in Appendix “G” to Report FCS24002;
  - (v) The introduction of a Special Hospital Redevelopment Levy of \$12.0 M, representing an average residential tax increase of 1.0%;
  - (vi) One-time financing of \$72.3 M to support the Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS24002;
  - (vii) One-time financing of \$24.1 M to phase-in statutory and discretionary development charge exemptions permitted under the *Development Charges Act, 1997* and the City of Hamilton’s Development Charges Bylaw as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS24002;
  - (viii) One-time financing of \$18.4 M to support tax affordability as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS24002;
  - (ix) The 2024 gross capital budget of \$373.3 M and financing sources outlined in Appendix “F” to Report FCS24002;

- (b) That the Tax Supported Multi-Year Operating Budget 2025 to 2027, attached as Appendix “H” to Report FCS24002, and the Capital Financing Plan 2025 to 2033, attached as Appendix “I” to Report FCS24002, be approved, in principle, and subject to deliberations by Council each budget year;
- (c) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized and directed to implement the reserve financing strategy, including closure of the identified reserves, as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS24002;
- (d) 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), in either a public or private market and / or bank loan agreements and debenture issue(s), in and / or variable interest rate bank loan agreement and debenture issue(s), in an amount not to exceed \$21.1 M Canadian currency, as attached in Appendix “F” to Report FCS24002, which includes \$3.7 M in Tax Supported municipal debt and \$17.4 M in Development Charges municipal debt;
- (e) 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 recommendation (d) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel and fiscal agents;
- (f) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be 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 recommendation (d), on terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (g) 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 (d);
- (h) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements and any agreements with Community Services Provider(s), as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with, or arising out of, Council’s approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, which also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting, as



well as, the authority to make appropriate payments to community service providers, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

- (i) That, where required for Public Health Services, the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, or the Medical Officer of Health, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements, as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with or arising out of Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, and includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting;
  - (j) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy, totalling \$1,181.7 M exclusive of Education per Recommendation (a);
  - (k) That in accordance with the "Budgeted Complement Control Policy", the requested change in staff complement as outlined in Appendix "L" to Report FCS24002, be approved; and
  - (l) That the budget exclusions related to Regulation 284/09 of the *Municipal Act* titled "Budget Matters – Expenses", as per Appendix "L" attached to Report FCS23007(a), be received as information.
- (1) Litter Management Service Enhancements (PW23076) - Council Referred Item #39: Litter Collection – Service Level Review (Added Item 7.1(a))**

WHEREAS, Council is in the midst of the 2024 Budget Review;

WHEREAS, Council has referred a business case for Litter Management Service Enhancements to the 2024 Budget listed in the Budget as item 39 of the Council Referred Items;

WHEREAS, in Report PW23076, respecting Litter Management Service Enhancements a survey was completed and the findings concluded that 62% of respondents answered that litter within the city is a big problem and also cited that the downtown and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) would benefit from enhanced litter cleanup services;

WHEREAS, the total recommended ask in the report PW23076 an annualized operating budget of \$2,073,600 and 27.96 full-time equivalent employees (FTE), a capital budget of \$2,245,000, and operating impacts from capital beginning in 2025 of \$307,000; and

WHEREAS, Council has been charged to find savings in the 2024 Budget while aligning to the Council Strategic Priorities of Safe and Thriving Neighborhoods and Economic Sustainability.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to report back to General Issues Committee (Budget) with the details of the new Alternative 3 to Report PW23076, Litter Management Service Enhancements with cost implications to the 2024 Budget on February 15, 2024, in order to prioritize downtown enhancements, expanded street sweeping in BIAs, broadened litter collection in parks and trails and the ability to promote and support volunteer cleanup programs.

**(2) Hamilton Police Services Board (Added Item 7.1(b))**

WHEREAS, in 2011 Council voted 8-7 to approve a motion tabled by Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson and Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson that the budget submitted by the Hamilton Police Services Board of a \$130,752,220 increase or 4.97% “be referred back to the Police Services Board requesting further review and consideration of their budget”;

WHEREAS, in 2024, the Hamilton Police Services Board has put forward a total budget increase of \$19,826,637 or 10.24% for a total budget of \$213M;

WHEREAS Mayoral Directive MDI-2023-02, released on August 31, 2023, states that the City of Hamilton must “reduce the burden on residential property taxes” and all budget asks are reviewed prior to submission “to ensure that redundancies and efficiencies have been identified and addressed and that program lines are assessed for ongoing public benefit before continued funding is recommended”;

WHEREAS further deliberation by the Hamilton Police Services Board toward this directive may result in finding further redundancies and efficiencies;

WHEREAS the City recognizes its fiduciary obligation to fund any mandatory capital costs as outlined in the *Police Services Act* 4(3).; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2024, the General Issues Budget (Committee) approved a motion from Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin and Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson that, “Hamilton City Council go on record to embrace a municipally generated tax cap no greater than 4% for the 2024 Budget.”.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That City Council refer the proposed Hamilton Police Services Board budget increase of \$19,826,637 or 10.24% back to the Hamilton Police Services Board requesting further review and consideration and report back with a “municipally generated tax cap no greater than 4% for the 2024 Budget”, outlining any additional redundancies and efficiencies, by February 15, 2024.

**(3) Hamilton Apartment Rental Program (Added Item 7.1(c))**

Staff be directed to review the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program inclusive of the Tenant Support Program, Safe Apartment By-Law, and Renovation License & Relocation By-Law programs and report back on any opportunities for 2024 Tax Levy savings from the coordinated and staggered implementation of the program.

**(4) Hospital Capital Contribution (FCS23108) (Added Item 7.1(d))**

WHEREAS, On June 14, 2023, at the General Issues Committee (GIC) meeting, Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation and St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton provided an overview of major hospital redevelopment projects to seek support to work with City staff to explore local share funding options.

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2023 staff presented Report FCS23108, Hospital Capital Contribution to the General Issues Committee that directed staff to report back to the General Issues Committee with recommendations on financing options for the City’s local share contribution in Q1 of 2024;

WHEREAS, The Ontario Government provides funding for hospital capital projects under the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund, Major Capital Projects Program and project planning

WHEREAS, the Ontario government funds 90% of eligible hospital construction project costs and 100% of eligible planning, design, financing and transaction costs. The balance of the construction project costs, hospital furniture/ equipment and non-shareable costs including constructing a parking facility or renovating or constructing a gift or coffee shop which are revenue producing are the financial responsibility of the hospital funded under the Local Share Plan

WHEREAS, the local share is estimated at \$363.6 M for HHSC and \$265.0 M for SJHH.

WHEREAS, expected contributions from the hospital foundations of between 25% and 28% of the local share, there is a balance of approximately \$462 M requested from contributions by the City of Hamilton.

WHEREAS, the Proposed 2024 Tax Budget contains a placeholder of 1% (\$12M) residential tax levy increase as a potential municipal contribution to the Local Share Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to remove the 1% placeholder for the Hospital redevelopment from the 2024 tax budget.

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item (d)(i)(7)

**(5) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions (Added Item 7.1(e))**

WHEREAS, Council recognizes affordability concerns in the community given the recent periods of high inflation and rising interest rates;

WHEREAS, the Mayor directed staff through MDI-2023-02 to reduce the burden on residential property taxes by prioritizing the utilization of debt and emergency reserves while responsibly maintaining the City's credit rating;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget reflects a total Development Charge exemptions expense of \$62 million, a year-over-year increase of 300%

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends a three-year phase-in strategy for unfunded discretionary development charges exemptions provided under the City's Development Charges Bylaw with funding from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve of \$9.57M;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends the continuation of an eight-year phase-in strategy that leverages \$6.50M annually between 2023 to 2030 to cover the shortfall in historical discretionary Tax Supported DC exemptions incurred from 2013 to 2020;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to review the phase-in strategy for discretionary development charge exemptions over a longer timeline that is sustainable while reducing the tax impact in 2024 and report back to General Issues Committee (Budget) with a recommended adjustment prior to the conclusion of the 2024 budget process; and
- (b) That staff continue the annual process of reviewing the opportunity to fund discretionary development charges exemptions through the annual budget surplus.

**(6) Replacement of 2018 Diesel Waster Packer Equipment (Added Item 7.1(f))**

WHEREAS, the 2024 Capital Budget Waste Management Fleet Acquisition Project Number 5120051501 contemplates replacing nine 2018 model year waste handling units (packers) at a net levy impact of \$1.195M;

WHEREAS, this purchase will replace current diesel powertrain units with compressed natural gas (CNG) powertrain units as per previous Council direction;

WHEREAS, moving from diesel to CNG powered units will require additional investment in CNG fueling stations, which is included in the budget request;

WHEREAS, there are no commercially viable zero carbon powertrain options currently available in the vocational truck market;

WHEREAS, new commercially viable low or no-carbon powertrain options including hydrogen, hybrid and battery electric options are expected to come to market within the next three years;

WHEREAS, new diesel engine powertrain systems offer substantial emissions reductions over their older model year counterparts due to changes in regulatory frameworks;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton views CNG be a transitional fuel source until commercially viable zero-emission options become available;

WHEREAS, 16 additional diesel units are scheduled to begin a replacement process in 2027.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee (Budget) with the cost implications to the 2024 Budget on February 15, 2024, of replacing the current block of nine diesel waste packer units in a like-for-like manner and the removal of the additional \$1.195M expenditure to replace 2018 diesel waster packer equipment with compressed natural gas (CNG) equivalents and fueling infrastructure as required from the 2024 tax budget, with a view to future equipment replacements using low-carbon, commercially viable equivalents including hydrogen, hybrid or battery electric options.

The General Issues Committee recessed until 12:45 pm.

- (7) That the consideration of Report FCS24002, as **Amended**, respecting 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, be deferred to the February 15, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting:
- (a) That the proposed 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan be approved, inclusive of:
- (i) The net tax levy of \$727.1M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$63.2 M, for City Departments, as detailed in Appendix “A” to Report FCS24002 and inclusive of Business Cases and Council Referred Items outlined in Appendix “C” to Report FCS24002;
  - (ii) The Capital Levy of \$162.3 M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$20.8 M;
  - (iii) The Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Levy of \$13.4 M, representing no change over 2023;
  - (iv) The net tax levy of \$267.3 M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$16.5 M, for external Boards and Agencies inclusive of proposed service level adjustments as outlined in Appendix “G” to Report FCS24002;
  - ~~(v) **The introduction of a Special Hospital Redevelopment Levy of \$12.0 M, representing an average residential tax increase of 1.0%;**~~
  - (v) One-time financing of \$72.3 M to support the Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS24002;

- (vi) One-time financing of \$24.1 M to phase-in statutory and discretionary development charge exemptions permitted under the *Development Charges Act, 1997* and the City of Hamilton's Development Charges Bylaw as outlined in Appendix "E" to Report FCS24002;
- (vii) One-time financing of \$18.4 M to support tax affordability as outlined in Appendix "E" to Report FCS24002;
- (viii) The 2024 gross capital budget of \$373.3 M and financing sources outlined in Appendix "F" to Report FCS24002;
- (b) That the Tax Supported Multi-Year Operating Budget 2025 to 2027, attached as Appendix "H" to Report FCS24002, and the Capital Financing Plan 2025 to 2033, attached as Appendix "I" to Report FCS24002, be approved, in principle, and subject to deliberations by Council each budget year;
- (c) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized and directed to implement the reserve financing strategy, including closure of the identified reserves, as outlined in Appendix "E" to Report FCS24002;
- (d) 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), in either a public or private market and / or bank loan agreements and debenture issue(s), in and / or variable interest rate bank loan agreement and debenture issue(s), in an amount not to exceed \$21.1 M Canadian currency, as attached in Appendix "F" to Report FCS24002, which includes \$3.7 M in Tax Supported municipal debt and \$17.4 M in Development Charges municipal debt;
- (e) 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 recommendation (d) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel and fiscal agents;
- (f) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be 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 recommendation (d), on terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

- (g) 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 (d);
- (h) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements and any agreements with Community Services Provider(s), as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with, or arising out of, Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, which also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting, as well as, the authority to make appropriate payments to community service providers, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (i) That, where required for Public Health Services, the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, or the Medical Officer of Health, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements, as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with or arising out of Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, and includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting;
- (j) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy, totalling ~~\$1,181.7M~~ **\$1,175.7M** exclusive of Education per Recommendation (a);
- (k) That in accordance with the "Budgeted Complement Control Policy", the requested change in staff complement as outlined in Appendix "L" to Report FCS24002, be approved; and
- (l) That the budget exclusions related to Regulation 284/09 of the *Municipal Act* titled "Budget Matters – Expenses", as per Appendix "L" attached to Report FCS23007(a), be received as information.



**(e) MOTIONS (Item 8)**

Councillor Danko relinquished the Chair to Vice-Chair M. Wilson to introduce the following Notice of Motion:

**(i) Financial Impact of Provincial Polices and Downloaded Expenses (Item 8.1)**

That the financial impact of Provincial policies and downloaded expenses be included as an individual line item on the 2024 City of Hamilton property tax bills and accompanying property tax information package.

Councillor Danko assumed the Chair.

**(ii) Reporting of Annual Expenditures on the Transportation Network in Alignment with the Asset Management Plan (Added Item 8.2)**

WHEREAS, the Transportation network refer to the roads distribution network that facilitates the safe, accessible, and efficient movement of people, goods, and services across the City. It encompasses road pavement, active transportation, traffic assets, as well as the engineered structures including bridges, major culverts, and retaining walls, etc. within the transportation network;

WHEREAS, Public Works Department is entrusted with delivering the capital program, as it relates to roads construction, rehabilitation and reconstruction projects and programs for the City of Hamilton's approximate 6,500 lane-kilometers of road network;

WHEREAS, Public Works Department is assigned the responsibility of formulating capital investment plans for the Transportation network, encompassing long-, medium-, and short-term strategies, and delineating the costs associated with executing capital rehabilitation and reconstruction projects and programs;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

- (a)** That the General Managers of Public Works and Finance & Corporate Services, be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee by the second quarter of 2024 following the:
  - (i)** examination of the entire capital planning procedure in creating capital program pertaining to the Transportation network, independent of department or division responsible for executing the capital works;

- (ii) examination of the historic Transportations network capital funding levels, adjusted for inflation, compared to the 2024 capital spending, including the multi-year outlook in the 2024 Budget presentation(s);
- (iii) examination of the historical classification or categorization of the capital projects, and recommended strategies, in accordance with current and future known administrative procedures, such as the Corporate Asset Management framework, to maintain the City's Transportation network in "fair to good" condition; and
- (iv) development of a methodology and report format for consistent communication of the information as described in above paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iii).

**(iii) Attaining Efficiencies Through the Review of the Use of Consultants  
- REVISED (Added Item 8.3)**

WHEREAS, the City has and continues to engage consultants to complete work when specific expertise is required;

WHEREAS, a review of the use of consultants would provide Council with the frequency as well as a listing of the expertise the City requires on an ongoing basis; and

WHEREAS, providing staff with training opportunities to acquire the specific expertise would result in the potential for long term cost savings by having the work currently completed by consultants, completed by staff.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to review and report back to the General Issues Committee with an interim report by the second quarter of 2024 respecting the projects the City has engaged consultants to frequently complete and any upcoming projects; and
- (b) That staff be directed to evaluate the potential of long term cost savings by reviewing the list of projects, the expertise that was/is required and make recommendations for having this work completed by City staff by:
  - (i) Offering training opportunities;
  - (ii) Offering inter-departmental opportunities for staff with expertise;
  - (iii) Hiring staff with the expertise required; and
  - (iv) Include a review of the labour market and competitiveness of the City's ability to bring the expertise in house.

**(iv) Internal Facilitation of Special Events including Traffic Control Plans as per Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 7 and Implementation of Temporary Road Closures for Event Organizers (Added Item 8.4)**

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton phased out the preparation of Traffic Control Plans as per Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 7 by Qualified Persons, implementation of the temporary road closure with associated Roads and Traffic Plans in 2012 due to emergency response requirements, safety and liability risks, road maintenance priorities throughout the City, and staffing shortages due to the volume of events;

WHEREAS, the Special Events Advisory Team (SEAT), led by Healthy and Safe Communities (H&SC) is a cross-departmental team that is comprised of City of Hamilton staff from 15 municipal divisions to facilitate and support public events taking place on City property and, in some cases, events on private property that have a significant impact on City services;

WHEREAS, SEAT ensures that these events have all the necessary permits, permissions, and insurance so that events are safe for organizers, participants, the corporation, and citizens;

WHEREAS, in 2023, there were 170 major events and 250 community-level events, with a yearly average of approximately 400 events each year;

WHEREAS, event organizers are responsible for paying for various City-issued permits and licences, providing the City with proof of insurance from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party insurer, are responsible for the preparation of Traffic Control Plans as per OTM Book 7 to support all events that require a temporary closure, plus the implementation of temporary closures once approved;

WHEREAS, the City Enrichment Fund (CEF), launched in 2015, after transitioning from the Community Partnership Program (CPP), the fund provides grants to not-for profit organizations, charities, and community groups across seven program areas, Agriculture, Arts, Communities, Culture and Heritage (CCH), Community Services, Environment, Sport and Active Lifestyle that deliver a variety of services and programs throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, each year organizations are invited to submit grant applications in support of these services and programs, which are evaluated by internal and external teams. In 2023, 337 applications received funding in the amount of \$6,559,227 approved by Council to be used towards project, programs, and operations of the various applications. These include in some cases event fees (e.g. traffic control plans, road closures, off-duty police support).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the General Managers of Public Works and Planning and Economic Development, be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with an Information Report by the second quarter of 2024 on the following:

- (i) That City staff investigate any potential savings that may exist in transferring the responsibility of the event coordination in-house to the current SEAT model; referencing any other similar situations where there has been a historic need for a particular type of external advice;
- (ii) That the resources (staffing, material and vehicle costs) and processes required for a cross-departmental City of Hamilton Team to facilitate all processes, including the Traffic Control Plans associated with the implementation of temporary closures for Event Organizers be identified as part of this review;
- (iii) That the Hamilton Police Services be consulted with and resources (staffing and material costs) and processes be outlined as part of this process if to be facilitated by the City of Hamilton as part of this review;
- (iv) That the Legal & Risk Management Services Division be consulted with to identify risks, liability and insurance costs if to be facilitated by the City of Hamilton as part of this review; and
- (v) That staff identify as part of the review any opportunities for fee reductions or cost recoveries.

**(f) NOTICES OF MOTION**

**(i) Final Global Budget Number (Added Item 9.1)**

That the Rules of Order be waived to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting Final Global Budget Number.

**(g) MOTIONS - Continued (Item 8)**

**(i) Final Global Budget Number (Added Item 8.5)**

WHEREAS the 2024 tax levy increase as of the end of deliberations on January 30 stands at 6.9%;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the City Manager be directed to report back by February 15, 2024 at the General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting (if not earlier), indicating how the final global budget number can be reduced to 4% maximum and providing the benefits/challenges of this direction.

**(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee (Budget) be adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

February 15, 2024

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 1)**

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

**4. COMMUNICATIONS**

4.1 Correspondence from Andrea Dalrymple respecting the Police Budget

Recommendation: Be received.

4.2 Correspondence from The Hamilton Police Services Board, respecting the 2024 Police Services Budget

Recommendation: Be received and referred to consideration of Item 7.1.

**7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

7.1 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002), as Amended – REVISED

7.1(a) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions (Amending Motion)

7.1(b) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments – Litter Management Service Enhancements (Amending Motion)

7.1(c) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Hamilton Apartment Rental Program - REVISED (Amending Motion)

7.1(d) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments – Replacement of 2018 Diesel Waste Packer Equipment (Amending Motion)

**11. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

11.1 Correspondence Respecting 2023 Housing Targets and Performance

**CHANGE TO THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

That Private and Confidential Item 11.1, Correspondence Respecting 2023 Housing Targets and Performance, will be moved up on the agenda to be considered immediately following Consent Items.

That the agenda for the February 15, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, be approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

Mayor A. Horwath declared a disqualifying interest to Item 5.3, Report PED23072(b) / HSC23023(c), Opportunities for Tax Levy Savings in the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program and Tenant Support Program, and Item 7.1(c), 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Hamilton Apartment Rental Program (Amending Motion) and Item 4(ii) Rental Property Budget Items, as she is a landlord.

Councillor M. Spadafora declared a disqualifying interest to Item 5.3, Report PED23072(b) / HSC23023(c), Opportunities for Tax Levy Savings in the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program and Tenant Support Program, and Item 7.1(c), 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Hamilton Apartment Rental Program (Amending Motion) and Item 4(ii) Rental Property Budget Items, as he is a landlord.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Item 3)**

**(iv) January 30, 2024 (Item 3.1)**

That the minutes of the January 30, 2024 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, be approved.

**(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 4)**

**(i)** That Communications Items 4.1 and 4.2, be approved as follows:

**(1)** Correspondence from Andrea Dalrymple respecting the Police Budget (Added Item 4.1)

Recommendation: Be received.

**(2)** Correspondence from the Hamilton Police Services Board, respecting the 2024 Hamilton Police Budget (Added Item 4.2)  
Recommendation: Be received and referred to Item 7.1, Report FCS24002, 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, As Amended – REVISED.

Recommendation: Be received and referred to consideration of Item 7.1, Report FCS24002, 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, As Amended - REVISED.

**(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 5)**

**(i) Alternative Financing Strategy for Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions (FCS24017) (City Wide) (Item 5.1)**

That Report FCS24017, respecting Alternative Financing Strategy for Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions, be received and referred to the consideration of Item 7.1(a).

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item (g)(i)(2).

**(ii) Litter Management Service Enhancements (PW23076(a)) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)**

That Report PW23076(a), respecting Litter Management Service Enhancements, be received and referred to the consideration of Item 7.1(b).

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item (g)(i)(3).

**(iii) Opportunities for Tax Levy Savings in the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program and Tenant Support Program (PED23072(b) / HSC23023(c)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 5.3)**

That Report PED23072(b) / HSC23023(c), respecting Opportunities for Tax Levy Savings in the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program and Tenant Support Program, be received and referred to the consideration of Item 7.1(c).

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item (g)(i)(4).

**(iv) Replacement of 2018 Diesel Waste Packer Equipment (PW24009) (Item 5.4)**

That Report PW24009, respecting Replacement of 2018 Diesel Waste Packer Equipment, be received and referred to the consideration of Item 7.1(d).

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item (g)(i)(5).

(f) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL (Item 11)

(i) Committee moved into Closed Session for Item 11.1 pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-section (h) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-section(h) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to information explicitly supplied in confidence to the City or a local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them.

(ii) Correspondence Respecting 2023 Housing Targets and Performance (Added Item 11.1)

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 3.

(g) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 7)

(i) 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) As Amended - REVISED (Item 7.1)

(1) (a) That the ***proposed amended*** 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan be approved, inclusive of:

(i) The net tax levy of ~~\$727.1M~~ **\$728.8M**, representing an increase over 2023 of ~~\$63.2M~~ **\$64.9M**, for City Departments, as detailed in Appendix "A" to Report FCS24002 and inclusive of Business Cases and Council Referred Items outlined in Appendix "C" to Report FCS24002;

(ii) The Capital Levy of \$162.3 M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$20.8 M;

(iii) The Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Levy of \$13.4 M, representing no change over 2023;

(iv) The net tax levy of \$267.3 M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$16.5 M, for external Boards and Agencies inclusive of proposed service level adjustments as outlined in Appendix "G" to Report FCS24002;

(v) One-time financing of \$72.3 M to support the Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap as outlined in Appendix "E" to Report FCS24002;



- (vi) One-time financing of \$24.1 M to phase-in statutory and discretionary development charge exemptions permitted under the *Development Charges Act, 1997* and the City of Hamilton's Development Charges Bylaw as outlined in Appendix "E" to Report FCS24002;
- (vii) One-time financing of \$18.4 M to support tax affordability as outlined in Appendix "E" to Report FCS24002;
- (viii) The 2024 gross capital budget of \$373.3 M and financing sources outlined in Appendix "F" to Report FCS24002;
- (b) That the Tax Supported Multi-Year Operating Budget 2025 to 2027, attached as Appendix "H" to Report FCS24002, and the Capital Financing Plan 2025 to 2033, attached as Appendix "I" to Report FCS24002, be approved, in principle, and subject to deliberations by Council each budget year;
- (c) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized and directed to implement the reserve financing strategy, including closure of the identified reserves, as outlined in Appendix "E" to Report FCS24002;
- (d) 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), in either a public or private market and / or bank loan agreements and debenture issue(s), in and / or variable interest rate bank loan agreement and debenture issue(s), in an amount not to exceed \$21.1 M Canadian currency, as attached in Appendix "F" to Report FCS24002, which includes \$3.7 M in Tax Supported municipal debt and \$17.4 M in Development Charges municipal debt;
- (e) 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 recommendation (d) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel and fiscal agents;

- (f) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be 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 recommendation (d), on terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (g) 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 (d);
- (h) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements and any agreements with Community Services Provider(s), as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with, or arising out of, Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, which also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting, as well as, the authority to make appropriate payments to community service providers, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (i) That, where required for Public Health Services, the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, or the Medical Officer of Health, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements, as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with or arising out of Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, and includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting;
- (j) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy, totalling **~~\$1,181.7M~~ \$1,164.1M** exclusive of Education per Recommendation (a);
- (k) That in accordance with the "Budgeted Complement Control Policy", the requested change in staff complement as outlined in Appendix "L" to Report FCS24002, be approved; and

(l) That the budget exclusions related to Regulation 284/09 of the *Municipal Act* titled “Budget Matters – Expenses”, as per Appendix “L” attached to Report FCS23007(a), be received as information.

**(2) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Discretionary Development Charge Exemptions (Amending Motion) (Added Item 7.1(a))**

WHEREAS, Council recognizes affordability concerns in the community given the recent periods of high inflation and rising interest rates;

WHEREAS, the Mayor directed staff through MDI-2023-02 to reduce the burden on residential property taxes by prioritizing the utilization of debt and emergency reserves while responsibly maintaining the City’s credit rating;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends a three-year phase-in strategy for unfunded discretionary development charges exemptions provided under the City’s Development Charges Bylaw with funding from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve of \$9.57M;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends the continuation of an eight-year phase-in strategy that leverages \$6.50M annually between 2023 to 2030 to cover the shortfall in historical discretionary tax supported development charge exemptions incurred from 2013 to 2020;

WHEREAS, the More Homes Built Faster Act (Bill 23), passed by the Province of Ontario in late 2022, made several changes that reduced the amount of revenues the City of Hamilton can collect from developers to support growth related infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget includes a total budget for both statutory and discretionary development charge exemptions of \$62.1M, representing an increase of \$42.7M over 2023, which includes a reserve financing strategy of \$35.4M to phase-in the impacts over three years.

WHEREAS, staff have identified an alternative financing strategy for discretionary development charge exemptions through Report FCS24017 that phases the funding over a longer timeline and leverages additional operating budget surplus to reduce the immediate tax impact in 2024 by \$6.5M, or 0.54%.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the recommendations in Report FCS24002, respecting the proposed 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan, be amended to reflect a reduction of \$6.5M to the financing strategy for discretionary development charge exemptions per Report FCS24017.

**(3) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments – Litter Management Service Enhancements (Amending Motion) (Added Item 7.1(b))**

WHEREAS, Council recognizes affordability concerns in the community given the recent periods of high inflation and rising interest rates;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends enhanced proactive and reactive litter management in the public realm city wide;

WHEREAS, Report PW23076 provided a recommendation and two alternatives for consideration;

WHEREAS, the total operating impact of the recommendation is \$2.4M;

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2024, through Amending Motion 7.1(a), General Issues Committee (Budget) directed staff to report back with the details of the new Alternative 3, detailed in Report PW23076(a), Litter Management Service Enhancements with cost implications in the 2024 Budget, which if approved, will prioritize downtown enhancements, expanded street sweeping in the Business Improvement Areas, broadened litter collection in parks and trails, and the ability to promote and support volunteer clean-up groups; and,

WHEREAS, the overall Operating impact of Alternative 3 is \$0.8M resulting in a Tax operating reduction of \$1.5M.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the recommendations in Report FCS24002, respecting the proposed 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan, be amended to reflect the Litter Enhancement Strategy to Alternative 3, as described in Report PW23076(a), resulting in a reduction of \$1,630,800 and 17 full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) to the 2024 net levy amount and inclusive of the following revisions:

- (i) That the 2024 Council Referred Item Litter Collection Service Level Review (PW23076) be revised to include a total of 10.96 FTEs, an operating budget of \$747,000 in 2024, a capital budget of \$575,000 to be funded from the Waste Collection Fleet Replacement project (# 5120051501), and an additional operating impact of capital of \$83,800 in 2025.

**(4) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments - Hamilton Apartment Rental Program (Amending Motion) (Added Item 7.1(c))**

WHEREAS, Staff were directed to review the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program inclusive of the Tenant Support Program, Safe Apartment By-Law, and Renovation License & Relocation By-Law programs and report back on any opportunities for 2024 Tax Levy savings from the coordinated and staggered implementation of the program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the recommendations in Report FCS24002, respecting the proposed 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan, be amended to reflect the revised implementation plan for the Tenant Support, Safe Apartment By-Law, and Renovation License & Relocation By-Law programs resulting in a \$1,390,623 decrease to the 2024 net levy amount and inclusive of the following revisions:
  - (i) That capital project 4502451001 Licensing By-law Vehicles - Safe Apartments, Renovation By-laws, Waterfront gross amount be revised to \$272,625 in 2024 and \$542,250 in 2025;
  - (ii) That the 2024 Council Referred Item Renovation Licence and Relocation Listing Bylaw PED 23072 Staffing Request be revised to include a total of 3 FTEs, resulting in a net expenditure of \$132,800 for 2024, \$271,200 for 2025, \$281,100 for 2026, and \$291,400 for 2027;
  - (iii) That the 2024 Council Referred Item Safe Apartment Buildings By-law PED23072 be amended as follows:
    - 1. That revenues not earned up to 87% cost recovery during the implementation period of the Safe Apartment By-Law be funded from Tax Stabilization reserve 110046. This is estimated at \$490,000 in 2024; \$1.7M in

2025; and \$1.1M in 2026;

2. Phased-in hiring of a total of 25 FTEs during the implementation period spanning from 2024 to 2026. This represents a net expenditure of \$72,600 in 2024, \$253,100 in 2025, and \$404,000 in 2026 and beyond.

- (iv) That the 2024 Council Referred Item HSC23023(b) Tenant Support Program be revised to include a total of 4 FTEs, resulting in a net expenditure of \$810,000 for 2024 and \$1,079,000 for 2025 and beyond; and that the associated capital investment of \$50,000 be removed.

**(5) 2024 Tax Budget Amendments – Replacement of 2018 Diesel Waste Packer Equipment (Amending Motion) - REVISED (Added Item 7.1(d))**

WHEREAS, Council recognizes affordability concerns in the community given the recent periods of high inflation and rising interest rates;

WHEREAS, the proposed 2024 Tax Budget recommends the replacement of nine diesel waste packer units with compressed natural gas at an additional cost of \$1.89M; and,

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2024, Council through the General Issues Committee (Budget) directed staff to report back with the cost implications to the 2024 Budget of replacing the current block of nine diesel waste packer units in a like-for-like manner and the removal of the additional \$1.195M expenditure to replace 2018 diesel waste packer equipment with compressed natural gas equivalents and fuelling infrastructure as required.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the recommendations in Report FCS24002, respecting the proposed 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan, be amended to reflect a change in financing strategy for the replacement of the compressed natural gas waste collection trucks with \$597,500 to be funded from the Climate Change reserve (#108062) and \$597,500 from the Unallocated Capital Reserve (#108020) resulting in a \$1.195M reduction in the 2024 capital budget per Report PW24009 and that those savings be directed to offset the projected 2024 levy increase.

- (6) That sub-section (a)(i) to Report FCS24002, **be amended** by decreasing the net tax levy to \$719.1M.

(7) **Recess**

The General Issues Committee recessed until 1:30 pm.

(8) **Main Motion, As Amended by All of the Amendments Above**

- (a) That the **proposed amended** 2024 tax supported budget and financing plan be approved, inclusive of:
- (ii) The net tax levy of ~~\$727.1M~~ **\$719.1M**, representing an increase over 2023 of ~~\$63.2M~~ **\$55.1M**, for City Departments **excluding the Renovation Licence By-law, Safe Apartment Buildings By-law, and Tenant Support Program**, as detailed in Appendix “A” to Report FCS24002 and inclusive of Business Cases and Council Referred Items outlined in Appendix “C” to Report FCS24002;
    - 1. **That the introduction of the Renovation Licence By-law, Safe Apartment Rental and Tenant Support Programs representing a net levy of \$1.0M be approved;**
  - (iii) The Capital Levy of ~~\$162.3M~~ **\$155.8M**, representing an increase over 2023 of ~~\$20.8M~~ **\$14.3M**;
  - (iii) The Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Levy of \$13.4 M, representing no change over 2023;
  - (iv) The net tax levy of ~~\$267.3M~~ **\$59.8M**, representing an increase over 2023 of ~~\$16.5M~~ **\$2.7M**, for external Boards and Agencies, **excluding the Hamilton Police Service**, inclusive of proposed service level adjustments as outlined in Appendix “G” to Report FCS24002;
    - 1. **That the net levy of \$207.5M, representing an increase over 2023 of \$13.9M, for the Hamilton Police Service be approved;**
  - (v) One-time financing of \$72.3 M to support the Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap as outlined in Appendix “E” to Report FCS24002;
  - (vi) One-time financing of ~~\$24.1M~~ **\$26.1M** to phase-in statutory and discretionary development charge exemptions permitted under the *Development Charges Act, 1997* and the City of

Hamilton's Development Charges Bylaw as outlined in Appendix "E" **as amended** to Report FCS24002;

- (vii) One-time financing of ~~\$18.4 M~~ **\$20.9M** to support tax affordability as outlined in Appendix "E" **as amended** to Report FCS24002;
- (viii) The 2024 gross capital budget of ~~\$373.3 M~~ **\$372.9M** and financing sources outlined in Appendix "F" **as amended** to Report FCS24002;
- (b) That the Tax Supported Multi-Year Operating Budget 2025 to 2027, attached as Appendix "H" **as amended** to Report FCS24002, and the Capital Financing Plan 2025 to 2033, attached as Appendix "I" **as amended** to Report FCS24002, be approved, in principle, and subject to deliberations by Council each budget year;
- (c) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be authorized and directed to implement the reserve financing strategy, including closure of the identified reserves, as outlined in Appendix "E" **as amended** to Report FCS24002;
- (d) 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), in either a public or private market and / or bank loan agreements and debenture issue(s), in and / or variable interest rate bank loan agreement and debenture issue(s), in an amount not to exceed \$21.1 M Canadian currency, as attached in Appendix "F" to Report FCS24002, which includes \$3.7 M in Tax Supported municipal debt and \$17.4 M in Development Charges municipal debt;
- (e) 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 recommendation (d) including, but not limited to, external legal counsel and fiscal agents;
- (f) That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, be 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 recommendation (d), on terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;



- (g) 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 (d);
- (h) That the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements and any agreements with Community Services Provider(s), as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with, or arising out of, Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, which also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting, as well as, the authority to make appropriate payments to community service providers, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (i) That, where required for Public Health Services, the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, or delegate, or the Medical Officer of Health, or delegate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, all agreements, including all federal and provincial funding agreements, as well as, any ancillary agreements, contracts, extensions and documents, associated with or arising out of Council's approval of the 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan, and includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly and / or year-end reporting;
- (j) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy, totalling ~~\$1,181.7M~~ **\$1,156.5M** exclusive of Education per Recommendation (a);
- (k) That in accordance with the "Budgeted Complement Control Policy", the requested change in staff complement as outlined in Appendix "L" to Report FCS24002, be approved; and
- (l) That the budget exclusions related to Regulation 284/09 of the *Municipal Act* titled "Budget Matters – Expenses", as per Appendix "L" attached to Report FCS23007(a), be received as information.

**(9) Police Service Budget**

As per Committee's request, the 2024 Police Budget was voted on separately.

Refer to Item 2(i) for the disposition of this item.

**(10) Rental Property Budget Items**

Due to declared conflicts, the Rental Property Budget Items were voted on separately.

Refer to Item 2(ii) for the disposition of this item.

For the disposition of the balance of the Main Motion, **as Amended**, refer to Item 2(iii).

**(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee (Budget) adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Councillor John Paul Danko  
Chair, General Issues Committee Budget

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Angela McRae  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk