

# CITY OF HAMILTON

## MOTION

General Issues Committee (Budget): February 7, 2025

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR M. TADESON.....**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR C. KROETSCH.....**

### Reduction of Consultant Fee Amounts

WHEREAS, the General Issues Committee (Budget) on November 28, 2024, received a Memorandum respecting a Budget Process Update;

WHEREAS, residential taxpayers are looking at a potential 5.7% increase in their property taxes;

WHEREAS, council has declared an affordability crisis;

WHEREAS, fiscal responsibility is a priority for the municipality, and every expenditure should be evaluated for its impact on taxpayers;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Council's motion on January 30, 2024 Budget General Issues Committee reflecting "Attaining Efficiencies Through the Review of the Use of Consultants" and subsequent report (FCS24033) (City Wide) the next steps for staff was to focus on a comprehensive evaluation aimed at identifying long-term, cost-saving opportunities;

WHEREAS, results were to be included in 2025 and subsequent year's budget materials;

WHEREAS, a detailed review of the list of projects that have historically relied on external consultants, particularly, those under the Tax Capital and Rate funded categories and the specific expertise that these projects demand is still outstanding; and,

WHEREAS, the 2025 Net Levy Summary indicated a proposed 2025 Budget of \$1,824,719 for consulting;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget, **be amended**, as follows:

That all departments (responsible for the total costs of proposed consulting fees totalling \$1,824,719 in the 2025 Net Levy Summary) reduce their budget for consulting fees a further 8% resulting in a decrease of further \$145,977 and new total of \$1,678,742 for consulting fees for the 2025 Proposed Tax Supported Budget.