



EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT 24-008

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 7, 2024
Council Chambers (Hybrid)
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present: Councillor A. Wilson (Chair), Councillors B. Clark, T. Hwang, T. Jackson, C. Kroetsch (Vice-Chair), and M. Wilson

Also Present: Councillor T. McMeekin

**Absent with
Regrets:** Councillor N. Nann – City Business

THE EMERGENCY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 24-008, AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Community Risk Assessment (HSC24033) (Item 8.1)

That Report HSC24033, respecting a Community Risk Assessment, be received.

2. Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care New Funding Formula, Emerging Issues Funding, and One Time Administration Funding (HSC24025(a)) (Item 10.1)

- (a) That the City of Hamilton accept the additional 100 percent provincial 2024 Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care one-time incremental Administration funding in the amount of \$1,139,665 and incremental Emerging Issues funding in the amount of \$865,363, 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. Citizen Committee Report: Senior's Advisory Committee's Request to Publish an Editorial in the Hamilton Spectator respecting the Communications Survey for Older Adults (Item 10.2)

That the Citizen Committee Report respecting the Senior's Advisory Committee's Request to Publish an Editorial in the Hamilton Spectator respecting the Communications Survey for Older Adults, be approved.

4. Replacement of Floor Mats at Huntington Park Recreation Centre (Ward 6) (Item 11.1)

WHEREAS, recreation in its various forms provides a wide range of benefits to individuals of all ages, including benefits for physical health, mental health, social connectedness and assists the City of Hamilton in meeting its vision of being the best place to raise a child and age successfully;

WHEREAS, since 1962, Huntington Park Recreation Centre, situated in Ward 6, has consistently been one of the top utilized recreation facilities in Hamilton;

WHEREAS in 2023, Huntington Park Recreation Centre had 77,662 visits for programs offered, 45,013 drop-in visits, 4,024 program users, and 3,815 hours of community rentals;

WHEREAS, the floor mats used at Huntington Park Recreation Centre are over 20 years old and have reached their end-of-life as evidenced by density loss as well as wear and tear; and

WHEREAS, the floor mats are heavily used by various community groups including preschool, gymnastics, dance programs, and Northeast Karate for martial arts instruction to the community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That floor mats for programming at Huntington Park Recreation Centre be funded from the Ward 6 Capital Discretionary Account 3302309600 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$7,600.00.

5. Flamborough Connects (Ward 15) (Item 11.2)

WHEREAS, Flamborough Connects strives, as their name suggests, to connect local services to the people of Ward 15 and rural Flamborough;

WHEREAS, given the nature of our community, there are many seniors, rural residents and others who do not enjoy the ability to access digitally shared information;

WHEREAS, Flamborough Connects has identified five specific broad-based information gaps, namely: frauds and scams; transportation (including DARTS); housing, food security and emergency services;

WHEREAS, the production and distribution of a series of five issue brochures (that will also be available digitally), is seen as the best way to ensure a growing awareness of and access to service information, and

WHEREAS, the Ward 15 Community Council recently and unanimously endorsed support of Flamborough Connects to proceed with this initiative.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Flamborough Connects be provided with a grant in support of the production and distribution of a series of five issue brochures, funded from the Ward 15 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609615), at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,400;
- (b) That the funds allocated and distributed through the grant be exempt on a one-time basis and not be counted toward any formula that restricts regular funding from the City including the City Enrichment Fund (e.g. the City's 30% formula); and
- (c) 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.

6. Assessment of Municipal Golf Courses (Item 11.3)

WHEREAS, Hamilton is served by three public golf courses with a total of 54 holes;

WHEREAS, the City's public golf facilities require significant capital investment, all three courses are rated in poor condition, and half of support facilities were rated in very poor and poor condition in the City's 2024 asset management plan;

WHEREAS, the above ground infrastructure deficit at Chedoke Golf totals \$17 million while the state of the below ground irrigation system has yet to be determined;

WHEREAS, an underground irrigation line break at Chedoke Golf led to an additional usage charge of approximately \$440,000 over a three year period;

WHEREAS, there is no existing capital reserve for the City's golf operations;

WHEREAS, the City has publicly reported that it is not able to fund maintenance work on existing recreation assets at an acceptable rate provided in the current budget;

WHEREAS, there are no identified budgets to fund and maintain major acquisitions as identified in the City's Recreation Master Plan, including:

- Two (2) New Outdoor Artificial Ice Facility Spaces;
- Four (4) Community Recreation Centres Expansions;
- Four (4) New Community Recreation Centres; and,
- Two (2) Senior Centre Expansions

WHEREAS, Council has identified a desire to improve the local environment to further advance its goals of improved watershed management, climate change adaption, and biodiversity as set out in its Watershed Action Plan, Climate Action Plan, Parks Master Plan, and Biodiversity Action Plan;

WHEREAS, future population growth and development (new greenfield and redevelopment) requires careful management of stormwater runoff from the impacts of urbanization (impervious / hard surfaces) on the natural environment and public safety;

WHEREAS, new provincial guidelines have stressed the importance of controlling stormwater runoff at the source using better site design, retention practices, and filtration practices;

WHEREAS, green drainage infrastructure can retain water and reduce the amount of rain going directly into the City's sewer system and help with the risk of flooding;

WHEREAS, the Recreation Master Plan recognized a deficit of green space available to all Hamiltonians, particularly residents in wards 2 and 3;

WHEREAS, the Parks Master Plan has identified the need for more greenspace, including in the lower city, using an equity based analysis; and

WHEREAS, the City's golf course operations have previously been reviewed and assessed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to assess how publicly owned parklands at the Chedoke Golf Club might address the existing inequitable access to greenspace, natural area restoration, storm water management, community agriculture and biodiversity rather than keeping all the golf course lands exclusively as golf courses, with a report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee in Q4 2025;

- (b) That this review of municipal golf course lands be conducted within the stated goals of the City's watershed action plan, biodiversity action plan, recreation master plan, parks master plan, and climate action plan so that future use of these parklands benefit the resiliency, health and well-being of all Hamiltonians; and
- (c) That the Chedoke parklands remain publicly owned in perpetuity.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

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

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- 6.1 Judith Bishop, Hamilton Child Care Advocates, respecting Item 10.1, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care New Funding Formula, Emerging Issues Funding, and One Time Administration Funding (HSC24025(a)) (for today's meeting).

CHANGE IN ORDER OF AGENDA:

Item 11.2, Motion referred from Council on October 23, 2024, respecting Flamborough Connects was moved up the agenda to follow Delegations.

The agenda for the November 5, 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) October 3, 2024 (Item 4.1)

The Minutes of the October 3, 2024 meeting of the Emergency and Community Services Committee, were approved, as presented.

(d) DELEGATION REQUEST (Item 6)

- (i) Judith Bishop, Hamilton Childcare Advocates, respecting Item 10.1, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care New Funding Formula, Emerging Issues Funding, and One Time Administration Funding (HSC24025(a)) (for today's meeting)**

The Delegation Request from Judith Bishop, Hamilton Child Care Advocates, respecting Item 10.1, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care New Funding Formula, Emerging Issues Funding, and One Time Administration Funding (HSC24025(a)), was approved, for today's meeting.

(e) DELEGATIONS (Item 7)

- (i) (a) Jennifer Bonner, The HUB, respecting increased gun violence and the Building Safer Communities Funding issued by Public Safety Canada (Item 7.1)**

Jennifer Bonner, The HUB, addressed the Committee respecting increased gun violence and the Building Safer Communities Funding issued by Public Safety Canada.

- (b) Judith Bishop, Hamilton Childcare Advocates, respecting Item 10.1, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care New Funding Formula, Emerging Issues Funding, and One Time Administration Funding (HSC24025(a)) (Added Item 7.2)**

Judith Bishop, Hamilton Childcare Advocates, addressed Committee respecting Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care New Funding Formula, Emerging Issues Funding, and One Time Administration Funding (HSC24025(a)), with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

- (ii) The following Delegations, were received:**

- (i) Jennifer Bonner, The HUB, respecting increased gun violence and the Building Safer Communities Funding issued by Public Safety Canada (Item 7.1)**
- (ii) Judith Bishop, Hamilton Childcare Advocates, respecting Item 10.1, Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care New Funding Formula, Emerging Issues Funding, and One Time Administration Funding (HSC24025(a)) (Added Item 7.2)**

(f) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 8)

- (i) Community Risk Assessment (HSC24033) (Item 8.1)**

Fire Chief Cunliffe, addressed Committee respecting Community Risk Assessment (HSC24033), with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

The Presentation respecting Report HSC24033, Community Risk Assessment, was received.

For further disposition, refer to Item 1.

(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 16)

There being no further business, the Emergency and Community Services Committee adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor A. Wilson, Chair
Emergency and Community Services
Committee

Loren Kolar
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk