



**GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE  
(OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET)  
MINUTES GICB 26-004**

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 28, 2026  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

---

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

---

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Budget Chair M. Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**

There were no ceremonial activities.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**(Nann/Kroetsch)**

That the agenda for the January 28, 2026 General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting, be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor E. Pauls declared a non-disqualifying to Healthy and Safe Communities - 2026 Budget Presentation (Item 7.1), as her daughter-in-law is a paramedic.

Councillor E. Pauls declared a non-disqualifying to Hamilton Police Services Board Presentation (Item 7.4) from the January 27, 2026 General Issues Committee (Budget) Meeting, as her son works for the Hamilton Police Service.

**Please refer to the February 11, 2026 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

There were no minutes of the previous meetings.

**6. DELEGATIONS**

Delegations on the 2026 Budget were received on November 17, 2025 & January 19, 2026.

**7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**(i) (Jackson/Pauls)**

That the length of the presentation respecting the Item for Information, be extended indefinitely for today's meeting.

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

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

**7.1 Healthy and Safe Communities - 2026 Budget Presentation**

**(i)** Grace Mater, General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities, addressed the Committee with a presentation respecting the Healthy and Safe Communities - 2026 Budget.

**(ii) (Kroetsch/Nann)**

That the General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting recess for 15 minutes until 11:50 a.m.

**CARRIED**

The General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting reconvened at 11:50 a.m.

**Please refer to the February 11, 2026 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

**(iii) (Beattie/Francis)**

That staff be directed to prepare a listing of cost mitigation scenarios, as developed in the formation of the 2026 Budget from all departments and Senior Leadership Team, including those that were not included and the rationale for their exclusion in the budget presentation and those that might not have met the 'test' of the Mayoral Directive of 'no service level impact', and that these items be reported back to the General Issues Committee (Budget) meeting on February 6, 2026.

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

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

**(iv) (Pauls/Clark)**

That the presentation respecting the Healthy and Safe Communities – 2026 Budget, be received.

**CARRIED**

**8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

There were no Items for Consideration.

**9. MOTIONS**

There were no Motions.

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no Notices of Motion.

**Please refer to the February 11, 2026 Council minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

**11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

There were no Private & Confidential Items.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the General Issues Committee (Budget) adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Angela McRae  
Legislative Coordinator

---

Councillor Maureen Wilson  
Chair, General Issues Committee (Budget)