



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES - GIC 25-001

9:30 a.m.

January 15, 2025

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

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

Absent: Councillor N. Nann – Personal

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor M. Tadeson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

There were no ceremonial activities.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Beattie/McMeekin)

That the agenda for the January 15, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor B. Clark declared a non-disqualifying interest to Item 7.5, Report HSC25008, respecting Encampment Response Update - October to December 2024, as he referred Wade Poziomka to a Ward 9 community group experiencing an ongoing environmental issue.

Councillor M. Spadafora declared a disqualifying interest to Item 8.5, Report FCS25001, respecting 2025 Tax Supported User Fees (City Wide), as he has an interest in a hockey organization and renting facility ice time.

Mayor Horwath declared a disqualifying interest to Item 8.10, Report FCS25009, respecting Proposed Amendments to the Timelines for the Vacant Unit Tax Program, as she has a property with a vacant unit.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1 December 4, 2024

(McMeekin/Spadafora)

That the minutes of the December 4, 2024 General Issues Committee, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Delegations respecting the report on potential alternative municipal revenue streams, from the following individuals:

The following delegates addressed the Committee respecting the report on potential alternative municipal revenue streams:

6.1(a) Eddie Sheppard, Abacus Data (In-Person) (Approved December 4, 2024)

6.1(b) Julie Sergi, Cornerstone Assoc. of Realtors (In-Person) (Approved December 4, 2024)

6.1(c) Mike Collins-Williams, West End Home Builders' Association (In-Person)

6.1(d) Daniel Chin, Hamilton and District Apartment Association (In-Person)

(McMeekin/Cassar)

That the following delegations respecting the report on potential alternative municipal revenue streams, be received:

6.1(a) Eddie Sheppard, Abacus Data (In-Person) (Approved December 4, 2024)

6.1(b) Julie Sergi, Cornerstone Assoc. of Realtors (In-Person) (Approved December 4, 2024)

6.1(c) Mike Collins-Williams, West End Home Builders' Association (In-Person)

6.1(d) Daniel Chin, Hamilton and District Apartment Association (In-Person)

CARRIED

**6.2 Alex Sears, respecting things from the cyber attack (In-Person)
(Approved December 4, 2024)**

Alex Sears was not present for their delegation when called upon.

6.3 Andrew Selman, respecting Gage Park electricity theft, the continued criminal presence, and a lack of city auditing processes that allow the tunnels to be dug and operate (In-Person)

Andrew Selman, addressed the Committee respecting Gage Park electricity theft, the continued criminal presence, and a lack of city auditing processes that allow the tunnels to be dug and operate.

(Beattie/Spadafora)

That the delegation from Andrew Selman, respecting Gage Park electricity theft, the continued criminal presence, and a lack of city auditing processes that allow the tunnels to be dug and operate, be received.

CARRIED

6.4 Delegations respecting Item 9.2 - Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol, from the following individuals:

The following delegates addressed the Committee respecting Item 9.2 - Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol:

- 6.4(a) Dawn Grant (In-Person)
- 6.4(b) Ralph Baigent (In-Person)
- 6.4(c) James Kemp (Virtually)
- 6.4(d) Brad Evoy, Disability Justice Network of Ontario (Pre- Recorded)

(Spadafora/Beattie)

That the following delegations respecting Item 9.2 - Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol, be received:

- 6.4(a) Dawn Grant (In-Person)
- 6.4(b) Ralph Baigent (In-Person)
- 6.4(c) James Kemp (Virtually)
- 6.4(d) Brad Evoy, Disability Justice Network of Ontario (Pre- Recorded)

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

(i) (Hwang/Horwath)

That the following Items for Information, be received:

- 7.1 Mayor's Task Force on Transparency, Access and Accountability Reports:

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7.1(a) Mayor's Task Force on Transparency, Access and Accountability Report 24-009 - November 19, 2024

7.1(b) Mayor's Task Force on Transparency, Access and Accountability Report 24-010 - December 3, 2024

7.2 Correspondence from the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities respecting the Accessibility of Shelters and Supervised Encampments

7.3 Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities Report 24-011 - December 10, 2024

7.4 FCS24022(a)
Revenue Sources to Fund Council Priorities and Ongoing Operating and Capital Works (City Wide)

7.5 HSC25008
Encampment Response Update - December 2024 (City Wide)

CARRIED

(ii) (Cassar/M. Wilson)

That the General Issues Committee recess for 40 minutes until 1:30 p.m.

CARRIED

The General Issues Committee reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

8.1 Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Report 24-008 - November 12, 2024

(Hwang/Kroetsch)

That the Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Report 24-008, dated November 12, 2024, be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

(1) Locke Street Business Improvement Area Expenditure Request (Item 11.1)

That the expenditure request from the Locke Street Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$2,691.94 to be spent on streetscape planters, hanging baskets and the watering of both, funded from the 2024 Contribution to Operating Budget Program for the Business Improvement Areas (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved.

(2) Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area Expenditure Request (Item 11.2)

That the expenditure request from the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$9,923.36 to be spent on streetscape items and hanging baskets, plant materials and watering of the planters/hanging baskets, funded from the 2024 Contribution to Operating Budget Program for the Business Improvement Areas (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved.

(3) Westdale Village Business Improvement Area Expenditure Request (Item 11.3)

That the expenditure request from the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$9,699.15 to be spent on streetscape planters, hanging baskets and watering of both, funded from the 2024 Contribution to Operating Budget Program for the Business Improvement Areas (BIA Payments Account 815010-56905), be approved.

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

That the expenditure request from the Ancaster Village Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$5,283.45, be spent on promotion of the Ancaster Business Improvement Area and its events, funded from the 2024 Parking Revenue Sharing Program (Parking Revenue Account 815010-52505), be approved.

(5) Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area Expenditure Request (Item 11.5)

(a) That the expenditure request from the Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$12,125.17, be spent on beautification initiatives 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 Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$16,884.50, be spent on beautification initiatives funded from the 2024 Parking Revenue Sharing Program (Parking Revenue Account 815010-52505), be approved.

(6) International Village Business Improvement Area Expenditure Request (Item 11.6)

That the expenditure request from the International Village Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$12,362.71 to be spent on banners, décor and activations, funded from the 2024 Parking Revenue Sharing Program (Parking Revenue Account 815010-52505), be approved.

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

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

8.2 Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Report 24-009 - December 10, 2024

(A. Wilson/Hwang)

That the Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Report 24-009, dated December 10, 2024, be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

(1) Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025 (Item 1.1)

(i) Appointment of Chair

That Susie Braithwaite be appointed Chair of the Business Improvement Area (BIA) Sub-Committee for 2025.

(i) Appointment of Vice-Chair

That Susan Pennie be appointed Vice-Chair of the Business Improvement Area (BIA) Sub-Committee for 2025.

(2) Review of the Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Terms of Reference (Added Item 10.1)

That the Business Improvement Area Sub-Committee Terms of Reference be amended as follows:

Meetings

Meetings will normally be on the third Tuesday of each month, or at the call of the Chair.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

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

8.3 West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 24-002 - November 26, 2024

(McMeekin/Spadafora)

That the West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 24-002, dated November 26, 2024, be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

(1) Updated West Harbour Waterfront Parking Strategy, 2024 (PED24151) (Ward 2) (Item 8.1)

(a) That the “Updated West Harbour Parking Strategy, 2024”, as detailed in Appendix “A” to West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 24-002, be approved;

(b) That staff from Municipal Land Development Office, Corporate Real Estate Office, Transportation and Parking Services, and

- Legal be directed and authorized to negotiate with Waterfront Shores Corporation, the City's development partner for Pier 8, to establish key terms and conditions of a public parking agreement associated with integrating approximately 300 public parking spaces within the below-grade strata of Blocks 1, 4, 12 and 16 on Pier 8, referred to as the "Area of Focus" as identified on Appendix "B" to West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 24-002;
- (c) That staff from the Municipal Land Development Office report back to the West Harbour Development Sub-Committee by Q4 2025 on the outcomes of negotiations and for any requisite approvals that may be required;
 - (d) That staff from the Municipal Land Development Office, Transportation and Parking Services, and Corporate Real Estate Office assess operating model and ownership options and financial implications associated with integrating public parking within the below-grade strata of Blocks, 1, 4, 12 and 16 on Pier 8, referred to as the "Area of Focus" as identified on Appendix "B" to West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 24-002;
 - (e) That staff from the Municipal Land Development Office, and Transportation and Parking Services report back to the West Harbour Development Sub-Committee in Q4 2025 on the findings and recommended parking model option prior to finalizing the public parking agreement;
 - (f) That staff from the Municipal Land Development Office be authorized to fund all City costs associated with the Pier 8 public parking agreement with Waterfront Shores Corporation outlined in Recommendation (a) of Report PED24151 including any real estate and legal costs from Account No. 4411806107, with real estate and legal costs credited to Account No. 55778-812036 (Real Estate – Admin Recovery);
 - (g) That staff from Transportation and Parking Services be authorized to fund all City costs associated with implementation of Paid Parking Program along Pier 8 Temporary Surface Parking Lots and On-Street Along Guise Street, as detailed in Appendix "A" to West Harbour Development Sub-Committee Report 24-002 from Account No. 4901751700 (Parking Payment Equipment).

(2) Consent Items (Items 9.1-9.2)

That the following Consent Items, be received:

- (a) West Harbour Re-Development Plan - Status Update (PED17181(h)) (Ward 2) (Item 9.1); and
- (b) Pier 8 Development – Status Update (PED24162)(Ward 2) (Item 9.2);

(3) Discovery Centre - Termination of Lease (Added Item 13.1)

- (a) That the Corporate Real Estate Office be authorized and directed to negotiate and enter into an agreement to terminate and surrender the Lease (dated October 11, 2022) with the Waterfront Shores Leasing Corporation for the Leased Premises within the Discovery Center on terms and conditions deemed appropriate by the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department, or designate;
- (b) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to complete the termination and surrender agreement, on behalf of the city, including paying any necessary expenses, amending the closing, due diligence and other dates, and amending and waiving terms and conditions on such terms as considered reasonable; and,
- (c) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized and directed to execute all necessary documents to complete the termination and surrender of the Lease, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

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

| | | |
|--------|---|------------------------------------|
| Yes | - | Mayor Andrea Horwath |
| Yes | - | Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson |
| Yes | - | Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch |
| Absent | - | Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann |
| Yes | - | Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang |
| Yes | - | Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis |
| Yes | - | Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson |
| Yes | - | Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls |
| Yes | - | Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko |
| Yes | - | Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark |
| Yes | - | Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie |
| Yes | - | Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson |
| Yes | - | Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar |

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- Yes - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
- Yes - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
- Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**8.4 Non-Union Compensation Sub-Committee Minutes - NUCSC 25-001 -
January 10, 2025**

(Hwang/A. Wilson)

That the Non-Union Compensation Sub-Committee Minutes - NUCSC 25-001, dated January 10, 2025, be received, and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

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

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

**8.5 FCS25001
2025 Tax Supported User Fees (City Wide)**

(Hwang/Cassar)

That Report FCS25001, dated January 15, 2025, respecting 2025 Tax Supported User Fees, be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 User Fees contained in REVISED Appendix “A” to Report FCS25001, “2025 Tax Supported User Fees”, be approved and implemented; and
- (b) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by laws for Council approval for the purposes of establishing the user fees contained in REVISED Appendix “A” to Report FCS25001.

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

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

8.6 Business Improvement Areas - Board of Management Changes:

(A. Wilson/Spadafora)

That the following Business Improvement Areas - Board of Management Changes, be approved:

8.6(a) PED25003

Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area 2025 Revised Board of Management (Ward 3 and 4)

That Report PED25003, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area 2025 Revised Board of Management (Ward 3 and 4), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the following individual be removed from the Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area Board of Management:
 - (i) Justin Abbiss, Ottawa Market;
- (b) That the following individuals be appointed to the Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area Board of Management:
 - (i) Jo Lusted, Murray's Farm Butcher Shoppe;
 - (ii) Kristian David Rogelstad, Community Representative;
 - (iii) Adam Lanos, Community Representative.

8.6(b) PED25008

International Village Business Improvement Area Revised Board of Management (Ward 2 and 3)

That Report PED25008, dated January 15, 2025, respecting International Village Business Improvement Area Revised Board of Management (Ward 2 and 3), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the following individual be removed from the International Village Business Improvement Area Board of Management:
 - (i) Melanie Lourenco, Circle Studios.

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

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

8.7 Business Improvement Areas - 2025 Budgets and Schedule of Payments:

(A. Wilson/McMeekin)

That the following Business Improvement Areas - 2025 Budgets and Schedule of Payments, be approved:

8.7(a) PED25002

Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Wards 3 and 4)

That Report PED25002, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of

Payments (Wards 3 and 4), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 proposed budget of the Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED25002, in the amount of \$212,099.91 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the 2025 proposed budget of the Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area, in the amount of \$154,989, be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the “Act”), to authorize the levy on qualifying properties within the Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area, as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED25002;
- (d) That the following schedule of payments to the Ottawa Street Business Improvement Area, representing the levy amount for 2025 be approved:
 - (i) February \$77,494.50;
 - (ii) June \$77,494.50;

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

8.7(b) PED25004

Westdale Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 1)

That Report PED25004, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Westdale Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 1), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 proposed budget of the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED25004, in the amount of \$219,612.53 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the 2025 proposed budget of the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area in the amount of \$138,156 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the

“Act”), to authorize the levy on the qualifying properties within the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area, as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED25004;

- (d) That the following schedule of payments to the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area, representing the levy amount for 2025 be approved:

| | | |
|------|----------|-----------|
| (i) | February | \$69,078; |
| (ii) | June | \$69,078; |

- (e) That the disbursement of the Westdale Village Business Improvement Area remain on hold until which time annual audits for 2022 and 2023 are completed, as per the mandatory requirement of the *Ontario Municipal Act*.

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

8.7(c) PED25007

Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 2)

That Report PED25007, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 2), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 proposed budget for the Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED25007, in the amount of \$525,000 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the 2025 proposed budget for the Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area in the amount of \$450,000 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the “Act”), to authorize the levy on the qualifying properties within the Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area, as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED25007;
- (d) That the following schedule of payments to the Downtown Hamilton Business Improvement Area, representing the levy amount for 2025 be approved:

| | | |
|-----|----------|------------|
| (i) | February | \$225,000; |
|-----|----------|------------|

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(ii) June \$225,000;

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

8.7(d) PED25011

Ancaster Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 12)

That Report PED25011, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Ancaster Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 12), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 proposed budget of the Ancaster Village Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED25011 in the amount of \$181,900 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the 2025 proposed budget of the Ancaster Village Business Improvement Area in the amount of \$146,900 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the “Act”), to authorize the levy on the qualifying properties within the Ancaster Village Business Improvement Area, as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED25011;
- (d) That the following schedule of payments to the Ancaster Village Business Improvement Area, representing the levy amount for 2025 be approved:

(i) February \$73,450;
(ii) June \$73,450;

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

8.7(e) PED25012

Waterdown Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 15)

That Report PED25012, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Waterdown Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 15), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 proposed budget of the Waterdown Village Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED25012, in the amount of \$408,757 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the 2025 proposed budget of the Waterdown Village Business Improvement Area in the amount of \$305,000 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the “Act”), to authorize the levy on the qualifying properties within the Waterdown Village Business Improvement Area, as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED25012;
- (d) That the following schedule of payments to the Waterdown Village Business Improvement Area, representing the levy amount for 2025 be approved:
 - (i) February \$152,500;
 - (ii) June \$152,500;

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

8.7(f) PED25013

Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 5)

That Report PED25013, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 5), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 proposed budget of the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED25013, in the amount of \$230,750 be approved;

- (b) That the levy portion of the 2025 proposed budget of the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area in the amount of \$84,440 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the “Act”), to authorize the levy on the qualifying properties within the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area, as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED25013;
- (d) That the following schedule of payments to the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area, representing the levy amount for 2025 be approved:
 - (i) February \$42,220;
 - (ii) June \$42,220;

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

8.7(g) PED25018

Barton Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Ward 2 and 3)

That Report PED25018, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Barton Village Business Improvement Area 2025 Budget and Schedule of Payments (Wards 2 and 3), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the 2025 proposed budget of the Barton Village Business Improvement Area, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED25018, in the amount of \$284,214 be approved;
- (b) That the levy portion of the 2025 proposed budget of the Barton Village Business Improvement Area in the amount of \$200,000 be approved;
- (c) That the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services be hereby authorized and directed to prepare the requisite By-law pursuant to Section 208, the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the “Act”), to authorize the levy on the qualifying properties within the Barton Village Business Improvement Area, as referenced in Recommendation (b) of Report PED25018;

(d) That the following schedule to the Barton Village Business Improvement Area, representing the levy amount for 2025 be approved:

- (i) February \$100,000;
- (ii) June \$100,000;

Note: Assessment appeals may be deducted from the levy payments.

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

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

**8.8 Climate Change Advisory Committee - Citizen Committee Report -
December 17, 2024**

(A. Wilson/Kroetsch)

That the Climate Change Advisory Committee - Citizen Committee Report - December 17, 2024, be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That any surplus funds from the Climate Change Advisory Committee Budget Dept ID 300309 be transferred back to the Climate Change Reserve 108062 fund.

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

- Yes - Mayor Andrea Horwath
- Yes - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
- Yes - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
- Absent - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
- Yes - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
- Yes - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis

| | | | |
|-----|---|---------|---------------------------|
| Yes | - | Ward 6 | Councillor Tom Jackson |
| Yes | - | Ward 7 | Councillor Esther Pauls |
| Yes | - | Ward 8 | Councillor J. P. Danko |
| Yes | - | Ward 9 | Councillor Brad Clark |
| Yes | - | Ward 10 | Councillor Jeff Beattie |
| Yes | - | Ward 11 | Councillor Mark Tadeson |
| Yes | - | Ward 12 | Councillor Craig Cassar |
| Yes | - | Ward 13 | Councillor Alex Wilson |
| Yes | - | Ward 14 | Councillor Mike Spadafora |
| Yes | - | Ward 15 | Councillor Ted McMeekin |

**8.9 CM24004(a)
Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide)**

(i) (Horwath/Hwang)

That Report CM24004(a), dated January 15, 2025, respecting Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the following be referred to the Mayor for consideration as part of the Multi-Year Tax Budget:
- (i) The inclusion of project capital costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “Recovery,” totalling \$3.48M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;
 - (ii) The inclusion of project capital costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “In Progress but Impacted,” totalling \$7.83M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;
 - (iii) The inclusion of capital project costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “Planned but Now Accelerated,” totalling \$26.13M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;
 - (iv) The inclusion of capital project costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “Approaching End of Life and Unplanned,” totalling \$14.66M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;
 - (v) The inclusion of estimated additional operating costs for 2025 of approximately \$276.910 as outlined in Confidential Appendix “C” to Report CM24004(a), in the 2025 Tax Budget, funded through a combination of staff

gapping savings, capital financing savings, or corporate year-end surplus;

- (vi) The incorporation of estimated additional operating costs of approximately \$12.72M, as outlined in Confidential Appendix “C” to Report CM24004(a), into the 2026 to 2027 Multi-Year forecast and the appropriate Tax Budget;
 - (vii) The incorporation of the requested change in staff complement of 20.25 temporary Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions for 2025, in accordance with the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy,” as outlined in Appendix “D” to Report CM24004(a), utilizing existing staff vacancies within the organization;
 - (viii) The referral of the requested change in staff complement of 16.75 FTEs for 2026, 10.75 FTEs in 2027, in accordance with the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy,” as outlined in Appendix “D” to Report CM24004(a), to the appropriate Tax and Rate budget; and
- (b) That the City Manager be authorized and directed to assume the authority under the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy,” to offset the additional FTEs outlined in Appendix “D” to Report CM24004(a) through the reallocation of existing FTEs within the organization.
 - (c) That Confidential Appendices “B” and “C” to Report CM24004(a), Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide), be received and remain confidential.
- (ii) **(Hwang/Jackson)**
That consideration of Report CM24004(a), respecting Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide) be **DEFERRED** until after Closed Session.

CARRIED

**8.10 FCS25009
Proposed Amendments to the Timelines for the Vacant Unit Tax Program
(City Wide)**

(Hwang/A. Wilson)

That Report FCS25009, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Proposed amendments to the timelines for the Vacant Unit Tax program (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That staff be directed to revise the timelines for the Vacant Unit Tax program, with a new start date of February 10, 2025, and an extended submission deadline of April 30, 2025; and,
- (b) That staff be directed to waive the penalty for late declarations made after April 30, 2025 for the 2024 self-declaration year only.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 3, as follows:

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

9. MOTIONS

9.1 Adherence to the Encampment Protocol as Revised and Approved By Council June 2024

Councillor Danko WITHDREW his motion, as follows:

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol was Revised and Approved by Council in June 2024;

WHEREAS the Encampment Protocol contains specific definitions for prohibited areas for erecting encampments, temporary shelters, or tents, which includes prohibited distances to various public amenities and prohibitions for areas with any heritage designation.

WHEREAS the Encampment Protocol contains specific provisions that prohibit campfire, barbecue use and open air burning.

WHEREAS the Encampment Protocol contains specific provisions for the City's Encampment response process that includes defined procedures and timelines for enforcement when an encampment, temporary shelter, or tent is located on public property, within a prohibited area, as defined by the Protocol.

WHEREAS the Encampment Protocol is a public document and residents trust the City of Hamilton to adhere to the approved provisions as written and intended.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That City of Hamilton staff adhere to the defined provisions of the Encampment Protocol as revised and approved by Hamilton City Council in June 2024, including section D) Prohibited Areas for Erecting Encampments, Temporary Shelters, or Tents, section E) Campfire and Barbecue Use and section G) II Encampment Response Processes, when an encampment, temporary shelter, or tent is located on public property, within a prohibited area, as defined by this Protocol.

9.2 Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol - REVISED

(i) (Spadafora/Jackson)

WHEREAS, Justice James Ramsay, Ontario Superior Court Judge, issued a ruling on December 23, 2024 dismissing the claim of fourteen applicants that the City of Hamilton's bylaw preventing encampments in City parks was a violation of the applicants' Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms;

WHEREAS, in his ruling, Justice Ramsay wrote:

"I was reminded by counsel for the applicant that while the legislature represents the will of the people, the court holds the moral compass that is often the only protection for the most vulnerable. I observe that the most vulnerable includes not only the homeless but also the elderly person and the child who want to use a sidewalk or a city park without tiptoeing through used needles and human feces."

"The life, liberty, and security of the applicants are not put at risk by enforcement of the by-law. They are put at risk by homelessness. Encampments contribute to this risk. They are lawless, dangerous, and unsanitary."

"Encampments are a symptom, not a solution. The City is trying to find a solution to homelessness in consultation with numerous others. It has attempted to address the problem with the old protocol, the encampment process and the new protocol. It has limited resources

and a duty to its housed constituency. I think I am well advised to leave them to it without interference. Micro-management by judges will not be productive.”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol be rescinded as of March 1, 2025;
 - (b) That the General Managers of Healthy and Safe Communities, Planning & Economic Development, and Public Works, report back at the February 5, 2025 GIC meeting with the necessary resources and staffing needed to transition from the current Encampment Protocol to the City of Hamilton Parks Bylaw.
 - (c) That Housing Services staff be directed to continue working with local social agencies to find shelter space for those living in encampments;
 - (d) That Municipal Law Enforcement (MLE) and Parks staff be directed to dismantle all encampments as well as clean and restore parks to the inviting, safe, and green recreational spaces they once were, to be enjoyed by City of Hamilton taxpayers and their families;
- (ii) **(M. Wilson/Clark)**
- (a) That consideration of the Motion respecting Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol - REVISED be **DEFERRED** until after Closed Session; and,
 - (b) That the General Issues Committee go directly into Closed Session respecting Legal Advice respecting the Motion to Rescind the City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol – REVISED and Justice Ramsay’s Ruling concerning Park's By-law Enforcement and Potential Appeals.

CARRIED

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

- (i) **(Hwang/Beattie)**
That Committee move into Closed Session for Item 9.2, pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-Section (f) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-section (f) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

CARRIED

The General Issues Committee resolved into closed session at 2:57 p.m.

The General Issues Committee meeting reconvened in Open Session at 5:00 p.m.

9. MOTIONS (Continued)

9.2 Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol - REVISED

- (i) The following friendly amendment was accepted by the Deputy Mayor, the mover and the seconder of the Motion:

That Clauses (a) and (b) of the Motion be amended as follows:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol be rescinded as of March 4 **6**, 2025;
- (b) That the General Managers of Healthy and Safe Communities, Planning & Economic Development, and Public Works, report back at the February 5 **26**, 2025 GIC meeting with the necessary resources and staffing needed to transition from the current Encampment Protocol to the City of Hamilton Parks Bylaw.

The Deputy Mayor called the vote on the motion, as amended, as follows:

(ii) **(Spadafora/Jackson)**

WHEREAS, Justice James Ramsay, Ontario Superior Court Judge, issued a ruling on December 23, 2024 dismissing the claim of fourteen applicants that the City of Hamilton's bylaw preventing encampments in City parks was a violation of the applicants' Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms;

WHEREAS, in his ruling, Justice Ramsay wrote:

"I was reminded by counsel for the applicant that while the legislature represents the will of the people, the court holds the moral compass that is often the only protection for the most vulnerable. I observe that the most vulnerable includes not only the homeless but also the elderly person and the child who want to use a sidewalk or a city park without tiptoeing through used needles and human feces."

"The life, liberty, and security of the applicants are not put at risk by enforcement of the by-law. They are put at risk by homelessness. Encampments contribute to this risk. They are lawless, dangerous, and unsanitary."

“Encampments are a symptom, not a solution. The City is trying to find a solution to homelessness in consultation with numerous others. It has attempted to address the problem with the old protocol, the encampment process and the new protocol. It has limited resources and a duty to its housed constituency. I think I am well advised to leave them to it without interference. Micro-management by judges will not be productive.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol be rescinded as of March 6, 2025;
- (b) That the General Managers of Healthy and Safe Communities, Planning & Economic Development, and Public Works, report back at the February 26, 2025 GIC meeting with the necessary resources and staffing needed to transition from the current Encampment Protocol to the City of Hamilton Parks Bylaw.
- (c) That Housing Services staff be directed to continue working with local social agencies to find shelter space for those living in encampments;
- (d) That Municipal Law Enforcement (MLE) and Parks staff be directed to dismantle all encampments as well as clean and restore parks to the inviting, safe, and green recreational spaces they once were, to be enjoyed by City of Hamilton taxpayers and their families;

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 2, as follows:

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

Council – January 22, 2025

(iii) **Extend Curfew**

(Jackson/McMeekin)

That the General Issues Committee meeting of January 15, 2025 be extended past the 5:30 pm curfew, up to an additional 1.5 hours.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a 2/3 majority vote of 14 to 1, as follows:

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

9.2(a) Correspondence respecting Item 9.2 - Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol

(McMeekin/Beattie)

That the following Correspondence respecting Item 9.2 - Rescinding of City of Hamilton Encampment Protocol, be received:

- (a) Donald Sephton
- (b) Joshua Weresch
- (c) Laina Don
- (d) Ralph Baigent – Petition

CARRIED

9.3 Buy Local and Canadian First Procurement Policy

(i) (Francis/Beattie)

WHEREAS, we have local and Canadian businesses who can provide the necessary materials and services for the City of Hamilton

WHEREAS, we are experiencing worsening economic conditions and threats of US tariffs and should be supporting local and Canadian businesses and unions jobs

WHEREAS, Canadian products are superior in quality and safety to international products and comply with local regulations

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to report back to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee on the feasibility of having procurement adopt a buy local and Canadian first approach before making purchases for the City of Hamilton.

(ii) **(Danko/A. Wilson)**

That the motion respecting Buy Local and Canadian First Procurement Policy, be **REFERRED** to the Procurement Sub-Committee along with staff preparing information respecting free trade agreements that the City of Hamilton must comply with.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 4, as follows:

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

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor McMeekin introduced the following notice of motion:

10.1 Suitable Site for a Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) Community

WHEREAS, our city has declared homelessness to be a crisis according to recent research, which indicates that one unhoused person dies in Hamilton every 10 days;

WHEREAS, our city has resolved that the best way to manage, mitigate and eventually resolve this crisis is through an 'all of Hamilton' approach coupled with a three-level government commitment to build more affordable housing;

WHEREAS, dedicated volunteers of the Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) have worked for over two years advocating a gated community for the unhoused based on Kitchener's award-winning Better Tent City model;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has already committed to partnering with HATS on a two-year Pilot project;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has recently adjusted the existing homelessness strategy and protocol in favour (based on broad community input focused on the safety of public parks and those currently encamping in those parks) of a combination of additional Shelter beds and Cabin transitional housing;

WHEREAS, HATS is dedicated to a best-practice project consistent with their researched study of the best North American practices of similar initiatives as outlined in their presented and comprehensive 95-page report;

WHEREAS, there is broad-based community support for HATS expressed by the following:

- the support of dozens of businesses and faith-based groups and leaders, including the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce;
- the training of over 100 police vetted community volunteers;
- the support of our Chief of Police;
- Over \$800,000 on-hand dollars raised from within the Hamilton community; and
- the to-date construction of 15 stand-alone cabins by volunteers and local providers

WHEREAS, HATS has made and continues to maintain contact with and support for many of our unhoused citizens;

WHEREAS, Hamilton has located a non-park site deemed worthy of rehabilitation in order to provide a 40-cabin site capable of housing 80 people;

WHEREAS, the creation of an additional 15 to 25 cabin site would enhance our city's ability to meet the need to provide safer transitional housing to those currently encamped in public parks and,

WHEREAS, a highly reputable social services agency, namely, St. Matthew's House, has been identified by HATS to manage a HATS site is supplemented by the support of THE HUB.

