



GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE MINUTES - GIC 25-003

9:30 a.m.

February 26, 2025

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

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

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

(Nann/Beattie)

That the agenda for the February 26, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor M. Francis declared a non-disqualifying interest to Item 9.2 - Explore Area Rating or Tax Relief for Residents Within 3km of the GFL Landfill, as he lives within a 3km radius of the site.

Councillor B. Clark declared a non-disqualifying interest to Item 9.2 - Explore Area Rating or Tax Relief for Residents Within 3km of the GFL Landfill, as he lives within a 3km radius of the site.

Councillor B. Clark declared a non-disqualifying interest to Item 9.3 - Section 447.1 Against GFL Stoney Creek Regional Facility, as he referred Wade Poziomka to residents for legal advice

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(Pauls/McMeekin)

That the following minutes of the General Issues Committee and General Issues Committee (Budget), be adopted, as presented:

- 5.1 February 5, 2025
- 5.2
 - (a) January 23, 2025
 - (b) January 28, 2025
 - (c) January 29, 2025
 - (d) January 30, 2025
 - (e) January 31, 2025
 - (f) February 7, 2025

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Jodi Formosi, respecting public theft and safety concerns that are ongoing (In-Person) – WITHDRAWN

Jodi Formosi withdrew their delegation respecting public theft and safety concerns that are ongoing.

6.2 Tim Potocic, Supercrawl Productions and Sonic Unyon Records, respecting an update on Supercrawl's and Because Beer Craft Beer Festival's audience data and economic impact, and speaking to City support (In-Person)

Tim Potocic, Supercrawl Productions and Sonic Unyon Records, addressed the Committee, respecting an update on Supercrawl's and Because Beer Craft Beer Festival's audience data and economic impact, and speaking to City support.

(Hwang/McMeekin)

That the delegation from Tim Potocic, Supercrawl Productions and Sonic Unyon Records, respecting an update on Supercrawl's and Because Beer Craft Beer Festival's audience data and economic impact, and speaking to City support, be received.

CARRIED

6.3 Tenysha Graham respecting the GFL Stoney Creek Landfill Motions (In-Person)

Tenysha Graham addressed the Committee respecting the GFL Stoney Creek Landfill Motions (Items 9.2 and 9.3).

(Clark/Beattie)

That the delegation from Tenysa Graham respecting the GFL Stoney Creek Landfill Motions (Items 9.2 and 9.3), be received.

CARRIED

(Clark/Beattie)

That the following items be moved up on the agenda and considered at this time:

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

(a) Correspondence respecting the GFL Stoney Creek Landfill motions (Items 9.2 and 9.3)

9.3 Section 447.1 Against GFL Stoney Creek Regional Facility

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

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
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
Absent	-	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

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

(Clark/Beattie)

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.

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

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
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
Absent	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

9.2(a) Correspondence respecting the GFL Stoney Creek Landfill Motions (Items 9.2 and 9.3)

(Clark/Beattie)

That the following Correspondence respecting the GFL Stoney Creek Landfill Motions (Items 9.2 and 9.3), be received:

- (a) Paul Supers
- (b) Sharon Moran
- (c) O'Neil Graham
- (d) Carol Sebben
- (e) Jumana Dajani
- (f) Izabela Wozniak
- (g) Chris Mitton
- (h) Michele Bertothy
- (i) Kathie Farroway
- (j) Raymond Mattar
- (k) Dana Kennedy
- (l) Sabrina Davidson
- (m) Ray Menard
- (n) Krista Clarke
- (o) Navdeep Sandhar
- (p) Tatyana Graham
- (q) Helen Louise Thompson
- (r) J Van Caulart
- (s) Sean Esfarayeni
- (t) Sylvia Rankin
- (u) Trisha McGhie
- (v) Sudarshan Vinjamuri
- (w) Stephanie Isaak
- (x) Mary Martens
- (y) Chandana Basnayake
- (z) Nelson Faria
- (aa) Leah Gould
- (ab) Victoria Moral
- (ac) Sara Cino
- (ad) Tatiana Raigoza & Barry Raposo
- (ae) Josie McLeod
- (af) Vineeth Bharadwaj
- (ag) Margaret Graham
- (ah) Inna Grover
- (ai) Nigel Lobo
- (aj) Diana Lobo
- (ak) Jan Wynne
- (al) Fhinel Lee
- (am) Robin Daniel
- (an) Ashima Saraf
- (ao) Susan Chapman
- (ap) Mary Chedumbarum-Ramasamy
- (aq) Kathleen Taylor
- (ar) Lance Orr
- (as) Selena Visser
- (at) Liz Roediger

(au) Karen Taylor
(av) Suraj Vijayakumar

CARRIED

9.3 Section 447.1 Against GLF Stoney Creek Regional Facility - REVISED

(Clark/Beattie)

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.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
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
Absent	-	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

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

**7.1 HSC23029(a)
2023 Access to Housing Centralized Waitlist Update (City Wide)**

(A. Wilson/Pauls)

That Report HSC23029(a), dated February 26, 2025, respecting 2023 Access to Housing Centralized Waitlist Update, be received.

CARRIED

**7.2 HSC23016(a)
2023 Social Housing Annual Update (City Wide)**

(i) (Kroetsch/A. Wilson)

(a) That Report HSC23016(a), dated February 26, 2025, respecting 2023 Social Housing Annual Update, be received; and,

(b) That Confidential Appendix “C” to Report HSC23016(a), respecting 2023 Social Housing Annual Update, remain confidential.

(ii) (A. Wilson/M. Wilson)

That consideration of Report HSC23016(a), dated February 26, 2025, respecting 2023 Social Housing Annual Update, be DEFERRED until after closed session.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Absent	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko

Absent	-	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. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

8.1 PED25050

Revitalizing Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program Application - 206 King Street West, Hamilton (Ward 2)

(Kroetsch/Nann)

That Report PED25050, dated February 26, 2025, respecting Revitalizing Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program Application - 206 King Street West, Hamilton (Ward 2), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That a Revitalizing Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program Application submitted by Radio Arts G.P. Inc. (King Stuart Developments Inc., Innisbrook Management Corporation, Tsurt Holdings Inc.), for the property at 206 King Street West, Hamilton, estimated to total \$646,555 over a maximum of four years based on the incremental tax increase attributable to the redevelopment of 206 King Street West, Hamilton, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Revitalizing Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program;
- (b) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized and directed to execute a Grant Agreement together with any ancillary documentation required, to give effect to the Revitalizing Hamilton Tax Increment Grant for Radio Arts G.P. Inc. (King Stuart Developments Inc., Innisbrook Management Corporation, Tsurt Holdings Inc.) for the property at 206 King Street West, Hamilton, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (c) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized and directed to administer the Grant and Grant Agreement including, but not limited to, deciding on actions to take in respect of events of default and executing any Grant Amending Agreements, together with any ancillary amending documentation, if required, provided that the terms and conditions of the Revitalizing Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program, as approved by City Council, are maintained and that any applicable Grant Amending Agreements are undertaken in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
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
Absent	-	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

**8.2 HSC25020
Encampment Response - Provincial Funding (City Wide)**

(Nann/Hwang)

That Report HSC25020, dated February 26, 2025, respecting Encampment Response - Provincial Funding (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the City to enter into the Encampment Response Initiative Transfer Payment Agreement dated January 1, 2025 attached as Appendix "A" to Report HSC25020 in the amount of \$586,970 regarding the Homelessness Prevention Program with the Province of Ontario and any ancillary agreements, amending agreements, or extensions to agreements and that the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or designate **BE AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED** to:
- (i) Execute the aforesaid agreements, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,
 - (ii) Execute any ancillary agreements, and documents required to give effect thereto or for the provision of additional funding from the Province of Ontario under the Homelessness Prevention Program, on such terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

- (b) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or designate **BE AUTHORIZED** to deliver and administer the Encampment Response Initiative effective as of January 1, 2025, including without limitation:
 - (i) The provision of funding from the Homelessness Prevention Program to service providers and that the City; and,
 - (ii) That in order to deliver the Encampment Response Initiative and distribute funding from the Homelessness Prevention Program, the City enter into agreements, ancillary agreements, or extensions to agreements with community service providers receiving funding from the Homelessness Prevention Program, on such terms satisfactory to the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department or designate and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and that the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department be authorized to execute any such agreements or ancillary documentation required to provide funding from the Homelessness Prevention Program to community service providers and deliver the Encampment Response Initiative.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
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
Absent	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**8.3 CM23025(b)
Volunteer Advisory Committee Review (City Wide)**

Rebecca Banky, Project Manager, Community Inclusion and Equity addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting Report CM23025(b), Volunteer Advisory Committee Review.

(i) **(Kroetsch/Hwang)**

That Report CM23025(b), dated February 26, 2025, respecting Volunteer Advisory Committee Review, and the accompanying presentation, be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That, based on municipal best practices, a new civic engagement model be applied that uses resident-led, staff facilitated community liaison groups of volunteers with a clear ability to make their voice heard by council, with each Division reporting back with tailored solutions, within one year, and that the:
 - (i) Tourism and Culture Division staff report back to the General Issues Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Arts Advisory Committee to recommend activities for the stabilization and strengthening of the arts community, monitor and assist with the implementation of the Arts Awards Program and Public Art Program, and inform Council of issues and achievements in the Hamilton arts community and acts as a point of contact for members of the arts community regarding issues affecting the arts community; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Arts Advisory Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
 - (ii) Climate Change Initiatives Division staff report back to the General Issues Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Climate Change Advisory Committee to provide advice to Council and City of Hamilton staff on the prioritization, implementation, and monitoring of Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy, through an equitable, inclusive, and climate justice lens, that responds to the perspectives and needs of all, while transitioning to a prosperous, healthy and vibrant net-zero greenhouse gas community that is a national leader in climate adaptation; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Climate Change Advisory Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
 - (iii) Active Transportation and Mobility Division staff report back to the Public Works Committee on the further development of the Division's Mobility Lab, a community liaison group, to also replace the Hamilton Cycling

Committee, expanding their mandate to encourage residents to cycle and monitor the implementation of the Hamilton Cycling Master Plan; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Hamilton Cycling Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;

- (iv) Indigenous Relations Division staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Hamilton Indigenous Advisory Committee to honour and engage Indigenous residents in the pursuit of the City of Hamilton's vision by providing advice and recommendations that enhance the wellbeing of Indigenous people; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Hamilton Indigenous Advisory Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
- (v) Heritage Resource Management Division staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Hamilton Veterans Committee to oversee the planning and delivery of military remembrance and commemoration activities on behalf of the City of Hamilton; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Hamilton Veterans Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
- (vi) Children's & Community Services Division staff report back to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Hamilton Women and Gender Equity Advisory Committee to provide input with respect to the issues of women, non-binary individuals and gender diverse people; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Hamilton Women and Gender Equity Advisory Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
- (vii) Housing Secretariat staff, in partnership with Housing Services Divisions staff report back to the General Issues Committee on the further development of a community liaison group to also replace the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee, expanding their mandate to work to address the needs of residents within the community for whom barriers exist to accessing safe,

suitable, and affordable housing, including the supports needed to enable citizens to obtain and retain their homes; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Housing and Homelessness Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;

- (viii) Environmental Services Division staff report back to the Public Works Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Keep Hamilton Clean and Green Committee to beautify our community, promote environmental stewardship, and prevent litter, illegal dumping, and graffiti; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Keep Hamilton Clean and Green Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
- (ix) Children’s & Community Services staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the LGBTQ Advisory Committee to eliminate barriers experienced by LGBTQ communities by giving voice to the perspectives of LGBTQ individuals and evaluating the City of Hamilton on its related efforts; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the LGBTQ Advisory Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
- (x) Lodges Division staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Seniors Advisory Committee to organize the Senior of the Year Awards and to be a credible communication vehicle regarding the quality of life for all older persons in the City of Hamilton; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Seniors Advisory Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
- (xi) Children and Community Services staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Committee Against Racism to advise, advocate and consult on relevant issues in the community of Hamilton relating to racism and its consequences, including anti-racism strategies; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Committee Against Racism be transferred to this Division to support this working group;

- (xii) Public Health staff report back to the Public Health Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Food Advisory Committee to identify and inform, where appropriate, innovative community food security policies and programs that align with the vision and goals of the Hamilton Food Strategy, Hamilton Food Charter, and other City of Hamilton strategies; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Food Advisory Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
 - (xiii) Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council staff report back to the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees to address the needs of immigrants and refugees within the City of Hamilton; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Advisory Committee for Immigrants and Refugees be transferred to this Division to support this working group;
 - (xiv) Business Development and Sector Development division staff report back to the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee on the creation of a community liaison group to replace the Mundialization Committee to undertake twinning programs in international cooperation with like-minded municipalities in this and other countries to foster an understanding of the increasing interdependence of the municipalities, peoples, and countries of the world; and that the 2024 approved budget currently assigned to the Mundialization Committee be transferred to this Division to support this working group; and
 - (xv) Reserve budgets remaining from Advisory Committees transitioning to working groups be transferred to the Tax Stabilization reserve and that the transfer from the Hamilton Veterans Committee reserve of \$49,058 be committed for future investments for Remembrance Day services and youth-specific education regarding Veterans and Remembrance.
- (b) That staff be directed to review the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities for alignment with the City of Hamilton's new civic engagement model and community liaison groups;

