



EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT 24-004

1:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 16, 2024
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present: Councillors C. Kroetsch (Chair), T. Jackson, T. Hwang, N. Nann and M. Wilson

Also Present: Councillor J. Beattie

Absent with

Regrets: Councillor A. Wilson – City Business, Councillor B. Clark - Personal

THE EMERGENCY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 24-004 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Community Safety and Well-Being Annual Report 2024 (HSC24015) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

That Report HSC24015, respecting the Community Safety and Well-Being Annual Report, be received.

2. Ontario Child Care Workforce Strategy, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Funding (HSC24025) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)

- (a) That the City of Hamilton accept the additional 100 percent provincial 2024 Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care and the Ontario's Child Care Workforce Strategy one time funding in the amount of \$5,584,149, and
- (b) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities Department, or designate, be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City, the funding agreement from the Ministry of Education, as well as any ancillary agreements associated with this funding in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

3. Development of a Policy for the Use of Indigenous Images and Themes in City of Hamilton Facilities (Item 11.1)

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is situated on the traditional territory of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas, and that this land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes, and that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is committed to having a trusting relationship with Indigenous communities where we communicate and work together appropriately to address the unique needs and issues of Indigenous people;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton's Urban Indigenous Strategy identified the need to do more to visually represent the historic and continuing presence of Indigenous peoples and recognized that Indigenous cultures and traditions need to be respected and seen as more than a performance;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Hamilton Urban Indigenous Strategy, Indigenous people, inclusive of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit, must be involved in decision-making in municipal activities that affect them, and that consultation with urban Indigenous people and communities must be meaningful;

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2019, the Mayor of the City of Hamilton received correspondence from the Ontario Human Rights Commission through Chief Commissioner Renu Mandhane regarding a settlement reached in an Application before the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario involving the City of Mississauga, and as a result of the settlement, the Ontario Human Rights Commission wrote to all Ontario municipalities to encourage them to collaborate with local Indigenous communities to develop a policy on the use of Indigenous themed logos and names within their sports facilities; and

WHEREAS, City Council approved the Use of Indigenous Images/Themes in City Sports & Recreation Facilities Policy on January 24, 2024, but that a similar policy does not exist for all indoor and outdoor facilities under the jurisdiction of the City of Hamilton.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee by the end of Q2 2024, with a culturally appropriate policy for the use of Indigenous images and themes in indoor and outdoor facilities under the jurisdiction of the City of Hamilton; and
- (b) That staff engage in meaningful consultation with the local Indigenous community to inform the development of this policy.

4. Funding Allocation for McQuesten Urban Farm 2024 Operations (Item 11.2)

WHEREAS, the McQuesten Urban Farm was one of the main neighbourhood development initiatives undertaken as part of the Neighbourhood Action Strategy and has been in operation on a parcel of City-owned land located at 384-390 Melvin Avenue since 2016;

WHEREAS, the McQuesten Urban Farm provides access to affordable fresh food in an area of the city that meets the criteria as a food desert;

WHEREAS, the McQuesten Urban Farm provides valuable programming focused on food security and healthy eating for families and youth as well as volunteering and community building opportunities for residents;

WHEREAS, the development of the Biindigen Well-Being Centre on the adjacent land parcel at 785 Britannia Avenue is underway and the McQuesten Urban Farm will be integrated with the Biindigen development;

WHEREAS, Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg is one of the members of Biindigen and has been the operator of the McQuesten Urban Farm since 2022; and

WHEREAS Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg is currently experiencing a budget shortfall to operate the McQuesten Urban Farm in 2024.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- (a) That McQuesten Urban Farm in 2024 be funded from the Ward 4 Capital Discretionary Account 3302109400 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$50,000; and
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

5. Eastdale Elementary School Access to Eastdale Park During School Hours, 260 Celtic Drive, Stoney Creek (Ward 10) (Item 11.3)

(Hwang/Jackson)

WHEREAS, Eastdale Elementary School was rebuilt onsite by the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board in 2020 as a result of the Board's 2015 Pupil Accommodation Review (PAR);

WHEREAS, the Eastdale Elementary School site is slightly smaller than current Hamilton Wentworth District School Board standards;

WHEREAS, the school's proximity to the adjacent Eastdale Park was considered in this decision in anticipation that students would have unincumbered access to the park's playfields;

WHEREAS, changes in staff and political positions at both the City and Board since the initial PAR impeded the creation of the shared use agreements required to grant this access;

WHEREAS, the population growth at Eastdale School has far exceeded original estimates; and

WHEREAS, the resultant temporary pupil accommodations (portable classrooms) on the school site have used the majority of the student playfield.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That City of Hamilton Recreation staff be directed to work with staff from the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board to develop and enter into a shared use agreement for the continual use of Eastdale Park by School Staff and Students during school hours;
- (b) That the fees associated with accessing park during the above identified school hours be waived for the duration of the agreement; and
- (c) That the City's General Manager of Community Services be directed to execute said agreement in a form satisfactory with the City's Solicitor.

6. Use of the Bridgeworks Facility for City Staff and the Central Neighbourhood Association, 200 Caroline St. N., Hamilton (Ward 2) (Item 11.4)

WHEREAS, the City is the owner of the renovated building located at 200 Caroline Street North, comprising of 13,450 square feet, with the purpose of creating the Barton Community Hub (Community Hub);

WHEREAS, the City required and sought an operator for the Community Hub in accordance with the Request for Proposals, Contract No. C11-2.3-19;

WHEREAS, Sonic Unyon Records Ltd. (Sonic Unyon) submitted an acceptable proposal pursuant to the RFP and entered into an “Operating Agreement” with the City, naming the facility Bridgeworks;

WHEREAS, Sonic Unyon is an incorporated not-for-profit organization that presents year round multi-art events culminating in the annual Supercrawl festival on James Street in Hamilton, Ontario;

WHEREAS, Sonic Unyon’s programming direction is diverse and encompasses a variety of artistic practices and genres, incorporating a strong locally derived program of artists and musicians, one unprecedented in comparison to other events in this region;

WHEREAS, Sonic Unyon is a locally owned, operating in the arts and entertainment space for over twenty-five (25) years in the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, Sonic Unyon was granted funding from the Canadian Cultural Spaces Fund providing investment capital into Bridgeworks and subsequently received a 10 year extension on the operating agreement, expiring on the 31st day of May, 2032;

WHEREAS, in the Terms of Reference of the operating agreement it states that the City reserves the right to book some or all the space for City business uses subject to availability and payment of the standard fees;

WHEREAS, the Operating Agreement speaks to the responsibilities of the operator, which includes actively and proactively maximizing the benefit of the Community Hub to the community by maximizing the usage of the Facility;

WHEREAS, both City Staff and the Central Neighbourhood Association are in need of free or low-cost access to space in Ward 2;

WHEREAS, Sonic Unyon is willing to accommodate free access for City Staff and the Central Neighbourhood Association with certain conditions;

WHEREAS, Availability of the space in the facility will work around Sonic Unyon's confirmed schedule to ensure it doesn't interfere with other programming;
WHEREAS, Requested dates should be planned in advance and preferably avoiding weekends;

WHEREAS, Only the fee for use of the space will be waived. Use of tech equipment will come at an additional cost and will be outlined in the amended agreement; and

WHEREAS, Sonic Unyon will be incurring staffing costs to be at the facility so any free use of the space will need to be respectful of the start and end times of the booking, with additional fees being charged for unanticipated extra use in order to cover staffing costs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That City of Hamilton Recreation staff be directed to work with Sonic Unyon to amend the operating agreement for City Staff and the Central Neighbourhood Association to have free access to the space under specified conditions, and;
- (b) That the City's General Manager of Community Services be directed to execute said agreement in a form satisfactory with the City's Solicitor.

7. Ward 2 Community Grants - Food Insecurity Programming Q1 and Q2 2024 (Ward 2) (Added Item 11.5)

WHEREAS, in 2023 funds from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609602) were allocated to organizations that address poverty and food insecurity, including Compass Community Health, 541 Eatery & Exchange, Helping Hands Street Mission, and the Queen Victoria Elementary School Nutrition Program;

WHEREAS, each of these organizations applied through the Ward 2 Community Grants application process and specified that their programming relates to food provision and insecurity;

WHEREAS, any applications related to food programming will be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609602), as long as there are funds available; and

WHEREAS, the following \$15,750 allocated to four (4) individual organizations fulfills Q1 and Q2 2024 of the Ward 2 Community Grants applications for programs addressing food insecurity and provision.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

- (a) That free school-wide pizza lunch to the Dr. J. E. Davey School Council be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$750;
- (b) That purchase of supplies for a breakfast program to the Hamilton Downtown Mosque be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,000;
- (c) That breakfast programming at Hess Street School to Tastebuds Hamilton be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,000;

- (d) That purchase of supplies for their foodbank to Living Rock Ministries be funded from the Ward 2 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account 3301609602 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,000; and
- (e) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

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

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.1 Correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles respecting Support for the Resolution Passed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on January 18, 2024, regarding Household Food Insecurity (*Referred by the Public Health Committee, April 29, 2024*)

Recommendation: Be received

- 5.2 Correspondence from J. Bishop, S. Bainbridge, D. Savage, D. Jaffray, K. Sahai, respecting Ontario Child Care Workforce Strategy, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Funding (HSC24025) (City Wide)

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the consideration of Item 10.1

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- 6.1 Dr. S. Palmer, Hamilton Social Work Action Committee, respecting Social Assistance Rates (for a future meeting)

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

- 12.1 Ward 2 Community Grants - Food Insecurity Programming Q1 and Q2 2024 (Ward 2)

The agenda for the May 16, 2024 Emergency and Community Services Committee meeting was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

(i) April 18, 2024 (Item 4.1)

The Minutes of the April 18, 2024 meeting of the Emergency and Community Services Committee, were approved, as presented.

(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

The following Communications were approved, as presented:

- (i) Correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles respecting Support for the Resolution Passed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on January 18, 2024, regarding Household Food Insecurity (Added Item 5.1) (*Referred by the Public Health Committee, April 29, 2024*)

Recommendation: Be received

- (ii) Correspondence from J. Bishop, S. Bainbridge, D. Savage, D. Jaffray, K. Sahai, respecting Ontario Child Care Workforce Strategy, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Funding (HSC24025) (City Wide) (Added Item 5.2)

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the consideration of Item 10.1

(e) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

- (i) Dr. S. Palmer, Hamilton Social Work Action Committee, respecting Social Assistance Rates (Added Item 6.1)**

The Delegation Request from Dr. S. Palmer, Hamilton Social Work Action Committee, respecting Social Assistance Rates, was approved, for a future meeting.

(f) STAFF PRESENTATION (Item 8)

- (i) Community Safety and Well-Being Annual Report 2024 (HSC24015) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

Rachelle Ihekwoaba, Manager - Community Strategies, addressed Committee with an introduction to the Community Safety and Well-Being Annual Report 2024 (HSC24015), with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

- (1)** The Presentation respecting the Community Safety and Well-Being Annual Report 2024 (HSC24015), was received.

- (2) Staff were directed to work with the Women Abuse Working Group and report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee in Q3 of 2024, with recommendations to help address the service and support gaps in the Gender-based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence sector in Hamilton, including options and additional resources.

Councillor Kroetsch relinquished the Chair to Councillor Hwang in order to introduce the following motion:

- (3) (a) That City staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee, with an overview of the Toronto Community Crisis Service; and
- (b) That staff be directed to report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee in Q4 2024, on the feasibility of implementing a similar service in the City of Hamilton.

For further disposition, refer to Item 1

Councillor Kroetsch assumed the Chair.

(g) CONSENT ITEM (Item 9)

(i) Seniors Advisory Committee Minutes – April 5, 2024 (Item 9.1)

The April 5, 2024 Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee, were received.

Councillor Kroetsch relinquished the Chair to Councillor Hwang in order to introduce the following motions:

(h) NOTICE OF MOTION (Item 12)

(i) Ward 2 Community Grants - Food Insecurity Programming Q1 and Q2 2024 (Ward 2) (Added Item 12.1)

The Rules of Order were waived to allow for the introduction of a Motion respecting Ward 2 Community Grants - Food Insecurity Programming Q1 and Q2 2024 (Ward 2).

For further disposition, refer to Item 7.

Councillor Kroetsch assumed the Chair following the vote on Item 7.

(i) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

There being no further business, the Emergency and Community Services Committee adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Kroetsch, Chair
Emergency and Community Services
Committee

Loren Kolar
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk