



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE REPORT 24-017

9:30 a.m.

October 16, 2024

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

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

Absent: Councillors J.P. Danko, and T. Jackson - Personal

THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 24-017 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. **Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update (PED24166) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 8.1)**
 - (a) That Appendix "A" to Report PED24166 "Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy Annual Climate Change Update 2024" be received.
 - (b) That Appendix "B" to Report PED24166 "Status Update Regarding Climate Actions in Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy" be received.
 - (c) That the proposal to shift the Annual Update on Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy to June of each year, starting in 2025, be approved; and,
 - (d) That the Office of Climate Change Initiatives, in partnership with Corporate Facilities and Energy Management, be directed to explore an accelerated timeline for realizing the net zero goal of Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy, building on Council priorities already in place to accelerate corporate greenhouse gas emission reduction timelines, and report back to the General Issues Committee in June 2025.

2. **2023 Annual Energy Report (PW21049(c) / FCS24050) (City Wide) (Item 9.1)**

That Report PW21049(c) / FCS24050, respecting 2023 Annual Energy Report, be received.

Council – October 23, 2024

3. Next Generation 9-1-1 Service Delivery - Authority Agreements (FCS20082(f) / HSC20045(f)) (City Wide) (Item 9.2)

That the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, the Fire Chief, the Chief Information Officer or designates thereof be authorized to negotiate, enter into and execute on behalf of the City of Hamilton, contracts, renewals, extensions, amendments, any ancillary documents, and any new agreement(s) presently or subsequently required to establish and maintain Next Generation 9-1-1 services for the City of Hamilton, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

4. Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Report 24-007 - October 8, 2024 (Item 9.3)

(1) Concession Street Business Improvement Area Expenditure Requests (Item 11.1)

That the expenditure request from the Concession Street Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$14,271.77 be spent on two new benches on Concession Street; tear drop banners; planters and plants maintenance; monthly sidewalk clean up; and proper storage units for all Concession Street Business Improvement Area special events equipment and peripherals, to be funded from the 2024 Parking Revenue Sharing Program (Parking Revenue Account 815010-52505), be approved.

(2) Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area Expenditure Requests (Item 11.2)

That the expenditure request from the Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$4,969.27 be spent on the purchase of new holiday decor and maintenance of existing holiday decorations, to be funded from the 2024 Contribution to Operating Budget Program for the Business Improvement Areas (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved.

(3) Ancaster Business Improvement Area Expenditure Requests (Item 11.3)

(a) That the expenditure request from the Ancaster Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$5,572.98 be spent on beautification initiatives and holiday décor to be funded from the 2024 Contribution to Operating Budget Program for the Business Improvement Areas (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved; and

- (b) That the expenditure request from the Ancaster Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$5,283.45 be spent on beautification initiatives and holiday décor to be funded from the 2023 Parking Revenue Sharing Program (Parking Revenue Account 815010-52505), be approved.

(4) Barton Village Business Improvement Area Expenditure Requests (Item 11.4)

- (a) That the expenditure request from the Barton Village Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$7,522.39 be spent on special events to be funded from the 2024 Contribution to Operating Budget Program for the Business Improvement Areas (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved; and
- (b) That the expenditure request from the Barton Village Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$10,192.27 be spent on holiday decor and maintenance to be funded from the 2024 Parking Revenue Sharing Program (Parking Revenue Account 815010-52505), be approved.

5. Public Access to Hamilton Piers (PW24061) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)

- (a) That the General Manager, Public Works or designate be authorized to enter into a public use license agreement, including any ancillary agreements or amendments, with the land stewards acting on behalf of the Crown, to permit public access to the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton portion of the Federally owned piers (“the Hamilton Piers”), consistent with the parameters outlined in Report PW24061;
- (b) That staff be authorized to spend \$50,000 to implement minor improvements to the walking surface to access the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers, as well as the surface of the Hamilton Piers itself as may be needed to improve public access, to be funded from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020;
- (c) That staff be authorized to spend \$350,000 to install railings on both sides of the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers for public health and safety, to be funded \$250,000 from Hamilton Beach Lift Bridge Pier project ID 4402356127 and \$100,000 from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020;

- (d) That the Environmental Services Division, Parks Section's annual operating budget be increased by \$20,000 to fund the ongoing operations and maintenance to support public access to the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers, starting in 2025;
- (e) That staff be directed to continue to negotiate for public access to the remaining pieces of the Hamilton Piers, and report back with the results of that negotiation, including costs for the 2026 budget in Q4 2025; and,
- (f) That Confidential Appendix "A" - "Burlington Harbour Fisherman's Piers Risk Analysis" to Report PW24061, Public Access to Hamilton Piers, remain confidential.

6. Reducing Homelessness and Managing Encampments (HSC24027(c)) (City Wide) (Item 10.2)

That Report HSC24027(c), respecting Reducing Homelessness and Managing Encampments, be received.

7. Distance Separation from Concentration of Temporary Shelter Beds (Generated from Item 10.2)

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2024, Council approved Reducing Homelessness and Managing Encampments Report HSC24027(b)/FCS24028/PED24162 which approved and funded 192 Temporary Shelter Beds within existing facilities;

WHEREAS, Report HSC24027(b)/FCS24028/PED24162 approved a radial distance separation of 1 km from the temporary outdoor shelter at the Barton/Tiffany Lands to reduce intensification;

WHEREAS, 123 of the 192 temporary beds are located within existing facilities within a four-block area in Ward 3; and,

WHEREAS, Council supports reducing the impact and intensification of the temporary shelter beds on the surrounding community;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the following parks and green spaces be removed from the Encampment Protocol as compliant sites once the 192 temporary shelter beds are operational:

- (a) J.C. Beemer Park/Tweedsmuir Park;
- (b) Bishop's Park;
- (c) Claremont Access Parkettes;
- (d) 298 Hunter Street East (green space west of Claremont Access);
- (e) Carter Park;

- (f) Myrtle Park; and,
- (g) Rail Trail between extension of Wellington Street South and Sherman Avenue South

8. Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal - 405 James Street North (PED22155(a) / LS23012(c)) (Ward 2) (Added Item 14.3)

- (a) That the directions provided in closed session respecting Report PED22155(a)/ LS23012(c), Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal - 405 James Street North, be approved;
- (b) That closed session recommendations (a) and (b) in Report PED22155(a)/ LS23012(c), respecting Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal - 405 James Street North, be approved and remain confidential until such time as the necessary conditions for public release described therein are met; and,
- (c) That the balance of Report PED22155(a)/LS23012(c), respecting Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal - 405 James Street North, remain confidential.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

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

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.2 Correspondence from Richard Koroscil, and Jesse Elders, Bay Area Climate Change Council respecting Item 8.1 - Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update (PED24166)

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

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- 6.1 Katie Stiel, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, respecting Hamilton Day. An award winning city-wide celebration of our community and local businesses taking place November 1st - 3rd, 2024 (In-Person) (For today's meeting)

8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

- 8.1 Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update (PED24166) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (REVISED Presentation)

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

12.1 Distance Separation from Concentration of Temporary Shelter Beds

14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

14.3 Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal - 405 James Street North
(PED22155(a) / LS23012(c)) (Ward 2)

The agenda for the October 16, 2024 General Issues Committee meeting, was approved, as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

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

(i) October 2, 2024 (Item 4.1)

The minutes of the October 2, 2024 General Issues Committee, were approved, as presented.

(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

Communication Items 5.1 and 5.2, were approved, as presented, as follows:

(i) Correspondence from Kelly Oucharek, respecting an all of Hamilton approach to homelessness (Item 5.1)

Recommendation: Be received.

(ii) Correspondence from Richard Koroscil, and Jesse Elders, Bay Area Climate Change Council respecting Item 8.1 - Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update (PED24166) (Added Item 5.2)

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

(e) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

(i) The following Delegation Request, was approved:

(1) Katie Stiel, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, respecting Hamilton Day. An award winning city-wide celebration of our community and local businesses taking place November 1st - 3rd, 2024 (In-Person) (For today's meeting) (Added Item 6.1)

(f) DELEGATIONS (Item 7)

- (i) Lee Fairbanks, respecting a plan to adjust existing tree planting policies to align them with the City's Climate Change Emergency and Urban Tree Canopy goals (In-Person) (Approved September 18, 2024) (Item 7.1)**

Lee Fairbanks, addressed the Committee respecting a plan to adjust existing tree planting policies to align them with the City's Climate Change Emergency and Urban Tree Canopy goals.

- (1)** The delegate was provided with an additional 5 minutes to complete their delegation.
- (2)** The Delegation from Lee Fairbanks, respecting a plan to adjust existing tree planting policies to align them with the City's Climate Change Emergency and Urban Tree Canopy goals, was received.

- (ii) Ali T Ghouse, Muslim Council of Greater Hamilton, respecting information about the Muslim community's achievements, plans for Hamilton, aspirations and how it relates to activities in the City and City Council (In-Person) (Approved October 2, 2024) (Item 7.2)**

Javid Mirza, Muslim Association of Hamilton, addressed the Committee, respecting information about the Muslim community's achievements, plans for Hamilton, aspirations and how it relates to activities in the City and City Council.

The Delegation from Javid Mirza, Muslim Association of Hamilton, respecting information about the Muslim community's achievements, plans for Hamilton, aspirations and how it relates to activities in the City and City Council, was received.

- (iii) Katie Stiel, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, respecting Hamilton Day. An award winning city-wide celebration of our community and local businesses taking place November 1st - 3rd, 2024 (In-Person) (Added Item 7.3)**

Katie Stiel, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Committee respecting respecting Hamilton Day. An award winning city-wide celebration of our community and local businesses taking place November 1st - 3rd, 2024.

The Delegation from Katie Stiel, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, respecting Hamilton Day. An award winning city-wide celebration of our community and local businesses taking place November 1st - 3rd, 2024, was received.

(g) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 8)

(i) Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update (PED24166) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 8.1)

Lynda Lukasik, Director, Climate Change Initiatives, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting Report PED24166, Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update.

The staff presentation respecting Report PED24166, Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update, was received.

For disposition of this mater, refer to Item 1.

(ii) Recess

The General Issues Committee recessed for 30 minutes until 12:35 p.m.

The General Issues Committee Meeting reconvened at 12:36 p.m.

(h) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

(i) Public Access to Hamilton Piers (PW24061) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)

The Report was put on the floor, as follows:

- (1)** (a) That the General Manager, Public Works or designate be authorized to enter into a public use license agreement, including any ancillary agreements or amendments, with the land stewards acting on behalf of the Crown, to permit public access to the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton portion of the Federally owned piers ("the Hamilton Piers"), consistent with the parameters outlined in Report PW24061;
- (b) That staff be authorized to spend \$50,000 to implement minor improvements to the walking surface to access the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers, as well as the surface of the Hamilton Piers itself as may be needed to improve public access, to be funded from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020;

- (c) That staff be authorized to spend \$350,000 to install railings on both sides of the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers for public health and safety, to be funded \$250,000 from Hamilton Beach Lift Bridge Pier project ID 4402356127 and \$100,000 from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020; and
- (d) That the Environmental Services Division, Parks Section's annual operating budget be increased by \$20,000 to fund the ongoing operations and maintenance to support public access to the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers, starting in 2025.

- (2) Consideration of Report PW24061, respecting Public Access to Hamilton Piers, was DEFERRED until after Closed Session.

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

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

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

(a) Items Requiring a New Due Date (Item 13.1(a)):

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: January 30, 2024

Original Due Date: June 30, 2024

Proposed New Due Date: December 4, 2024

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

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

Added: January 30, 2024 at GIC Budget

Completed: October 2, 2024 at GIC - Item 8.2

(j) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Item 14)

Committee determined that discussion of Item 14.1 was not required in Closed Session; therefore, the matter was addressed in Open Session, as follows:

(i) Closed Session Minutes – October 2, 2024 (Item 14.1)

The Closed Session minutes of the October 2, 2024 General Issues Committee meeting, were approved and remain confidential.

- (ii)** Committee moved into Closed Session for Items 14.2 and 14.3 pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-sections (e) and (f) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2) sub-sections (e) and (f) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matters pertain to litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the City or a local board; and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

The General Issues Committee meeting reconvened in Open Session at 2:28 p.m.

(k) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10) (Continued)

(i) Public Access to Hamilton Piers (PW24061) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)

The Report was put on the floor, as follows:

- (1)** (a) That the General Manager, Public Works or designate be authorized to enter into a public use license agreement, including any ancillary agreements or amendments, with the land stewards acting on behalf of the Crown, to permit public access to the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton portion of the Federally owned piers ("the Hamilton Piers"), consistent with the parameters outlined in Report PW24061;
- (b) That staff be authorized to spend \$50,000 to implement minor improvements to the walking surface to access the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers, as well as the surface of the Hamilton Piers itself as may be needed to improve public access, to be funded from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020;

- (c) That staff be authorized to spend \$350,000 to install railings on both sides of the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers for public health and safety, to be funded \$250,000 from Hamilton Beach Lift Bridge Pier project ID 4402356127 and \$100,000 from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020; and
 - (d) That the Environmental Services Division, Parks Section's annual operating budget be increased by \$20,000 to fund the ongoing operations and maintenance to support public access to the Lake Ontario side of the Hamilton Piers, starting in 2025.
- (2) That Report PW24061, respecting Public Access to Hamilton Piers, **be amended** by adding additional sub-sections (e) and (f), as follows:
- (e) ***That staff be directed to continue to negotiate for public access to the remaining pieces of the Hamilton Piers, and report back with the results of that negotiation, including costs for the 2026 budget in Q4 2025; and,***
 - (f) ***That Confidential Appendix "A" - "Burlington Harbour Fisherman's Piers Risk Analysis" to Report PW24061, Public Access to Hamilton Piers, remain confidential.***

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 5.

(I) **PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Item 14) (Continued)**

- (i) **Confidential Appendix "A" to Item 10.1 - Public Access to Hamilton Piers (PW24061) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 14.2)**

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 5.

- (ii) **Ontario Land Tribunal Appeal - 405 James Street North (PED22155(a) / LS23012(c)) (Ward 2) (Added Item 14.3)**

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 7.

(m) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Mayor Brad Clark
Chair, General Issues Committee

Angela McRae
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk