



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 25-003

9:30 a.m.

February 12, 2025

Council Chamber (Hybrid)

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

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

Mayor Horwath called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and recognized that Council is meeting on the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, HuronWendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. It was further acknowledged that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and it was recognized that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

There being no objections, Item 7.11 (h) was moved to be considered immediately following Agenda Item 9.6 as the new Item 9.7, and the Closed Session portion of the meeting was amended to allow Council to obtain legal advice respecting Agenda Items 9.4 and 9.6.

(Cassar/Beattie)

That the agenda for the February 12, 2025 meeting of Council be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mayor Andrea Horwath declared a Disqualifying interest to Minute Item 7.1 of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) Minutes, GIC 25-005 (Agenda Item 7.4), respecting the Corporate Services Department – 2025 Budget Presentation, as the presentation includes reference to the Vacant Unit Tax, as she has a vacant property.

Mayor Andrea Horwath declared a Disqualifying interest to Minute Item 7.11 (f) respecting the Reconsideration of a decision that was approved at the February 15, 2025 Special

Council meeting respecting Item 4 (ii) of the General Issues Committee (Budget) Report 24-001, January and February 2024, 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1) (February 15, 2024), as she is a landlord.

Councillor Kroetsch declared a Disqualifying interest to Item 9.4 respecting the Re-Allocation 2025 Housing Services Division Tax Operating Budget Funding for the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic to an Alternative Service Provider, as he has a personal and professional relationship with Ashley Wilson who works at the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic under the Tenant Support Program and was therefore, not in attendance during the Closed Session discussion on this matter.

Councillor Kroetsch declared a Disqualifying interest to Item 9.6 respecting the Re-Alignment of Taxpayer Funding to Support Homeless Individuals and Prioritize the Removal of Encampments, as he has a personal and professional relationship with Ashley Wilson who works at the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic under the Tenant Support Program and was therefore, not in attendance during the Closed Session discussion on this matter.

Councillor B. Clark declared a Non-Disqualifying interest to Item 9.4 respecting the Re-Allocation 2025 Housing Services Division Tax Operating Budget Funding for the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic to an Alternative Service Provider as he referred Wade Poziomka to a Ward 9 community group experiencing an ongoing environmental issue.

Councillor B. Clark declared a Non-Disqualifying interest to Item 9.6 respecting the Re-Alignment of Taxpayer Funding to Support Homeless Individuals and Prioritize the Removal of Encampments, as he referred Wade Poziomka to a Ward 9 community group experiencing an ongoing environmental issue.

CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

There were no Ceremonial Activities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5. January 22, 2025 (Item 5.1) and January 23, 2025 – Special (Item 5.2)

(McMeekin/Hwang)

That the Minutes of the January 22, 2025 and January 23, 2025 meetings of Council be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

(Cassar/Hwang)

That the following Item for Information, be received:

6.1 City of Hamilton Integrity Commissioner's Report Regarding Citation: Cllr. Danko X Post re Cllr. Kroetsch - DGB-HamiltonICI-25-01 dated January 29, 2025

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 GIC-B 25-002

General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) minutes of the meeting held on January 23, 2025

(M. Wilson/Cassar)

That GIC-B 25-002, being the minutes of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) meetings held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: Motion on GIC-B 25-002, CARRIED, by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
NOT PRESENT - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

7.2 GIC-B 25-003

General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) minutes of the meeting held on January 28, 2025

(M. Wilson/Cassar)

That GIC-B 25-003, being the minutes of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) meetings held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: Motion on GIC-B 25-003, CARRIED, by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
NOT PRESENT - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

7.3 GIC-B 25-004

General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) minutes of the meeting held on January 29, 2025

(M. Wilson/Cassar)

That GIC-B 25-004, being the minutes of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) meetings held on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: Motion on GIC-B 25-004, CARRIED, by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
NOT PRESENT - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

7.4 GIC-B 25-005

General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) minutes of the meeting held on January 30, 2025

(M. Wilson/Cassar)

That GIC-B 25-005, being the minutes of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) meetings held on Thursday, January 30, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Mayor Horwath relinquished the Chair to Deputy Mayor Cassar during the consideration of Minute Item 7.1.

Due to a declared conflict, the recommendation contained in Minute Item 7.1, was voted on separately as follows:

7.1 Corporate Services Department - 2025 Budget Presentation

That the presentation respecting the Corporate Services – 2025 Budget, be received.

Result: Motion on Minute Item 7.1 of GIC-B 25-005, CARRIED, by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

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

Mayor Horwath assumed the Chair, and called the vote on the balance of the recommendations contained in Minutes GIC-B 25-005.

Result: Motion on the balance of GIC-B 25-005, CARRIED, by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

7.5 GIC-B 25-006

General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) minutes of the meeting held on January 31, 2025

(M. Wilson/Cassar)

That GIC-B 25-006, being the minutes of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) meetings held Friday, January 31, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: Motion on GIC-B 25-006, CARRIED, by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

7.6 PWC 25-001

Public Works Committee minutes of the meeting held on February 3, 2025

(Pauls/Francis)

- (a) That PWC 25-001, being the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on Monday, February 3, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved; and
- (b) That the Correspondence from Councillor Brad Clark, Chair, Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors and Lisa Burnside, Chief Administrative Officer, Hamilton Region Conservation Authority respecting the delegation by Erin Davis to City of Hamilton Public Works Committee, City of Hamilton Bridge #113 Rehabilitation Project, Sulphur Spring Road, Ancaster, Ancaster Well No. 8 (Item 7.6 (a)), be received.

The following motion respecting the removal of one bike lane on Wimberly Avenue (Minute Item 6.3) was voted on separately, as follows:

6.3 Pete Zuzek respecting a petition to have one of the bike lanes removed on Wimberly Avenue, between North Waterdown Drive to Nisbet Boulevard (In person)

That staff be directed to review and report back to the Public Works Committee respecting the potential removal of one bike lane on Wimberly Avenue, including information about roadway safety and the larger context of active transportation plans for the area, by Q2 2025.

Result: Motion on Minute Item 6.3 of PWC 25-001 respecting the removal of one bike lane on Wimberly Avenue (above), CARRIED, by a vote of 13 to 3, as follows:

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

The Mayor called the vote on the balance of the recommendations contained in Minutes PWC 25-001.

Result: Motion on balance of PWC 25-001, CARRIED, by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora

YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson

YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson

YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

7.7 PLC 25-002

Planning Committee minutes of the meeting held on February 4, 2025

(Hwang/Tadeson)

(a) That PLC 25-002, being the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved;

(b) Correspondence respecting Item 9.2 of the Planning Committee minutes of February 4, 2025, the Minister's Zoning Order Request for Twenty Road West and Airport Employment Growth District Lands (PED25046) (Items 7.7 (a)(a) to 7.7 (a)(z)), be received:

- (a) Allan Harrison
- (b) Brian Maynard
- (c) Rosemary Chenier
- (d) Jean Mackay
- (e) Emily Guthro
- (f) Michael Clase
- (g) Jan Park Dorsay
- (h) Lois Corey
- (i) Michael Corrado, President, Micor Developments Inc.
- (j) David Lloyd
- (k) Jacquie Woolsey
- (l) Nicole Doro
- (m) Natasha Huyer
- (n) Marcus Gagliardi, Senior Land Development Manager, Cachet Homes
- (o) Mark Forler
- (p) Rita Bailey
- (q) Irene Schieberl
- (r) Jessica MacQueen
- (s) Elaine Stepchuk
- (t) Bonnie McInnes
- (u) Josh Mitchell
- (v) Judy Mitchell-Wilson
- (w) Ilana Goldberg
- (x) Karyn Bailey
- (y) Chris Sanislo
- (z) Chris and Theresa Cardey

(c) That the Correspondence respecting Item 8.3 of the Planning Committee minutes of February 4, 2025, Applications for an Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision for Lands Located at 228McNeilly Road and 1069 Highway No. 8, Stoney Creek (Ward 10) (PED25035) (Items 7.7 (b)(a) and 7.7 (b)(b)), be received:

- (a) Daniel Gadoury
- (b) Michael Coccaro

- (d) That the Correspondence respecting Item 8.1 of the Planning Committee minutes of February 4, 2025, Application for Zoning By-law Amendment for Lands Located at 525 Stone Church Road East, Hamilton (Ward 7) (PED25021) (Items 7.7 (c)(a) and 7.7 (c)(b)), be received:

- (a) Fahim Wahid and Farid Uddin
(b) Ian Robinson

Result: Motion on PLC 25-002, CARRIED, by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

7.8 GIC 25-002

General Issues Committee minutes of the meeting held on February 5, 2025

(Cassar/Tadeson)

- (a) That GIC 25-002, being the minutes of the General Issues Committee meeting held on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved; and
- (b) That the Correspondence from Darcy Field respecting Item 9.1 of the General Issues Committee minutes of February 5, 2025, Suitable Site for a Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) Community (Item 7.8 (a)), be received.

Mayor Horwath relinquished the Chair to Deputy Mayor Cassar in order to introduce the following amendment to Minute Item 10.5.

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

(Horwath/Beattie)

WHEREAS, the recent announcement of the imposition of tariffs on steel and aluminum products by the United States will have a significant impact on Hamilton's economy, key industries, and the livelihoods of workers in our city;

WHEREAS, Hamilton is a national leader in primary steel production and secondary processing, and local companies have been a vital part of the city's economy and identity for generations;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton remains committed to supporting its local businesses, promoting local procurement, and protecting jobs for Hamiltonians;

WHEREAS, the government of Canada's response to the imposition of tariffs by the U.S. may impact the costs of municipal capital projects and other essential infrastructure investments;

WHEREAS, collaboration with all orders of government is critical to mitigate the impact of these tariffs and protect Hamilton's industries and workers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Item 10.5 of the General Issues Committee minutes of February 5, 2025 respecting "Protecting Hamilton's Economy and Jobs: Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats" **be amended** to include the following clauses:

- (e) ***That The Mayor with the support of staff identified by the City Manager's office further explore opportunities to support our steel industry partners, hardworking Hamiltonians and the backbone of the economy of our City through measures such as but not limited to:***
 - (i) ***The re-orienting of our tendering and purchasing processes to build in the priority of sourcing steel and steel products from local companies first, and Canadian companies when necessary (in Sault Ste Marie for example). Also explore the sourcing of Canadian aluminum;***
 - (ii) ***Calling on the senior orders of government to urgently facilitate the development of the supply chains necessary for municipalities around the country to source Hamilton steel and steel products for their capital works projects;***
 - (iii) ***Calling on Ontario and Canada to begin to source their steel and steel products for their capital works projects from Hamilton companies ASAP;***
 - (iv) ***Calling on the Federal and Provincial governments to encourage Canadian municipalities to begin to source Canadian steel and steel products for their municipal works projects and commit to developing programs to cover any cost inflation that may be incurred by municipalities, with or without retaliatory tariffs, to ensuring that any such costs are reimbursed to them by the Federal and Provincial governments;***

- (v) ***Demanding the Federal Government immediately establish a Canadian Border Service Agency customs office at the Hamilton's HOPA port, as has been requested by HOPA, to facilitate the movement of steel, steel products and other goods manufactured or grown/produced in Hamilton and surrounding areas to markets across Canada and abroad;***
- (vi) ***Calling on the Federal government to accelerate its efforts to facilitate access to new markets for Hamilton steel and steel products abroad;***
- (vii) ***Calling on the Federal government, and the Ontario government to expedite the construction of the Hamilton LRT as a stimulus initiative and commit to sourcing necessary steel and steel products from Hamilton, and passenger trains built in Canada with a requirement that those trains be manufactured with Hamilton steel and steel products; and,***
- (viii) ***Calling on the Federal Government to eliminate the two-week waiting period for Employment Insurance (EI) applications for workers affected by U.S. tariffs, ensuring they have immediate access to financial support.***

Result: Amendment to Minute Item 10.5 of GIC 25-002, CARRIED, by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

Mayor Horwath assumed the Chair.

Result: Motion on GIC 25-002, *As Amended*, CARRIED, by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

7.9 AFA 25-002

Audit, Finance and Administration Committee minutes of the meeting held on February 6, 2025

(Spadafora/Beattie)

That AFA 25-002, being the minutes of the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 6, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved.

Result: Motion on AFA 25-002, CARRIED by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

7.10 ECS 25-001**Emergency and Community Services Committee minutes of the meeting held on February 6, 2025****(Nann/Clark)**

That ECS 25-001, being the minutes of the Emergency and Community Services Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 6, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

Result: Motion on ECS 25-001, CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
 YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
 YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 YES - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
 NOT PRESENT - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
 YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
 YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
 YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
 YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
 NOT PRESENT - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
 YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
 YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
 YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

Mayor Horwath relinquished the Chair to Councillor M. Wilson, Chair of the General Issues Committee – Budget, during the consideration of the minutes of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) meeting held on Friday, February 7, 2025 and the additional motions amending the 2025 Operating and Capital Budget.

7.11 GIC-B 25-007**General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) minutes of the meeting held on February 7, 2025****(Danko/Clark)**

- (a) That GIC-B 25-007, being the minutes of the General Issues Committee (Operating and Capital Budget) meeting held on Friday, February 7, 2025, be received and the recommendations contained therein, be approved; and
- (b) That the Correspondence respecting the 2025 Proposed Tax Budget (Items 7.11 (a)(a) to 7.11 (a)(bk)), be received:

- (a) Kim Martin, Executive
 Director, Social
 Planning and
 Research Council of
 Hamilton
- (b) Brian McHattie

- (c) Mary Love
 (d) Patricia (Pat) Wilson
 (e) Natalie Zahedi
 (f) Jackson Hudecki, Vice
 President, Hamilton
 Naturalists Club

(g)	Chantal Cino	(ak)	Sarah Richer
(h)	Steven McKay	(al)	Sarah Jenner
(i)	Jean Jacobs	(am)	John Benjamin
(j)	Sarah Brophy	(an)	Martha Howatt
(k)	Kelly Waselynychuk	(ao)	Natasha Smith
(l)	Chris Motherwell	(ap)	Mary Love
(m)	Marjorie Middleton	(aq)	Kira McDermid
(n)	Carolyn Zanchetta	(ar)	Victoria Koch
(o)	Kelly Ross	(as)	Anne Dwyer
(p)	Lilly Noble	(at)	Carrie Butcher
(q)	Susan Joanis	(au)	Sophia Szoke
(r)	Paul D. Smith	(av)	Margaret Tremblay
(s)	Meralee Beckett	(aw)	Leo Gervais
(t)	Laurie Galer	(ax)	Ben Weingartner
(u)	Michelle Chin	(ay)	David and Carol Moffatt
(v)	Joan Wallace	(az)	Joanne and Ron Palangio
(w)	Chris McAnally	(ba)	Ruth Frager
(x)	Grant Pielt	(bb)	Mark Anderson
(y)	Lindsey Hamilton	(bc)	Sheldon McGregor
(z)	euven Dukas	(bd)	Don Brown
(aa)	Janice Currie	(be)	Matias Rozenberg
(ab)	Dr. Rachelle Sender MD	(bf)	Madeleine "Mandi" A.L. Smith
(ac)	Allyn Walsh	(bg)	Abbie and Paul, Co- Chairs, Cycle Hamilton
(ad)	Cynthia Meyer	(bh)	Kim Zivanovich
(ae)	Daniel Quaglia	(bi)	Reem Said
(af)	Heather Vaughan	(bj)	Deborah Bowen
(ag)	Peter Morgan	(bk)	ACORN Hamilton
(ah)	Cathy McPherson		
(ai)	Rose Janson and Family		
(aj)	Rosemarie Morris		

Minute Item 7.1 was voted on separately, as follows:

7.1 Mayor's Memorandum - 2025 Proposed Tax Budget - REVISED

That the Mayor's Memorandum - 2025 Proposed Tax Budget - REVISED, be received.

Result: Motion on Minute Item 7.1 of GIC-B 25-007, CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 3, as follows:

NO - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
 YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
 NO - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
 NO - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
 YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
 YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
 YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
 YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
 YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
NOT PRESENT - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

Minute Item 9.7 was voted on separately, as follows:

9.7 Amendment to the Proposed 2025 Tax-Supported Budget - Development of a Community Benefits Protocol

WHEREAS, the Community Benefits Protocol Sub-Committee was established by Council on June 27, 2018 and the main purpose of the Sub-Committee is to “develop a protocol” (called a Community Benefits Protocol or Social Value Framework);

WHEREAS, there is currently no internal City staff resource with the expertise to support the development of a protocol;

WHEREAS, it will cost \$75,000 to hire a consultant to support the development of a protocol, which represents an approximate increase to the overall City budget of 0.006%, as each percentage increase to the overall City budget is valued at approximately \$13m; and

WHEREAS, the City’s projected budget increase for 2025 is 5.663% and increasing it by 0.006% would raise the overall increase to approximately 5.669%.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Proposed 2025 Tax-Supported Budget, be amended, as follows:
 - (i) That \$75,000 be allocated to support the hiring of a consultant to develop a draft Community Benefits Protocol or Social Value Framework;
 - (ii) That staff be directed to develop a scope of work to meet the objective of developing a draft Community Benefits Protocol or Social Value Framework and oversee the consultant’s work; and
 - (iii) That the City Manager, or General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services, or their assigned designate, be authorized and directed, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, to negotiate, enter into and/or execute, all agreements and necessary ancillary documents on terms satisfactory to the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Result: Motion on Minute Item 9.7 of GIC-B 25-007, DEFEATED by a vote of 8 to 8, as follows:

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

Minute Item 9.8 was voted on separately, as follows:

9.8 Amendment to the Proposed 2025 Tax-Supported Budget - Hamilton Police Service Board Budget

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Police Service Board submitted a budget increase of \$12,252,775 representing a 5.7% increase for a total 2025 budget of \$227,075,420;

WHEREAS, according to the City of Hamilton's budget documents there is a budget increase of \$17,351,475 for the total costs of policing, including legally mandated costs, representing an 8.1% increase for a total 2025 budget of \$232,174,120;

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Police Service Board budget has received more consistent support from City Council than any other departmental budget, with all increases approved without modification since amalgamation;

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Police Service Board budget has increased by \$145,825,170 since amalgamation (the 2001 Annual Report of the Hamilton Police Service Board indicated a total budget of \$86,348,950 as compared to \$232,174,120 in 2025);

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Police Service Board's submitted increase (\$12,252,775) represents an approximate 0.94% increase to the overall City budget, as each percentage increase to the overall City budget is valued at approximately \$13m; and,

WHEREAS, the City's projected budget increase for 2025 is 5.66% and reducing it by 0.94% would lower the overall increase to approximately 4.72%.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Proposed 2025 Tax-Supported Budget, be amended, as follows:
 - (i) That the Hamilton Police Service Board's 2025 Budget be established at \$214,822,645.

Result: Motion on Minute Item 9.8 of GIC-B 25-007, DEFEATED by a vote of 2 to 14, as follows:

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

Minute Item 9.9 was voted on separately, as follows:

9.9 Amendment to the Proposed 2025 Tax-Supported Budget - Improving the Cleanliness and Safety of Downtown Underpasses

WHEREAS, Transportation Roadway Maintenance has received an increase in the number of requests regarding underpass maintenance and cleaning, including surrounding sidewalks and adjacent roadways;

WHEREAS, all underpasses throughout the City were assessed and 14 were identified based on high pedestrian and pigeon activity;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton currently does not have an annual underpass cleaning program with an established level of service, sidewalks, stairs, or adjacent roadways;

WHEREAS, pigeon feces, dead pigeons and other birds, litter, and illegal dumping are all prevalent issues in underpasses, which require regular maintenance;

WHEREAS, the City is currently is making a series of capital investments including repairing and replacing vital underpass infrastructure, putting up bird netting, installing new and brighter lighting, and painting that require regular maintenance;

WHEREAS, it will cost \$130,000 annually to perform this regular maintenance, which represents an approximate increase to the overall City budget of 0.01%, as each percentage increase to the overall City budget is valued at approximately \$13m; and,

WHEREAS, the City's projected budget increase for 2025 is 5.66% and increasing it by 0.01% would raise the overall increase to approximately 5.67%.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the Proposed 2025 Tax-Supported Budget, as follows:

- (i) That fourteen (14) underpass locations with heavy pedestrian activity and a high volume of sanitary and debris complaints be added to a Roadway Maintenance Underpass Cleaning Program including:

Ward 1

- (i) Aberdeen Avenue at Studholme Road - underpass
- (ii) Main Street West at Osler Drive - underpass

Ward 2

- (iii) MacNab Street South at Hunter Street West - tunnel, stairs
- (iv) James Street South at Hunter Street - underpass, stairs
- (v) John Street South at Hunter Street East - underpass
- (vi) Catharine Street South at Hunter Street East - underpass
- (vii) Walnut Street South at Hunter Street East - underpass
- (viii) Ferguson Street South at Young Street - tunnel
- (ix) Young Street near Ford Street - underpass, stairs

Ward 3

- (x) Charlton Avenue East at Victoria Avenue South - tunnel

(xi) Victoria Avenue South at Young Street - underpass

(xii) Victoria Avenue South at Stinson Street - tunnel

(xiii) Birch Avenue at Burlington Street East - underpass

Ward 4

(xiv) Kenilworth Avenue North at McAnulty Boulevard -
underpass

(ii) That the Transportation Division budget be amended in 2025 for all costs associated with the Roadway Maintenance Underpass Cleaning Program (\$130,000); and

(iii) That the General Manager of Public Works 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.

Result: Motion on Minute Item 9.9 of GIC-B 25-007, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 6, as follows:

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

Minute Item 9.13(a) was voted on separately, as follows:

**9.13(a) Removal of \$372,490 Budgeted for the Realigned Gardens Program
(PW24031(a))**

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

WHEREAS, members of Council may propose amendments to the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has supported Community Garden Programs in their current form for many years as successful volunteer-led programs, without drastic increases to project funding, enabling Hamilton residents to safely and affordably grow their own nutritious food;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget, as follows:

(i) Remove the \$372,490 budgeted for 2 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) as part of the Realigned Gardens Program (PW24031(a))

Result: Motion on Minute Item 9.13(a) of GIC-B 25-007, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 5, as follows:

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

Minute Item 9.19 was voted on separately, as follows:

9.19 Reduction of Staffing to Support Public Engagement

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

WHEREAS, council has declared an affordability crisis;

WHEREAS, the threat of looming US tariffs will create an economic recession in Canada and will have a billion dollar impact on Hamilton's local economy that could impact thousands of jobs;

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

WHEREAS, 2 FTEs were referred to the 2025 Tax budget to support Public Engagement (CMO), with a net levy impact of \$235,969; and,

WHEREAS, the current Public Engagement staffing compliment amounts to 5 FTE's and the Communications staffing compliment amounts to 28 FTE's;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget, as follows:

(i) That the Council Referred Item, Staffing to Support Public Engagement, representing a 2025 net levy impact of \$235,969 and 2 FTEs be removed from the 2025 Proposed Tax Budget.

Result: Motion on Minute Item 9.19 of GIC-B 25-007, CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 4, as follows:

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

Result: Motion on balance of GIC-B 25-007, CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 1, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
NO - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson

YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson

YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

(Hwang/Kroetsch)

That the Council meeting recess at 12:05 p.m. until 12:35 p.m.

CARRIED

7.11(b)Deferral of 2025 Budgeted Funding Related to Light Rail Transit (LRT)

(Jackson/Francis)

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

WHEREAS, members of Council may propose amendments to the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget;

WHEREAS, Council recently declared an Affordability Crisis in the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, Hamilton residential taxpayers are subject to amongst the highest per-capita municipal taxes in the country;

WHEREAS, the Capital costs of the Hamilton Light-Rail Transit (LRT) should not cost Hamiltonians anything as the provincial and federal levels of government should be providing the requisite funding;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton Budget Report FCS25004 has a total of \$6,053,800 Gross (\$2,363,800 Net) budgeted for projects LRT related to be paid from Development Charges including Debt and from Operating listed in the Proposed City of Hamilton Budget and Financing Plan as follows:

(1) Sherman - King to south end (LRT Enabling): \$23,800 (Page 39, 4032311013);

(2) Frid St. Extension - Chatham to Longwood \$2,700,000 (\$2,025,000 from Development Charges Including Debt) and Net Cost of \$675,000 from Operating (Page 49, 4032580381); and

(3) Public Realm Improvements LRT costing \$3,330,000 (\$1,655,000 from Development Charges including debt and Net Cost of \$1,665,000 from Operating)(Page 65).

WHEREAS, the provincial government is providing \$1.7 billion for the implementation of the LRT;

WHEREAS, in April 2024, the Cabinet Representative of the federal government was quoted in the media stating there is no signed funding agreement as Metrolinx has yet to submit a business plan to them for \$1.7 billion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the following Light Rail Transit (LRT) related projects BE REMOVED from the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget equal to a reduction in \$6,053,800 Gross (\$2,363,800 Net):
 - (1) Sherman - King to south end (LRT Enabling): \$23,800 (Page 39, 4032311013);
 - (2) Frid St. Extension - Chatham to Longwood \$2,700,000 (\$2,025,000 from Development Charges Including Debt) and Net Cost of \$675,000 from Operating (Page 49, 4032580381); and
 - (3) Public Realm Improvements LRT costing \$3,330,000 (\$1,655,000 from Development Charges including debt and Net Cost of \$1,665,000 from Operating)(Page 65).

Items (1) and (3) of 7.11 (b) were voted on separately, as follows:

7.11(b)Deferral of 2025 Budgeted Funding Related to Light Rail Transit (LRT)

- (a) That the following Light Rail Transit (LRT) related projects BE REMOVED from the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget equal to a reduction in \$3,353,800 Gross:
 - (1) Sherman - King to south end (LRT Enabling): \$23,800 (Page 39, 4032311013);
 - (3) Public Realm Improvements LRT costing \$3,330,000 (\$1,655,000 from Development Charges including debt and Net Cost of \$1,665,000 from Operating)(Page 65).

Result: Motion on Items (1) and (3) of Item 7.11 (b), DEFEATED by a vote of 6 to 10, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
NO - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
NO - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
NO - Mayor Andrea Horwath
NO - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
NO - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
NO - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
NO - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
NO - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson

NO - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
NO - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

Item (2) of 7.11 (b) was voted on separately, as follows:

7.11(b)Deferral of 2025 Budgeted Funding Related to Light Rail Transit (LRT)

(a) That the following Light Rail Transit (LRT) related projects BE REMOVED from the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget equal to a reduction in \$2,700,000 Gross:

(2) Frid St. Extension - Chatham to Longwood \$2,700,000 (\$2,025,000 from Development Charges Including Debt) and Net Cost of \$675,000 from Operating (Page 49, 4032580381); and

Result: Motion on Item (2) of Item 7.11 (b), DEFEATED by a vote of 4 to 12, as follows:

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

7.11(c)Transferring Funds 2% of 2025 Levy Supported Public Works Projects to the Unallocated Capital Reserve

This motion was renumbered Agenda Item 9.8.

For the disposition of this matter please refer to Minute Item 9.8

7.11(d)Hamilton Public Library 2025 Budget

(Kroetsch/McMeekin)

WHEREAS, the General Issues Committee (Budget) on February 7, 2025, received correspondence indicating that there was an omission of \$1.5M in capital funding from the Hamilton Public Library 2025 Budget; and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Public Library has identified this investment as critical to securing their Information Technology network.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Corporate Services staff be directed to work with the Hamilton Public Library staff to develop a financing plan for this work that does not impact the 2025 Net Tax levy by the utilization of City and/or Reserves and report back to the General Issues Committee by Q2 2025.

Result: Motion on Item 7.11 (d), CARRIED by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

7.11(e) Removal of 2025 Capital Funding for Expedited Bike Lanes

(Francis/Spadafora)

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

WHEREAS, Council has declared an affordability crisis;

WHEREAS, the threat of looming US tariffs will create an economic recession in Canada and will have a billion dollar impact on Hamilton's local economy that could impact thousands of jobs;

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

WHEREAS, the proposed 2025 Tax Budget includes standalone cycling projects budgeted at \$3 million; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2025 Tax Budget includes a proposed budget amount of \$1,000,000 to support continued acceleration of the cycling master plan development;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Proposed 2025 Tax Supported Budget, be amended, as follows:
 - (i) That the Bicycle Infrastructure Upgrades capital project (4032317050) Gross \$250,000 Net \$250,000 be removed;
 - (ii) That the Bicycle Boulevard (Neighbourhood Greenways Program) capital budget 4032317053 Gross \$120,000 Net \$120,000 be removed;
 - (iii) That the Two Way Conversion Feasibility Studies capital project 403255322 Gross \$320,000 Net \$320,000 be removed;
 - (iv) That the On Street Bike Facilities capital project 4662317124 Gross \$600,000 Net \$600,000 be removed; and
 - (v) That the Accelerated Active Transportation Plan Implementation capital project 4032555501 Gross \$1,000,000 Net \$1,000,000 be removed.

Result: Motion on Item 7.11 (e), DEFEATED by a vote of 6 to 10, as follows:

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

(Kroetsch/Hwang)

That the Council meeting recess at 3:42 p.m. until 3:55 p.m.

CARRIED

7.11(f)Reconsideration of a decision that was approved at the February 15, 2024 Special Council meeting respecting Item 4 (ii) of the General Issues Committee (Budget) Report 24-001, January and February 2024, 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1) (February 15, 2024)

(Jackson/Pauls)

That Item 4 (ii) of the General Issues Committee (Budget) Report 24-001, January and February 2024, 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1) (February 15, 2024), which was approved by Council on February 15, 2024 and reads as follows, be reconsidered:

4. 2024 Tax Supported Budget and Financing Plan (FCS24002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1) (February 15, 2024)

(ii) Rental Property Budget Items

(a)(i)(1) That the introduction of the Renovation Licence By-law, Safe Apartment Rental and Tenant Support Programs representing a net levy of \$1.0M be approved;

Result: Motion on Item 7.11 (f) Reconsideration, DEFEATED by a 2/3's vote of 8 to 7, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
NO - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
CONFLICT - Mayor Andrea Horwath
NO - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
NO - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
NO - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
NO - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
NO - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
NO - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

7.11(g)Climate Change Reserve Budget

(Pauls/Spadafora)

WHEREAS, Council is trying to find savings to try and reduce the 2025 5.7% Budget;

WHEREAS, we did not spend the \$2.5 M in 2025 from the Climate Change Action Strategy; and

WHEREAS, we can Utilize the \$2.5 M to reduce the levy impact in 2025.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That we remove the \$2.5 million proposed transfer to the Climate Change Reserve; and Utilize the \$2.5 M to reduce the levy impact in 2025.

Result: Motion on Item 7.11 (g), DEFEATED by a vote of 5 to 11, as follows:

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

Mayor Horwath assumed the Chair.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no Items for Consideration.

MOTIONS

9.1 Inflation Rate for 2026

Councillor Clark requested that this motion be considered at the February 26, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting.

9.2 Amendment to Item 4 of the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee Report 21-022, respecting Investing in City Roads and Sidewalks Infrastructure with Canada Community - Building Funds, which was approved by Council on December 15, 2021

(Jackson/Spadafora)

WHEREAS, Council approved the initial road projects selected by the Ward 6 Councillor for the Investing in City Roads and Sidewalks Infrastructure with Canada Community - Building Funds (CCBF) on December 15, 2021;

WHEREAS, it is now necessary to amend the road projects selected by Ward 6 Councillor to include resurfacing and concrete repairs on Aries Court, Celac Court, Homex Place, Independence Drive, and Milkyway Drive, all in Ward 6; and

WHEREAS, the remaining Ward 6 CCBF funds, be utilized to address road surface deficiencies by resurfacing to improve rideability, public safety, preservation of the road asset from further deterioration, reduce ongoing maintenance costs, and to overall improve the level of service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Item 4 of the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee Report 21-022, respecting Investing in City Roads and Sidewalks Infrastructure with Canada Community - Building Funds, be **amended**, as follows:

4. Investing in City Roads and Sidewalks Infrastructure with Canada Community - Building Funds (PW21073) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)

- (a) That the Canada Community Building Fund investment of \$30 M be allocated to the list of projects in Appendix "B", ***as amended, by adding resurfacing and concrete repairs on Aries Court from Solomon Crescent to the south terminus of Aries Court, Celac Court from Templemead Drive to the south terminus of Celac Court, Homex Place from Templemead Drive to the south terminus of Homex Place, Independence Drive from Mount Pleasant Drive to Templemead Drive, and Milkyway Drive from Solomon Crescent to Upper Kenilworth Avenue, in Ward 6,*** to Audit, Finance & Administration Committee Report 21-022;
- (b) That three Public Works temporary full-time equivalents be hired for up to 24 months at an estimated cost of \$850,000 and funded from Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve 108020 to deliver the Canada Community-Building Fund projects; and
- (c) That the Procurement Policy 4.9 Consulting and Professional Services requirements be waived to allow for the direct award of Roster Assignments above the \$150,000 threshold for consultancy work pertaining to the Canada Community-Building Fund projects.

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

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
NOT PRESENT - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

9.3 One-Time Request for Funding to Subsidize the Renovation and Upgrading Costs Associated with the Kitchen Facilities at Interval House in Hamilton (Ward 14)

(Spadafora/Horwath)

WHEREAS, Interval House of Hamilton provides emergency shelter, safety planning, counselling, peer-support, legal advocacy, system navigation, and other support services for women with or without children that have experienced abuse or violence;

WHEREAS, Interval House of Hamilton was established in 1986 as the first shelter of its kind in Hamilton dedicated to exclusively serving women and children who have experienced violence, abuse, and human trafficking;

WHEREAS, during the past 39 years, Interval House of Hamilton has grown to be a 22-bed emergency shelter and requires kitchen renovations and upgrades to properly support the more than 30 women and children that frequent at any given time;

WHEREAS, the required kitchen renovations and upgrades include replacing the existing range hood to incorporate a new electric convection oven, relocating a refrigerator and installing new electrical outlets, reconfiguring existing cabinetry and installing two sanitizers, installing a bulkhead, installing ductwork and an exterior exhaust fan, and installing new flooring.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the costs associated with the renovation and upgrading of the kitchen facilities at Interval House of Hamilton, be funded from the Ward 14 Discretionary Fund (3302309014) at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$10,000;
- (b) That any funds allocated and distributed be exempt and not be counted toward any formula that restricts regular funding from the City including the City Enrichment Fund or the One-Time Enhancement Grant (i.e. the City's 30% formula) for the years 2024 and 2025; 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.

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

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar

YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
NOT PRESENT - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

9.4 Re-Allocation 2025 Housing Services Division Tax Operating Budget Funding for the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic to an Alternative Service Provider

This item is to be considered following the Closed Session portion of the meeting.

For the disposition of this matter please refer to Item 9.4, on page 35 of 36.

9.5 Financial Relief to Help Offset the Increase Cost of Municipal Police Service

(Danko/Francis)

WHEREAS, the Ontario government will provide over \$77 million in financial relief to small and rural municipalities to help offset the increased cost of municipal police services provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP);

WHEREAS, Solicitor General Michael Kerzner stated: "The financial relief we (the Ontario government) are proposing will help municipal leaders balance their budgets and invest in their communities while ensuring no change to the policing provided by the OPP that keeps families and businesses safe";

WHEREAS, the Ontario government acknowledges that the financial impacts resulting from police collective bargaining agreements has a significant impact on municipal budgets;

WHEREAS, all of the factors that resulted in significant costs to policing for small and rural communities also exist in large municipalities;

WHEREAS, municipalities that do not rely on the Ontario Provincial Police also require financial relief to offset the increasing cost of police services;

WHEREAS, urban municipalities have additional challenges such as homeless encampments, guns, gangs, drug trafficking, auto theft and organized crime that require significant police resources and specialized equipment and personnel;

WHEREAS, residents overwhelmingly support police and request a stronger and more effective police presence in their neighbourhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario government is a strong supporter of policing throughout the province.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton request the Province of Ontario provide financial relief to the City of Hamilton due budget impacts of the increasing cost of policing;
- (b) That City Finance staff work with the City Manager, Mayor's Office, Police Services Board and the Chief of Police to quantify a specific financial relief request; and,
- (c) That this direction be circulated to Ontario Big City Mayor and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Result: Motion, CARRIED by a vote of 16 to 0, as follows:

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

9.6 Re-Alignment of Taxpayer Funding to Support Homeless Individuals and Prioritize the Removal of Encampments

This item is to be considered following the Closed Session portion of the meeting.

For the disposition of this matter please refer to Item 9.6, on page 35 of 36.

9.7 Identifying Areas for Improvement, Efficiency and Effectiveness

Councillor Clark requested that this motion be considered at the February 26, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting.

9.8 Transferring Funds 2% of 2025 Levy Supported Public Works Projects to the Unallocated Capital Reserve**(Tadeson/Beattie)**

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, the threat of looming US tariffs will create an economic recession in Canada and will have a billion dollar impact on Hamilton's local economy that could impact thousands of jobs;

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

WHEREAS, the Directors and Project Managers in Public Works have set budgets for the completion of tax funded Public Works Projects with contingencies funds allowing for unforeseen setbacks totaling between 10-12%; and

WHEREAS, the majority of projects/expenses for Public Works will come in below the set budget allotted and those funds will be directed towards reserve funds for future use.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the 2025 Tax Capital Financing Strategy be amended to reflect a transfer of \$840,000 to the Unallocated Capital Reserve by a corresponding reduction in the funding for tax supported Public Works proposed 2025 capital projects; and
- (b) That staff report back in 2025 with information regarding the impacts of amending the contingencies for the projects referenced above.

The following friendly amendment was accepted by the mover and seconder of the Motion.

That the Motion be **amended** to read as follows:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) ***That Public Works Staff undertake work to determine the potential to reduce the contingency portion of Public Works Capital Project budgets with the desired outcome of reducing the levy impact in future years, as opposed to the current process of transferring project surpluses to a reserve account; and***

- (b) That staff report back in 2025 with information regarding the impacts of amending the contingencies for the projects referenced above

Result: Motion, As Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
YES - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
NOT PRESENT - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Members of Council used this opportunity to discuss matters of general interest.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Council determined that discussion of Items 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4 and 12.5 was not required in Closed Session; therefore, the matters were addressed in Open Session, as follows:

12. Closed Session Council Minutes – January 22, 2025 (Item 12.1) and January 23, 2025 (Item 12.2)

(Nann/Hwang)

That the Closed Session Council Minutes dated January 22, 2025 (Item 12.1) and January 23, 2025 (Item 12.2) be approved, as presented, and remain confidential.

CARRIED

(Clark/Cassar)

That the following Committee Closed Session minutes, be approved, as presented and remain confidential:

12.3 PLC 25-002

Closed Session Minutes – Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025

12.4 GIC 25-002

Closed Session Minutes – General Issues Committee meeting held on Wednesday, February 5, 2025

12.5 AFA 25-002

Closed Session Minutes – Audit, Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 6, 2025

CARRIED

12.6 Improving Well-Being for Women and Gender Diverse People Impacted by the Opioid Crisis (City Wide) (BOH25001) (Item 12.6) and Project Details for Confidential Report BOH25001 (Item 12.6 (a))

Council requested that Items 12.6 and 12.6(a) be considered at the February 24, 2025 Public Health Sub-Committee meeting.

9.4 Re-Allocation 2025 Housing Services Division Tax Operating Budget Funding for the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic to an Alternative Service Provider

Councillor Danko requested that this motion be considered at the March 5, 2025 Council meeting.

9.6 Re-Alignment of Taxpayer Funding to Support Homeless Individuals and Prioritize the Removal of Encampments

Councillor Danko requested that this motion be considered at the March 5, 2025 Council meeting.

BY-LAWS

(Cassar/Tadeson)

That Bills No. 25-022 to No. 25-026 be passed, and that the Corporate Seal be affixed thereto, and that the By-laws, be numbered, be signed by the Mayor and the City Clerk to read as follows:

022 To Amend Zoning By-law No. 6593 Respecting Lands Located at 525 Stone Church Road East, Hamilton
ZAC-24-033
Ward: 7

023 A By-law to Establish Certain 2025 User Fees and Charges for Services, Activities or the Use of Property and to Repeal By-law No. 24-036
Ward: City Wide

024 To Permanently Close and Sell Block 14 on Plan 62M-1134
Ward: 15

025 To Amend By-law No. 01-218, as amended, Being a By-law To Regulate On-Street Parking
Schedule 6 (Time Limit Parking)
Schedule 8 (No Parking Zones)
Schedule 12 (Permit Parking Zones)
Schedule 20 (School Bus Loading Zones)
Ward: 2, 3, 4, 11, 15

026 To Confirm the Proceedings of City Council

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

YES - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
YES - Deputy Mayor - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES - Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
NOT PRESENT - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
YES - Mayor Andrea Horwath
YES - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
YES - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
NOT PRESENT - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
YES - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin
YES - Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
YES - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the City Council meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Andrea Horwath

Councillor Maureen Wilson
Chair, General Issues Committee – Budget

Matthew Trennum
City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk