



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES - GIC 25-002

9:30 a.m.

February 5, 2025

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

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

Absent: Councillor J.P. Danko – Personal

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor C. Cassar called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

There were no ceremonial activities.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Beattie/Jackson)

That the agenda for the February 5, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1 January 15, 2025

(McMeekin/Beattie)

That the minutes of the January 15, 2025 General Issues Committee, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Rob Zeidler, The Cotton Factory; and Dave Santi, Dean of Mohawk College School of Climate Action, respecting support of PIVOT TECH 2024 and announcement of PIVOT TECH 2025 (In-Person)

Rob Zeidler, The Cotton Factory; and Dave Santi, Dean of Mohawk College School of Climate Action, addressed the Committee respecting support of PIVOT TECH 2024 and announcement of PIVOT TECH 2025.

(M. Wilson/Kroetsch)

That the delegation from Rob Zeidler, The Cotton Factory; and Dave Santi, Dean of Mohawk College School of Climate Action, respecting support of PIVOT TECH 2024 and announcement of PIVOT TECH 2025, be received.

CARRIED

6.2 John Gerrard, Hamilton Burlington SPCA, respecting Item 11.3 - Report PED20074(b) - Animal Services Facility Report (City Wide) (In-Person)

John Gerrard, Hamilton Burlington SPCA, addressed the Committee, respecting Item 11.3 - Report PED20074(b), Animal Services Facility Report (City Wide).

(Jackson/McMeekin)

That the delegation from John Gerrard, Hamilton Burlington SPCA, respecting Item 11.3 - Report PED20074(b) - Animal Services Facility Report (City Wide), be received.

CARRIED

6.3 Jodi Formosi, respecting public theft and safety concerns that are ongoing (In-Person)

At the request of Councillor Jackson, Jodi Formosi's delegation will be heard at a future General Issues Committee meeting.

6.4 Delegations respecting Item 9.1 - Suitable Site for a Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) Community, from the following individuals:

The following delegates addressed the Committee respecting Item 9.1 - Suitable Site for a Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) Community:

6.4(a) Angela Burns, Parkview East Neighbourhood Association (In-Person)

6.4(b) Karl Andrus (In-Person)

6.4(c) Brodie Riske (In-Person)

(Horwath/Beattie)

That the following delegations respecting Item 9.1 - Suitable Site for a Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) Community, be received:

- 6.4(a) Angela Burns, Parkview East Neighbourhood Association (In-Person)
- 6.4(b) Karl Andrus (In-Person)
- 6.4(c) Brodie Riske (In-Person)

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no Items for Information.

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

8.1 Amendments to the Outstanding Business List:

(Clark/Nann)

That the following Amendments to the Outstanding Business List, be approved:

8.1(a) Items Requiring a New Due Date:

Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap 2024 Annual Update and 2025 Objective Setting (HSC23028(f) / FCS23055(d) / PED23099(g)) (City Wide)
OBL Item: GIC-11/20/24-8.1(d)
Added: November 20, 2024 (Item 8.1)
Original Due Date: Q2 2025
Proposed New Due Date: July 30, 2025

8.1.(b) Items Considered Complete and Needing to be Removed:

Revenue Sources to fund Council Priorities and Ongoing Operating and Capital Works
Added: May 15, 2024 at GIC (Item 11.2)
Completed: January 15, 2025 at GIC (Item 7.4)

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
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent	-	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
Absent	-	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

**8.2 PED25016
Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area 2025 Revised Board of
Management (Ward 5)**

(Clark/Nann)

That Report PED25016, dated February 5, 2025, respecting Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area 2025 Revised Board of Management (Ward 5), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the following individuals be removed from the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area Board of Management:
 - (i) Roman Marcone – Halo Music;
 - (ii) Paulina Yousef – Community Rep;
 - (iii) Lana Flinn- StoHo;

- (b) That the following individuals be appointed to the Stoney Creek Business Improvement Area Board of Management:
 - (i) Brandon Carrol – Raw Roots;
 - (ii) Michael Thompson – The Jamaican Patty Shack;
 - (iii) Chelsey Overell – Chestnut Tree Foot Care.

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
Yes - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Absent - 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
Absent - 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 PED25030

City Comments in Response to ERO Posting Nos. 019-9284, 019-9285 and 019-9300 Respecting Energy Planning (City Wide)

(A. Wilson/Kroetsch)

That Report PED25030, dated February 5, 2025, respecting City Comments in Response to ERO Posting Nos. 019-9284, 019-9285 and 019-9300 Respecting Energy Planning (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That Council endorse the submissions and recommendations attached in Appendix “A” to Appendix “C” to Report PED25030 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting Nos. 019-9284, 019-9284, 019-9300; and,
- (b) That the Acting Director of Planning and Chief Planner be authorized and directed to confirm the submissions and recommendations made to the Province resulting from Council’s review and decisions on Report PED25030.

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
Yes	-	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

8.4 Community Benefits Sub-Committee Report 24-002 – December 16, 2024

(i) (McMeekin/A. Wilson)

That the Community Benefits Sub-Committee Report 24-002, dated December 16, 2024, be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

**(1) Community Benefits and Social Value Procurement
(HSC24042/FCS24069) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

- (i) That sub-sections (b) through (f), as amended, to Report HSC24042/FCS24069, respecting Community Benefits and Social Value Procurement, be REFERRED to the Procurement Sub-Committee with the direction that the Social Procurement Pilot Program prioritize Indigenous-owned, diverse-owned, and equity-deserving businesses and social enterprises:
- (b) That the Procurement Division, Corporate Services and Strategic Initiatives, Health and Safe Communities, in consultation with the cross departmental Procurement Advisory Committee, jointly report back to the Community Benefits Protocol Sub-Committee with a proposed Phase One - Social Procurement Pilot Program leveraging City-led procurement activities to deliver additional social value outcomes as a first step in exploring a social procurement policy;
- (c) That Procurement Division and Strategic Initiatives, Health and Safe Communities, in consultation with the cross departmental Procurement Advisory Committee be directed to jointly oversee the development and delivery of a corporate wide staff training, including workshops, on social value outcomes for staff involved in procurement activities and applicable business units;
- (d) That the Director of Procurement, be authorized and directed to engage an external consultant in the development of the Social Procurement Pilot Program and supporting staff training and workshops;
- (e) That up to \$75 K from the Tax Stabilization Reserve (110046) be allocated to fund the consultant and works required for the Phase 1 - Social Procurement Pilot Program and including any staff training sessions and workshops; and,
- (f) That the Director of Procurement, 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.

- (ii) That sub-section (a) to Report HSC24042/FCS24069, respecting Community Benefits and Social Value Procurement, be DEFERRED to a future meeting of the Community Benefits Protocol Sub-Committee:
 - (a) That the Community Benefits Sub-Committee adopt the use of the term “social value outcome” in place of “Community Benefits” as the overarching term when referring to the work resulting from the recommendations of this report;

(2) Municipal Social Procurement Policies – Analysis of Recommendations from Research Shop, McMaster University (HSC24053/FCS24031) (City Wide) (Item 9.1)

That report HSC24053/FCS24031 respecting Municipal Social Procurement Policies – Analysis of Recommendations from Research Shop, McMaster University, be REFERRED to the Procurement Sub-Committee.

(3) Light Rail Transit Early Works Community Employment Benefits (Item 11.1)

WHEREAS, the construction of the Light Rail Transit (LRT) project and the delivery of regular operation and service will create significant employment opportunities;

WHEREAS, community benefits agreements ensure residents have equitable opportunities and economic inclusion through commitments to social procurement and social enterprise opportunities;

WHEREAS, the Pillar One “Employment Opportunities” of Metrolinx’s Community Benefits and Supports Program, and reiterated by their former President and Chief Executive Officer Phil Verster, looks to promote apprenticeship training and workforce development opportunities for local communities and equity seeking groups;

WHEREAS, Metrolinx, through project delivery on the Finch West, Eglinton Cross Town and Hazel McCallion LRTs, has gained substantial experience in delivering Community Employment Benefits and providing apprenticeship training and workforce development opportunities for local communities and equity seeking groups; and

WHEREAS, The City of Hamilton has been responsible for the delivery of several LRT early works, including Wentworth –

Construction of a 500mm and 200mm watermain, Sherman –
Construction of a 300mm watermain; and, Rosewood/Main –
Construction of a 1200mm watermain paid for by Metrolinx.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to work with Metrolinx, to identify projects, and attempt to deliver community employment benefits and social procurement ideals to the City-led procurement for any future LRT early works tendered in 2025 and beyond;
- (b) That City Staff report back to the relevant committees the findings of those conversation with Metrolinx, including any challenges, barriers or successes; 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 and Metrolinx while meeting the City’s procurement policy and authority to award the contracts.

(ii) **(Clark/Jackson)**

That Item 1 of the Community Benefits Sub-Committee Report 24-002, dated December 16, 2024, respecting Community Benefits and Social Value Procurement (HSC24042/FCS24069) (City Wide) (Item 8.1), **be amended**, by adding '**but not to the exclusion of other businesses**', as follows:

(1) **Community Benefits and Social Value Procurement (HSC24042/FCS24069) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

- (1) That sub-sections (b) through (f), **as amended**, to Report HSC24042/FCS24069, respecting Community Benefits and Social Value Procurement, be REFERRED to the Procurement Sub-Committee with the direction that the Social Procurement Pilot Program prioritize Indigenous-owned, diverse-owned, and equity-deserving businesses and social enterprises, **but not to the exclusion of other businesses**:

Result: AMENDMENT, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 1, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Absent	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
No	-	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

Result: MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, 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
Yes	-	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

8.5 Facility Naming Sub-Committee Minutes - FNSC 25-001 - January 27, 2025

(Francis/Jackson)

That the Facility Naming Sub-Committee Minutes - FNSC 25-001, dated January 27, 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
Yes	-	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

**8.6 Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities Minutes - ACPD
25-001 - January 14, 2025**

(Tadeson/McMeekin)

That the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities Minutes - ACPD 25-001 - January 14, 2025, dated January 14, 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
Yes	-	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

9. MOTIONS

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

(McMeekin/Tadeson)

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.

Councillor McMeekin WITHDREW sub-section (a) and the following friendly Amendment to sub-section (b) was accepted by Councillor McMeekin and the seconder of the Motion.

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~~

~~(a)(b) That staff be directed to immediately locate and propose an alternative site in Q2 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.~~

Result: MOTION, DEFEATED by a vote of 7 to 7, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
No	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
No	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
No	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
No	-	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
No	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
No	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
No	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

9.1(a) Correspondence respecting Item 9.1 - Suitable Site for a Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) Community

(Clark/M. Wilson)

That the following Correspondence respecting Item 9.1 - Suitable Site for a Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) Community, be received:

(a) Cassandra Galardo

CARRIED

(Nann/Tadeson)

That the General Issues Committee recess for 37 minutes until 1:00 p.m.

CARRIED

The General Issues Committee reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor M. Wilson introduced the following notice of motion:

10.1 Tackling Barriers to Building More Affordable and Supportive Housing

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is experiencing a housing crisis, with increasing demand for affordable and supportive housing outpacing available supply;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton continues to make significant investments in housing, including a gross allocation of \$192 million in the proposed 2025 Tax budget to address housing affordability and housing supports;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton provides a suite of mandatory and discretionary housing enabling exemptions from Development Charges, Community Benefits Charges and Parkland Dedication Fees to stimulate the construction of affordable and supportive housing;

WHEREAS, there may be barriers that prevent or delay the construction of affordable and supportive housing;

WHEREAS, innovative approaches and reforms, including alternative financing mechanisms aimed at lowering housing costs, have been successfully implemented in other jurisdictions to support the development of affordable and supportive rental housing while maintaining municipal revenue streams; and

WHEREAS, a jurisdictional scan to explore best practices aimed at diversifying, incentivizing and expanding Hamilton's rental housing stock while ensuring continued investment in critical infrastructure may assist the City of Hamilton in getting more homes built.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Housing Secretariat, in collaboration with other city divisions be directed to conduct a jurisdictional scan to identify and assess the potential adoption of reforms and financing mechanisms to support affordable and supportive properties while reducing reliance on development charges and property taxes; and,

- (b) That the Housing Secretariat be directed to report back to Council as part the Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap annual update, on the findings of the jurisdictional scan and providing recommendations for implementation in the City of Hamilton.

Councillor Clark introduced the following notices of motion:

10.2 Explore Area Rating or Tax Relief for Residents Within 3km of the GFL Landfill

WHEREAS, residents living in Upper Stoney Creek within 3km of the GFL Stoney Creek Regional Facility (landfill) have been experiencing horrific odours since April 2023;

WHEREAS, residents have not had daily reasonable use and enjoyment of homes, property, community spaces and workplaces, especially pertaining to outdoor lived experiences;

WHEREAS, residents have experienced inconvenience, discomfort and loss of amenity caused by odours being emitted from the landfill;

WHEREAS, residents have regularly complained about the odour seeping into their homes; and,

WHEREAS, GFL and the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks have not been successful in stopping the odours;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the taxes and finance divisions review the possibility of providing area rating relief or any other tax relief to mitigate the financial burden on residents living within 3km of the GFL Stoney Creek Regional Facility (landfill) and report back to the General Issues Committee by the end of Q2 of 2025 with all costs to be funded through the GFL royalties.

10.3 Section 447.1 Against GLF Stoney Creek Regional Facility - REVISED

WHEREAS, residents living in Upper Stoney Creek within 3km of the GFL Stoney Creek Regional Facility (landfill) have been experiencing horrific odours since April 2023;

WHEREAS, residents have not had daily reasonable use and enjoyment of homes, property, community spaces and workplaces, especially pertaining to outdoor lived experiences;

WHEREAS, residents have experienced inconvenience, discomfort and loss of amenity caused by odours being emitted from the landfill;

WHEREAS, residents have regularly complained about the odour seeping into their homes;

WHEREAS, GFL and the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks have not been successful in stopping or abating these odours;

WHEREAS, the community group known as STAND for Stoney Creek (Stand) has had discussions with their lawyers from Ross and McBride; and,

WHEREAS, their research found the following case wherein Section 447.1 of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001* was applied *Newmarket (Town) v. Halton Recycling Ltd. 2006 CarswellOnt 5920 (S.C.J.)*;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Legal Services be directed to review all legal options available to the City, including *Section 447.1* of the *Ontario Municipal Act*, to address the concerns raised by residents and report back to the General Issues Committee by the end of Q2 of 2025.

Councillor McMeekin introduced the following notice of motion:

10.4 Flamborough Women's Resource Centre / Interval House

WHEREAS, in 2023, the City of Hamilton declared intimate partnership violence a crisis;

WHEREAS, the Flamborough Women's Resource Centre, located in Waterdown, has focused on reducing gender violence and providing counselling support, group programs and legal advocacy;

WHEREAS, the Flamborough Women's Resource Centre, a satellite program of Interval House, has provided the only Outreach program for Flamborough women experiencing domestic violence and in need of safety and support services;

WHEREAS, rural women experience intimate partner violence at rates 5 times higher than rural men and 75% higher than rural women (CWF, 2022);

WHEREAS, the Waterdown area is one of the fastest growing population centres in Hamilton and, to date, not received any sustainable increased funding for the FWRC since 2009;

WHEREAS, the goal of the FWRC is to create an accessible hub in the core of Waterdown to expand services to those experiencing domestic violence;

WHEREAS, additional resources are required to help reach and respond to rural women in crisis, through the provision of occasional mobile services;

WHEREAS, the Ward 15 community Council has reviewed the request for assistance and, like the City of Hamilton, understands the urgency of a response capability; and,

WHEREAS, this grant will assist the Flamborough Women’s Resource Centre/Interval House to secure a larger service location needed to provide no charge counselling, safety planning, housing assistance, income navigation, employment readiness training and where necessary, legal advice.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That a grant be provided to Interval House for the Flamborough Women’s Resource Centre. That this grant be funded from the Ward 15 Non-Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609615) at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$10,000.00;
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Deputy Mayor Cassar relinquished the Chair to Councillor Tadeson to introduce the following motion:

10.5 Protecting Hamilton’s Economy and Jobs: Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats – REVISED

(Cassar/Francis)

That the Rules of Order be suspended to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting Protecting Hamilton’s Economy and Jobs: Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats – REVISED.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a 2/3 majority vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	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

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

(Cassar/Francis)

WHEREAS, the United States government, under President Donald Trump, had announced the imposition of 25% tariffs on Canadian goods effective February 1, 2025;

WHEREAS, the potential threat of tariffs on Hamilton's key industries poses significant risk to local businesses, workers, and the overall economic stability of our community;

WHEREAS, these tariffs could potentially reduce the city's GDP by up to \$1.1 billion, impacting key sectors such as manufacturing, construction, and the automotive industry;

WHEREAS, Hamilton's manufacturing sector employs over 28,000 workers locally and over 48,000 within the broader Hamilton CMA, and plays a critical role in the city's economic stability;

WHEREAS, the potential decline in Hamilton's largest export sector—iron and steel—could result in a \$3.6 billion reduction in export value;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has significant purchasing power through its capital projects and infrastructure investments, which can be leveraged to support local and national businesses during this economic uncertainty;

WHEREAS, although a 30-day pause on the implementation of these proposed tariffs has been agreed upon by President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, the potential threat remains, necessitating the exploration of proactive measures to protect and support Hamilton's local businesses, workers, and families to ensure economic resilience, growth, and long-term prosperity for our city;

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2025, Council referred Councillor Matt Francis's "Buy Local and Canadian First Procurement Policy" motion to the Procurement Sub-Committee for consideration with the intention to lay the groundwork for prioritizing local procurement;

WHEREAS, the current economic climate and the urgent threat posed by new tariffs necessitate accelerated action to expand on the aforementioned motion and reinforce Hamilton's economic resilience; and,

WHEREAS, municipalities, while traditionally constrained by trade agreements, can play a pivotal role in supporting Canadian businesses through strategic procurement practices.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) Staff expedite the review of current procurement policies and report back to GIC on February 26th, 2025 with preliminary recommendations on the feasibility of integrating “Buy Local and Canadian” policies effectively and urgently given the current economic uncertainty;
- (b) The City of Hamilton stands in solidarity with federal and provincial governments to advocate against U.S. tariffs and support a coordinated "Team Canada" response.
- (c) The City of Hamilton calls on the federal and provincial governments to collaborate with municipalities in identifying and removing barriers that prevent local governments from preferring Canadian businesses in procurement processes.
- (d) The City of Hamilton endorses the City of Burlington’s “Buy Canada” resolution, dated January 31, 2025, and that the clerk forward this resolution to the following organizations for their information:
 - (i) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - (ii) Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - (iii) Ontario Big City Mayors Caucus
 - (iv) Hamilton Members of Parliament (MPs)
 - (v) Hamilton Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs)
 - (vi) Municipalities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe

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

Absent	-	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
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

Councillor Cassar assumed the Chair.

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

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 – January 15, 2025

(Clark/Tadeson)

That the Closed Session minutes of the January 15, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting, be adopted and remain confidential.

CARRIED

(Tadeson/Beattie)

That Committee move into Closed Session for Items 11.2, and 11.3, a pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-Sections (c) and (k) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (c) and (k) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land for City purposes or a local board; 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 14 to 0, as follows:

Absent - 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
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

The General Issues Committee resolved into closed session at 1:25 p.m.

The General Issues Committee meeting reconvened in Open Session at 3:05 p.m.

**11.2 PED25006
Surplus Land in Ward 14 (Ward 14)**

(Beattie/Tadeson)

That Report PED25006, dated February 5, 2025, respecting Surplus Land in Ward 14 (Ward 14), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That Council of the City of Hamilton, as approving authority, authorizes relief from Section 42 of the *Expropriations Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.26, requiring the expropriating authority to give the previous owner of 1126 Garth Street, from whom the land was taken, the first chance to repurchase the lands on the terms of the best offer received by the expropriating authority; and,
- (b) That Report PED25006, respecting Surplus Land in Ward 14, remain confidential.

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

Yes	-	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
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Absent	-	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
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**11.3 PED20074(b)
Animal Services Facility Report (City Wide)**

(Clark/Beattie)

That Report PED20074(b), dated February 5, 2025, respecting Animal Services Facility Report (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the direction provided to staff in Closed Session, respecting Report PED20074(b), Animal Services Facility, be approved and remain confidential;
- (b) That Report PED20074(b), respecting the Animal Services Facility and its Appendices remain confidential.

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

Yes	-	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
Absent	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Absent	-	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
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 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela McRae
Legislative Coordinator

Deputy Mayor Craig Cassar
Chair, General Issues Committee