- (c) That staff in the Office of the City Clerk, in consultation with the City Manager’s Office, develop and host a robust and mandatory training program for staff supporting community liaison groups, inclusive of:
 - (i) Civic engagement best practices in alignment with the City of Hamilton’s Public Engagement Policy and Framework;
 - (ii) Legislative policies and procedural requirements for meetings; and,
 - (iii) Decorum and behavioural expectations including an explanation of the role of the City of Hamilton’s Integrity Commissioner.
- (d) That staff in the City Manager’s Office be directed to work with the Integrity Commissioner and Clerks Office to develop and host a training program for members of community liaison groups on expectations, liabilities, and project plans;
- (e) That the Review of the City of Hamilton Volunteer Advisory Committees be removed from the Outstanding Business Item list.

(ii) **(Clark/McMeekin)**

That Report CM23025(b), respecting the Volunteer Advisory Committee Review (City Wide), **be amended**, by adding an additional sub-section (f), as follows:

- (f) ***That staff be directed to review and evaluate the new structure and report back to the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee in the fifth year.***

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
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
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

Deputy Mayor Cassar called the vote on Report CM23025(b), Volunteer Advisory Committee Review (City Wide), **as amended**, as follows:

Result: MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, CARRIED by a vote of 8 to 5, 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
No - Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
No - Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
No - Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Absent - Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
No - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes - Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
No - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes - Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(Clark/McMeekin)

That the General Issues Committee recess for 34 minutes until 1:00 p.m.

CARRIED

The General Issues Committee reconvened at 1:02 p.m.

8.4 HSC25003

Service Manager Consent for Victoria Park Community Homes Inc. Redevelopment of 525 Stonechurch Road East (Ward 7)

(Pauls/A. Wilson)

That Report HSC25003, dated February 26, 2025, respecting Service Manager Consent for Victoria Park Community Homes Inc. Redevelopment of 525 Stonechurch Road East (Ward 7), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That Council acting as Service Manager under the Housing Services Act CONSENT to Victoria Park Community Home Inc. to demolish 8 existing townhouse units at 525 Stonechurch Road East for the purpose of redeveloping and intensify a portion of the existing social housing site into multi-unit mixed income midrise subject to the following:

- (i) Approval of a tenant relocation plan;
 - (ii) Approval of any and all required Planning Act, Rental Protection By-Law, and Zoning By-Law amendment approvals;
 - (iii) Securing project financing; and,
 - (iv) On the condition that the consent does not fetter Council's discretion regarding its consideration of any Planning Act applications in respect of Victoria Park Community Homes Inc. redevelopment of 525 Stonechurch Road East;
- (b) That Council acting as Service Manager under the Housing Services Act CONSENT to Victoria Park Community Homes Inc. for the project at 525 Stonechurch Road East to redevelop and intensify a portion of the existing social housing site, turning 8 existing town house units into a 105 multi midrise building containing a mix of 53 deeply affordable units, and 52 market units, subject to the following:
- (i) Approval of a tenant relocation plan;
 - (ii) Approval of any and all required Planning Act, Rental Protection By-Law, and Zoning By-Law amendment approvals;
 - (iii) Securing project financing; and,
 - (iv) On the condition that the consent does not fetter Council's discretion regarding its consideration of any Planning Act applications in respect of Victoria Parks Community Homes Inc. redevelopment of 525 Stonechurch Road East;
- (c) That 20 Rent-Geared-to-Income subsidies at an approximate cost of \$210,000.00 BE CONSIDERED during the 2027 Tax Budget and the City enter into an agreement with Victoria Park Community Homes Inc., in accordance with the term sheet included in Appendix "A" attached to Report HSC25003, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities be authorized and directed to enter into, execute and administer the agreement and any ancillary agreements or documentation; and,
- (d) That the value of the Rent-Geared-to-Income subsidies paid on the 20 Rent-Geared-to-Income units at 525 Stonechurch Road be increased annually by the allowable rent increase guideline set by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

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

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

Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
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

(Kroetsch/McMeekin)

That consideration of the following reports, be DEFERRED to Council on March 5, 2025, in order to provide Committee members time to review the reports:

**8.5 FCS25015
Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats
(City Wide)**

**8.6 PED25083
Coordinated Encampment Response Post-protocol (City Wide)**

Councillor Kroetsch WITHDREW the deferral motion.

**8.5 FCS25015
Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats
(City Wide)**

(i) (McMeekin/Clark)

That Report FCS25015, dated February 26, 2025, respecting Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

(a) That Council approve amendments to By-law No. 20-205, A By-law to Adopt and Maintain A Procurement Policy for the City of Hamilton to align with the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) dollar thresholds, to allow for the expanded procurement of local and Canadian goods, services and/or construction. In particular:

- (i) Section 4.5.2, Policy #5.2 Request for Quotations is amended to increase the upset dollar threshold from \$100,000 to \$133,800 for goods and/or services and from \$100,000 to \$334,400 for construction work;
- (ii) Section 4.5.3., Policy #5.3 Request for Tenders is amended to increase the minimum dollar threshold from

- (iii) \$100,000 to \$133,800 for goods and/or services and from \$100,000 to \$334,400 for construction work; and
Section 4.7, Policy #7 – Construction Contracts is amended to reflect the increase in the Request for Tenders minimum dollar threshold for construction from \$100,000 to \$334,400;
- (b) That staff report back to the General Issues Committee in Q2/2025 with additional recommendations for amendments to the City’s Procurement Policies to integrate “Buy Local and Canadian” policies; and
- (c) That staff report back to General Issues Committee in Q2/2025 regarding any impacts the United States (“U.S.”) government tariffs have or may have on the cost of City services and infrastructure projects and include any mitigation options and/or financing strategies for Council’s consideration.
- (ii) **(Kroetsch/McMeekin)**
That consideration of Report FCS25015, respecting Strengthening Local Procurement and Resilience Amid U.S. Tariff Threats (City Wide), be DEFERRED to Council on March 5, 2025, in order to provide Committee members time to review the report.

Result: DEFERRAL MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 3, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
No	-	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
No	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
No	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

**8.6 PED25083
Coordinated Encampment Response Post-protocol (City Wide)**

(i) (Clark/Nann)

That Report PED25083, dated February 26, 2025, respecting Coordinated Encampment Response Post-protocol (City Wide), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the reassignment of four full-time (4.0 FTE) Municipal Law Enforcement Officers in the Municipal Law Enforcement section to provide dedicated enforcement of encampments under the By-law to Manage and Regulate Municipal Parks No. 01-219 for a period of up to one year, BE APPROVED;
- (b) That the transfer of one full-time (1.0 FTE) Project Manager at an estimated cost of \$110,223 from Housing Services Division, Healthy and Safe Communities, to Licensing and By-law Services Division, Planning and Economic Development to be funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve 110046 BE APPROVED;
- (c) That the Director of Licensing and By-law Services Division BE DIRECTED to report back to a General Issues Committee in Q2 2025 with an interim assessment of encampment enforcement, along with quarterly reporting, under the By-law to Manage and Regulate Municipal Parks No. 01-219, inclusive of recommendations with respect to strategies and resources for consideration to sustain encampment enforcement beyond 2025;
- (d) That the General Managers of Public Works and Healthy and Safe Communities BE APPROVED to modify and adjust the parks washroom and recreation centre shower access programs, and related security guard services program approved by Council through report HSC20036(g), to the following:
 - (i) That the two all-year 24-hour access outdoor washroom facilities currently operated at the Corktown Park and JC Beemer Park properties are transitioned to normal park operations and hours over a period not to exceed three months, including operational hours of service reflecting the seasonal programming needs of its community and governance through the City's Parks By-law;
 - (ii) That the existing static and site dedicated 24-hour security guard programs located at Corktown Park and JC Beemer Park are modified into a new permanent mobile service to support safe use and operation of all park washroom

- facilities City-wide, including operational staff safety response; and,
- (iii) That Corktown Park washroom be included in the winter washroom program as a permanent location, with funding for the 2025-2026 winter season of \$40,000 from the Tax Stabilization Reserve 110046, and ongoing operational impacts be referred to the 2026 Tax Budget for consideration; and,
- (e) That resources and funding BE APPROVED for the Hamilton Police Service (HPS) for four (4.0 FTE) Police Constables for the enhanced enforcement of the By-law to Manage and Regulate Municipal Parks No. 01-219 to an initial upset cost of \$225,000 to be funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve 110046.
- (ii) **(Kroetsch/McMeekin)**
That consideration of Report PED25083, respecting Coordinated Encampment Response Post-protocol (City Wide), be DEFERRED to Council on March 5, 2025, in order to provide Committee members time to review the report.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Absent	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
No	-	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
No	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

9. MOTIONS (Continued)

9.1 Tackling Barriers to Building More Affordable and Supportive Housing

(M. Wilson/Nann)

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.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	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
Yes	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

9.4 Flamborough Women’s Resource Centre / Interval House

(McMeekin/Nann)

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.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	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
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

9.5 Inflation Rate for 2026

(Clark/Beattie)

That staff be directed to provide information to Council through the General Issues Committee (Budget) on how the City could operate with an inflation rate (2.5%) increase for 2026.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 3, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
No	-	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
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
No	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

9.6 Identifying Areas for Improvement, Efficiency and Effectiveness

(i) (Clark/Beattie)

WHEREAS, there has been an exponential growth in new FTEs over the last 4 years with a total of 731 new hires: 73 new FTEs in 2022, 242 new FTEs in 2023, 196 new FTEs in 2024, 220 new FTEs in 2025;

WHEREAS, the total number of employees in city of Hamilton has now exceeded 8,000; and

WHEREAS, Outcome Number 1 under Priority Number 1 under Sustainable Economic and Ecological Development in the approved 2022-2026 Council Priorities was “Reduce the Burden on City Tax Payers”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That starting in 2026 the City Manager be directed to conduct a Functional Improvement Process/Program or a Business Process Improvement plan which will be defined as a management exercise to assess city procedures to identify areas that can be improved to be more efficient and/or effective to be financed out of the tax stabilization reserve with semi-annual report backs to General Issues Committee.

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

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

WHEREAS, Outcome Number 1 under Priority Number 1 under Sustainable Economic and Ecological Development in the approved 2022-2026 Council Priorities was “Reduce the Burden on City Tax Payers”;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the City Manager report back to the General Issues Committee with a recommended scope of work prior to any issuance of a RFP on a Functional Improvement Process/Program or a Business Process

Improvement plan which will be defined as a management exercise to assess city procedures to identify areas that can be improved to be more efficient and/or effective to be financed out of the tax stabilization reserve with semi-annual report backs to General Issues Committee starting in 2026.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	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
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

Deputy Mayor Cassar relinquished the Chair to Councillor A. Wilson to introduce the following motion:

9.7 Feasibility of the Relocation and Adaptive Re-use of the Marr-Phillipo House

(Cassar/A. Wilson)

WHEREAS, the Marr-Phillipo house, a circa 1850 two storey rubble stone building currently located at 398 Wilson Street East in Ancaster, is designated under section IV of the Ontario Heritage Act and plays an important role in defining the unique heritage character of the Ancaster Village;

WHEREAS, there is a current Planning Act application for an 8-storey 118 unit mixed use development and an associated heritage permit for 392-412 Wilson St. E. and 15 Lorne Ave. that proposes moving the Marr-Phillipo house to the rear of the site where it would be used as amenity space for the proposed residents, would not be visible from Wilson Street and would not be accessible to the public;

WHEREAS, staff continue working with the proponent through the development approvals and heritage permit processes recommending that the Marr-Phillipo house remain in its current location or remain on the site in a

location addressing Wilson Street recognizing that environmental concerns affect the development of site;

WHEREAS, the developer of the site has agreed to cover the cost of relocating the house to a location within the Ancaster Village BIA;

WHEREAS, the Ancaster Memorial Arts Centre grounds facing Wilson Street may provide a location for the relocated house that would maintain its historic relationship with Wilson Street, visibility to the public, and its role in contributing to the unique historic character of the Ancaster Village; and,

WHEREAS, local organizations have indicated that they are in need of more space and may consider leasing the former home adaptively reused as office or meeting space once relocated and in City ownership;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Planning Division, Corporate Facilities and Energy Management Division and Corporate Real Estate Office staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of relocating the Marr-Phillipo house to the Ancaster Memorial Arts Centre grounds or other publicly owned property in the Ancaster Village BIA and report back to the General Issues Committee in Q3 2025, with the following considerations in mind:

- (a) Zoning;
- (b) Parking;
- (c) Servicing;
- (d) Site drainage;
- (e) Interior upgrades;
- (f) Ongoing maintenance;
- (g) Possible tenants; and,
- (h) Any other opportunities and constraints to inform any future negotiations with the developer for the City of Hamilton to take ownership of the building, in the event the building cannot remain in its current location or as part of the proposed development directly addressing Wilson Street.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	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
Yes	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

Deputy Mayor Cassar assumed the Chair.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor M. Wilson introduced the following Notice of Motion:

10.1 Wesley Youth Outreach Centre (Ward 1)

WHEREAS, Statistics Canada indicates 19.5% of residents in the City of Hamilton are between the ages of 15-29;

WHEREAS, 37.7% of Ward 1 resident's income is at or below the City's poverty line.

WHEREAS, there is a clear link between poverty and impacts on youth's physical, emotional, mental and educational achievements and

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton relies upon the services of Non-profit groups such as Wesley to provide services for youth and newcomers;

WHEREAS, Wesley provides programming and space within Ward 1 for youth to connect to homework support, develop healthy peer-to-peer relationships in a safe place, learn positive life and social skills, and improve overall well-being.

WHEREAS, the furnishings within the facilities are not longer viable,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That \$10,000 be directed to Wesley for the Youth Outreach Centre located at 155 Queen St N, and that grant be funded from the Ward 1 Area Rated Discretionary Fund (3302309100); and
- (b) That any funds allocated and distributed through the Ward 1 Discretionary Fund be exempt on a one-time basis and not be counted toward any formula that restricts regular funding from the City, including the City Enrichment Fund or the One-Time Enhancement Grant (e.g. the City's 30% formula); and

- (c) The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Councillor Spadafora introduced the following Notice of Motion:

**10.2 Strong Mayor Powers and How It Applies to The City of Hamilton
Property Tax Budget Process - REVISED**

WHEREAS, several City Councillors have expressed frustration of being hamstrung, rushed, and stifled amid a new interpretation of Strong Mayor Powers pertaining to the 2025 property tax budget process whereby only amending motions were permitted instead of debate and direction on the 2025 Property Tax Budget as a whole;

WHEREAS, the majority of amending motions brought forward by Councillors were jointly deemed out of order by the City Clerk and Budget Chair amid the new Strong Mayor Powers budget process, without any opportunity for neutral, apolitical, procedural collaboration to make changes to said amending motions so as to make them in order;

WHEREAS, for successful amending motions to actually be enacted, they were ultimately subject to, and at the mercy of, the Mayor's veto, regardless if the veto was used or not used;

WHEREAS, during the first two years of budget deliberations against the backdrop of Strong Mayor Powers in Hamilton – 2022 for the 2023 budget and 2023 for the 2024 budget – the budget was not considered “the Mayor's budget”, and accordingly, Councillors were able to propose germane amendments to the budget and motions to direct staff accordingly to amend the proposed property tax increase without the risk of said amendments or motions being deemed out of order by the City Clerk and/or the Budget Chair; and,

WHEREAS, the 2025 Property Tax Budget was deemed “adopted” by the Mayor outside of any Council meeting negating Councillors the opportunity to go on the record of either voting in favour or against the 2025 Property Tax Budget, something that has historically been deemed jointly important by Councillors and constituents alike.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

- (a) That the Mayor ask the Ontario Premier to allow the City of Hamilton to not use Strong Mayor powers for the City of Hamilton budget process, reverting to the traditional budget deliberation process as was the case with the 2023 Property Tax Budget and 2024 Property Tax Budget;

- (b) That the Mayor and City of Hamilton staff involved with interpreting and applying the rubric of Strong Mayor Powers to the 2025 Property Tax Budget process ask the Office of the Premier of Ontario to review said interpretation and application of Strong Mayor Powers as they pertained to the 2025 Property Tax Budget process and to comment on if they believe it was done properly and appropriately, and whether there may have been different interpretations and applications; and,
- (c) That the City of Hamilton Finance and Legal staff research and report back on how other municipalities that have a Strong Mayor Powers process applied the Strong Mayor Powers to their budget process, if at all.

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 – February 5, 2025

(Kroetsch/Beattie)

That the Closed Session minutes of the February 5, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting, be adopted and remain confidential.

CARRIED

(A. Wilson/Clark)

That the General Issues Committee meeting of February 26, 2025, be permitted to extend past the 5:30 p.m. curfew, up to 6:30 p.m.

Result: MOTION, CARRIED by a 2/3 majority vote of 11 to 2, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
No	-	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
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
No	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(Clark/Beattie)

- (a) That Chief Frank Bergen, Doris Ciardullo, Paul Hamilton, and Duncan Robertson from Hamilton Police Service, be permitted to attend the Closed Session portion of the General Issues Committee Meeting respecting Item 11.3; and,
- (b) That Lise Patry from LXM, be permitted to attend the Closed Session portion of the General Issues Committee Meeting respecting Items 11.4 & 11.5.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	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
Yes	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(A. Wilson/Nann)

That Committee move into Closed Session for Items 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, and 11.6 at 5:13 p.m. pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-Sections (b), (c), (e), (f), (g) and (k) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (b), (c), (e), (f), (g) and (k) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including City or local board employees; a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land for City purposes or a local board; litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the City or a local board; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; a matter in respect of which Council or a Committee may hold a closed meeting under an Act other than the Municipal Act, 2001; and, a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the City or a local board.

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

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
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
Yes	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

The General Issues Committee meeting reconvened in Open Session at 6:52 p.m.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (Continued)

**7.2 HSC23016(a)
2023 Social Housing Annual Update (City Wide)**

(A. Wilson/Clark)

WHEREAS, Committee during Closed Session did not consider the Confidential Appendix “C” to Report HSC23016(a), respecting 2023 Social Housing Annual Update.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That consideration of Report HSC23016(a), and Confidential Appendix “C” to Report HSC23016(a), respecting 2023 Social Housing Annual Update (City Wide), be DEFERRED to the March 19, 2025 General Issues Committee meeting.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Absent	-	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
Absent	-	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

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Continued)

The Committee during Closed Session moved a motion to further extend the meeting.

**11.3 PED25010
Relocation of Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit (Wards 2 and 5)**

(Francis/A. Wilson)

That Report PED25010, dated February 26, 2025, respecting Relocation of Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit (Wards 2 and 5), be received, and the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) That the directions provided to staff in Closed Session, respecting Report PED25010, Relocation of Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit, be approved and remain confidential until completion of Agreements respecting the relocation of Hamilton Police Services Marine Unit; and,
- (b) That the balance of Report PED25010, Relocation of Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit, remain confidential and not be released as a public document with the exception of Appendix “A” to Report PED25010 - Map and Appendix “B” to Report PED25010 - Summary of Memorandum of Understanding-Relocation of Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit, which are to be released publicly after the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding.

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

Absent - Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Absent - 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
Absent - 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

11.4 CM24004(c)
Confidential Memo - Additional information to Report Cybersecurity Incident Impact Update (CM24004(b))

(Nann/A. Wilson)

That Confidential Memo CM24004(c), respecting Additional information to Report Cybersecurity Incident Impact Update (CM24004(b)), be received and remain confidential.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Absent	-	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
Absent	-	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

11.5 CM24004(b)
Cybersecurity Incident Impact Update (City Wide)

(A. Wilson/McMeekin)

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

- (a) That the directions provided to staff in closed session respecting CM24004(b), Cybersecurity Incident Impact Update, be approved and remain confidential; and,
- (b) That Report CM24004(b), Cybersecurity Incident Impact Update, remain confidential.

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

Absent - Mayor Andrea Horwath

Yes	-	Ward 1	Councillor Maureen Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 2	Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Yes	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4	Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5	Councillor Matt Francis
No	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Absent	-	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

11.6 LS25001

Aggregate Resource Tax Legal Update (City Wide)

(A. Wilson/McMeekin)

That Report LS25001, dated February 26, 2025, respecting Aggregate Resource Tax Legal Update (City Wide), be received and remain confidential.

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

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath	
Yes	-	Ward 1	Councillor Maureen Wilson
Absent	-	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
Absent	-	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

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela McRae
Legislative Coordinator

Deputy Mayor Craig Cassar
Chair, General Issues Committee