WHEREAS, HATS has sufficient funds raised and pledged privately to establish, maintain and sustain a village through 2025 and into 2026; and

WHEREAS, HATS has secured advocacy from permanent supportive housing providers to participate in an EXIT strategy for HATS village members.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the 2300 Brampton Street site previously identified be reviewed in Q1 2025 to ascertain what rehabilitation can be expedited to possibly make this site useable for a 25-site cabin Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) community; and
- (b) That staff be directed to immediately locate and propose an alternative site in Q1 2025 in concert with support from the local Ward Councillor, if remedial action(s) cannot be quickly taken to make the Brampton Street site suitable for a HATS community.

Councillor Danko introduced the following notice of motion:

10.2 Re-Alignment of Taxpayer Funding to Good Faith Encampment Support Organizations

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton relies on many local social agencies, harm reduction, homeless and encampment organizations that provide various levels of support to vulnerable populations throughout the City.

WHEREAS, in 2024 the City of Hamilton invested a total of \$186 million dollars towards housing and homelessness, \$125 million funded by municipal taxpayers, equivalent to approximately \$215 per resident per year.

WHEREAS, on December 23rd, 2024, Ontario Superior Court Justice James Ramsay, issued a ruling dismissing the claim of fourteen homeless applicants that the City of Hamilton breached their right under the Charter to life, liberty and security of the person (s. 7) and to equal benefit of the law (s. 15).

WHEREAS, paragraph 4 of Justice Ramsay’s ruling states “I observe that the most vulnerable includes not only the homeless but also the elderly person and the child who want to use a sidewalk or a city park without tiptoeing through used needles and human feces.”

WHEREAS, paragraph 24 of Justice Ramsay’s ruling states “Many of the affidavits of the applicants contained boilerplate. Parts were obviously drafted by lawyers.”

WHEREAS, paragraph 61 of Justice Ramsay’s ruling states “...there is a developing, false narrative that encampments are a safe alternative form of housing. That narrative appears in the affidavits of some of the applicants’ witnesses. From talking to her (expert witness Dr. Koivu) patients it appears that it has been a factor in the decision to leave safer environments.”

WHEREAS, paragraph 64 of Justice Ramsay’s ruling states “...Dr. Koivu’s concern about the false narrative encouraging people to leave safer alternatives is supported by the evidence...a member of the Outreach Team, who has observed organized groups encouraging encampment residents to resist options other than encampments.”

WHEREAS residents have reported observing instances where homeless individuals have received organized assistance to set up, relocate and provision encampments in City parks.

WHEREAS, limited taxpayer resources should be prioritized to fund organizations that are proven good faith community partners, working collaboratively with the City of Hamilton in alignment with the interests of the City, residents, and the wellbeing of homeless individuals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- (a) That Housing Services staff be directed to identify and itemize all City funding allocated to homelessness support social agencies, harm reduction, legal advice, and encampment outreach organizations.
- (b) That Housing Services staff propose opportunities to re-align City funding, limited to organizations that are proven good faith community partners committed to collaboratively working with the City of Hamilton in alignment with City and Council interests, approved by-laws and policies.

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Continued)

Committee determined that discussion of Item 11.1 was not required in Closed Session; therefore, the matter was addressed in Open Session, as follows:

11.1 Closed Session Minutes – December 4, 2024

(Cassar/McMeekin)

That the Closed Session minutes of the December 4, 2024 General Issues Committee meeting, be adopted and remain confidential.

CARRIED

(Cassar/McMeekin)

That Bryson Tan and Andy Potter of Deloitte be permitted to attend the Closed Session portion of the General Issues Committee Meeting respecting Items 11.2 & 11.4.

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

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

(Beattie/Horwath)

That Committee move into Closed Session for Items 11.2, 11.3, and 11.4, pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-Sections (a), (f), (j) and (k) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (a), (f), (j) and (k) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to the security of the property of the City or a local board; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the City or a local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value; and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the City or a local board.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

| | | |
|--------|---|------------------------------------|
| Yes | - | Mayor Andrea Horwath |
| Yes | - | Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson |
| Yes | - | Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch |
| Absent | - | Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann |
| Absent | - | Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang |
| Yes | - | Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis |
| Yes | - | Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson |

| | | | |
|--------|---|---------|---------------------------|
| Yes | - | Ward 7 | Councillor Esther Pauls |
| Yes | - | Ward 8 | Councillor J. P. Danko |
| Yes | - | Ward 9 | Councillor Brad Clark |
| Yes | - | Ward 10 | Councillor Jeff Beattie |
| Yes | - | Ward 11 | Councillor Mark Tadeson |
| Yes | - | Ward 12 | Councillor Craig Cassar |
| Yes | - | Ward 13 | Councillor Alex Wilson |
| Absent | - | Ward 14 | Councillor Mike Spadafora |
| Yes | - | Ward 15 | Councillor Ted McMeekin |

The General Issues Committee resolved into closed session at 6:13 p.m.

The General Issues Committee meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:39 p.m.

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION (Continued)

8.9 CM24004(a) Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide)

(Kroetsch/Cassar)

That Report CM24004(a), dated January 15, 2025, respecting Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the following be referred to the Mayor for consideration as part of the Multi-Year Tax Budget:
 - (i) The inclusion of project capital costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “Recovery,” totalling \$3.48M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;
 - (ii) The inclusion of project capital costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “In Progress but Impacted,” totalling \$7.83M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;
 - (iii) The inclusion of capital project costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “Planned but Now Accelerated,” totalling \$26.13M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;
 - (iv) The inclusion of capital project costs identified in Appendix “A” and Confidential Appendix “B” to Report CM24004(a) as “Approaching End of Life and Unplanned,” totalling \$14.66M, in the 2025 Tax Budget;

- (v) The inclusion of estimated additional operating costs for 2025 of approximately \$276.910 as outlined in Confidential Appendix “C” to Report CM24004(a), in the 2025 Tax Budget, funded through a combination of staff gapping savings, capital financing savings, or corporate year-end surplus;
 - (vi) The incorporation of estimated additional operating costs of approximately \$12.72M, as outlined in Confidential Appendix “C” to Report CM24004(a), into the 2026 to 2027 Multi-Year forecast and the appropriate Tax Budget;
 - (vii) The incorporation of the requested change in staff complement of 20.25 temporary Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions for 2025, in accordance with the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy,” as outlined in Appendix “D” to Report CM24004(a), utilizing existing staff vacancies within the organization;
 - (viii) The referral of the requested change in staff complement of 16.75 FTEs for 2026, 10.75 FTEs in 2027, in accordance with the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy,” as outlined in Appendix “D” to Report CM24004(a), to the appropriate Tax and Rate budget; and
- (b) That the City Manager be authorized and directed to assume the authority under the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy,” to offset the additional FTEs outlined in Appendix “D” to Report CM24004(a) through the reallocation of existing FTEs within the organization.
 - (c) That Confidential Appendices “B” and “C” to Report CM24004(a), Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide), be received and remain confidential.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 1, as follows:

| | | |
|--------|---|------------------------------------|
| Yes | - | Mayor Andrea Horwath |
| Yes | - | Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson |
| Yes | - | Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch |
| Absent | - | Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann |
| Yes | - | Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang |
| Absent | - | Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis |
| Yes | - | Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson |
| Absent | - | Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls |
| Yes | - | Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko |
| No | - | Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark |
| Absent | - | Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie |
| Yes | - | Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson |
| Yes | - | Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar |

Yes - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Continued)

**11.3 CM24004(b)
Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide)**

(Cassar/A. Wilson)

That Report CM24004(b), dated January 15, 2025, respecting Cyber Incident Impact Update (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the direction provided to staff in closed session respecting Report CM24004(b), Cyber Incident Impact Update, be approved and remain confidential; and
- (b) That Report CM24004(b), Cyber Incident Impact Update, be **DEFERRED** to a future General Issues Committee meeting.

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

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

**11.4 CM25001
Cybersecurity Resilience (City Wide)**

(Cassar/A. Wilson)

That Report CM25001, dated January 15, 2025, respecting Cybersecurity Resilience (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the following be referred to the Mayor for consideration as part of the Multi-Year Tax Budget:
 - (i) The inclusion of cybersecurity domain/projects capital costs identified in Appendix “A” attached to Report CM25001, totaling \$13.2M, in the 2025 Tax Budget and financing plans;
 - (ii) The incorporation of estimated additional cybersecurity domain/project capital costs of approximately \$3M in 2026 as outlined in Appendix “A” attached to Report CM25001, into the multi-year forecast for inclusion in the appropriate future Tax and Rate Budget processes;
 - (iii) The inclusion of estimated additional operating costs for 2025 of approximately \$3.8M, as outlined in Appendix “A” attached to Report CM25001, in the 2025 Tax Budget, funded through a combination of staffing gapping savings, capital financing savings, or corporate year-end surplus;
 - (iv) The incorporation of estimated total operating costs (including staffing costs) of approximately \$4.4M (\$3.8M in 2025 + \$0.45M + \$0.13M) for 2026 onward, as outlined in Appendix “A” to Report CM25001, into the multi-year forecast and the appropriate Budget process
 - (v) The incorporation of 12 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions in the Information Technology (IT) department for 2025, in accordance with the “Budgeted Complement Control Policy,” as outlined in Appendix “A” to Report CM25001, utilizing existing staff vacancies within the organization;
 - (vi) The referral of the requested change in staff complement of 2 FTEs for 2026 and 1 FTE for 2027, in accordance with the Budgeted Complement Control Policy, as outlined in Appendix “A” to Report CM25001, to the appropriate tax supported budget;

- (b) That, the City Manager be authorized and directed, on behalf of Council, to assume the authority under the Budgeted Complement Control Policy, to offset the additional 12 FTEs, as outlined in Appendix “A” to Report CM25001, through the reallocation of existing FTEs within the organization;
- (c) That the City Manager, General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services, and/or Chief Information Officer, or their assigned delegate, be authorized and directed, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, to enter into and/or execute all necessary agreements and ancillary documents on terms satisfactory to the above identified individuals and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (d) That Report CM25001 and all appendices except Appendix “A” attached to Report CM25001, remain confidential.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 1, as follows:

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

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela McRae
Legislative Coordinator

Deputy Mayor Mark Tadeson
Chair, General Issues Committee