



## **AUDIT, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES AFA 26-004**

9:30 a.m.

March 26, 2026

Council Chambers (Hybrid), City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

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**Present:** Councillors J. Beattie (Chair), B. Clark, R. Cooper, C. Kroetsch, E. Pauls (virtually), M. Spadafora, M. Tadeson, and M. Wilson

**Absent with**

**Regrets:** Councillor T. Hwang – City Business, Councillor A. Wilson – Personal

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Beattie called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**

There were no Ceremonial Activities.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**(Spadafora/Tadeson)**

That the agenda for the March 26, 2026, Audit, Finance and Administration Committee meeting, BE APPROVED.

**CARRIED**

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**(Kroetsch/Tadeson)**

That the Minutes of the February 26, 2026 meeting of the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee, BE ADOPTED, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**Refer to the April 1, 2026 Council Minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

**6. DELEGATIONS**

**6.1 Hafeez Hussain, respecting Ontario Works - Eligibility and Value for Money Audit - Information on Overpayments, Fraud Complaints for the City of London and the Regional Municipality of Peel**

Hafeez Hussain addressed Committee respecting Ontario Works - Eligibility and Value for Money Audit - Information on Overpayments, Fraud Complaints for the City of London and the Regional Municipality of Peel.

**(Cooper/Clark)**

That the Delegation from Hafeez Hussain, respecting Ontario Works - Eligibility and Value for Money Audit - Information on Overpayments, Fraud Complaints for the City of London and the Regional Municipality of Peel, BE RECEIVED.

**CARRIED**

**7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**(Spadafora/Cooper)**

That the following Items for Information BE RECEIVED:

- 7.1 FCS26020  
Correspondence from the Hamilton Police Service Board - Agreement to Share Provincial Offences Act Revenues
- 7.2 PW26029  
Management Response to Report AUD25001 Contract Payments to DARTS (City Wide)
- 7.3 FCS26021  
2025 Remuneration and Expenses as required under Section 284 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended (City Wide) - REVISED
- 7.4 FCS21082(I)  
Utility Billing Transition March 2026 Program Update (Outstanding Business List Item) (City Wide) - REVISED
- 7.5 HSC26002  
Follow-Up on Red Hill Family Centre Value for Money Audit (Outstanding Business List) (City Wide)

**CARRIED**

**Refer to the April 1, 2026 Council Minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

## 8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

### (Kroetsch/Spadafora)

That the following Amendments to the Outstanding Business List, BE APPROVED:

#### 8.1.a Items Considered Completed and to be Removed

##### 8.1.a.a Utility Billing Transition (FCS21082(i))

Added: October 2, 2025

Addressed as Item 7.4 on the January 15, 2026 agenda

##### 8.1.a.b AUD25005

Accounts Payable Special Investigation #2 (Fraud and Waste Report #71958) (City Wide)

Added: May 22, 2025

Addressed as Item 7.1 on the February 26, 2026 agenda

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 8 to 0, as follows:**

YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

ABSENT - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang

YES – Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls

YES – Ward 8 Councillor Rob Cooper

YES - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark

YES - CHAIR - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie

YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson

ABSENT - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson

YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora

## 8.2 PED26052

### Community Liaison Group – Immigrants and Refugees (City Wide)

#### (Kroetsch/Spadafora)

That Report PED26052, respecting Community Liaison Group – Immigrants and Refugees (City Wide), dated March 26, 2026, be received and the following recommendation, BE APPROVED:

- (a) That the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council BE APPROVED to serve as the City of Hamilton’s Community Liaison Group for Immigrants and Refugees.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 7 to 1, as follows:**

YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson

YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

ABSENT - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang

**Refer to the April 1, 2026 Council Minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

YES – Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls  
YES – Ward 8 Councillor Rob Cooper  
NO - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark  
YES - CHAIR - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie  
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson  
ABSENT - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson  
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora

**8.2(a) Correspondence from Grace Baldwin and Kim Martin, Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council, respecting Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council assuming the role of the new Community Liaison Group for Immigrants and Refugees**

**(Spadafora/Kroetsch)**

That the Correspondence from Grace Baldwin and Kim Martin, Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council, respecting Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council assuming the role of the new Community Liaison Group for Immigrants and Refugees, BE RECEIVED.

**CARRIED**

**9. MOTIONS**

**9.1 Eco Home and Energy Self-Audit Kits for Ward 4 Residents**

**(Kroetsch/M. Wilson)**

WHEREAS, Green Venture successfully delivered 100 Eco Home Kits program to Ward 2 residents in 2025, during their pilot project, which was well received;

WHEREAS, the Eco Home program will include accessible energy conservation workshops, with the goal of supporting renters, low-income households, and newcomers; and

WHEREAS, the Eco Home Kit materials and a shared Take-Home Energy Self-Audit Kit will help residents keep their homes cool in the summer and warm in the winter while saving on their energy use and costs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That a grant to Green Venture to for the materials of the Eco Home Kits and the shared Take-Home Energy Self-Audit Kit BE FUNDED from the Ward 4 Capital Discretionary Account #3302309400 at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$5,000;
- (b) That any funds allocated and distributed BE EXEMPT on a one-time basis and not be counted toward any formula that restricts regular

**Refer to the April 1, 2026 Council Minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

funding from the City including the City Enrichment Fund for 2026;  
and

- (c) That the Mayor and City Clerk BE AUTHORIZED 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 6 to 2, as follows:**

YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson  
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch  
ABSENT - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang  
YES – Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls  
NO – Ward 8 Councillor Rob Cooper  
NO - Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark  
YES - CHAIR - Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie  
YES - Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson  
ABSENT - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson  
YES - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Councillor Kroetsch introduced the following Notice of Motion:

**10.1 Financial Accountability in the Administration of Grant Funding**

WHEREAS, City Council approved recommendations in Procedures for Ward-Specific Funding Initiatives (FCS18014(a)) on December 17, 2018;

WHEREAS, Report FCS18014(a) outlined “Scenario 2: Social Infrastructure Funding”, which permits Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Reserves to be used for grants to an outside agency to improve social infrastructure assets;

WHEREAS, Report FCS18014(a) outlined “Scenario 3: Grants”, which permit Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Discretionary Fund to be used for grants to support community initiatives;

WHEREAS, Report FCS18014(a) does not contain any restrictions regarding the ability to fund grants from the Cellular Tower and Ward-Specific Non-Property Tax Revenues beyond the general procedures found in Appendix “D” to that Report;

WHEREAS, these funds are allocated at the discretion of the Ward Councillor in a manner that conforms to the criteria outlined in Appendix “A” and Appendix “B” to Report FCS18014(a), respecting Procedures for Ward-Specific Funding Initiatives;

**Refer to the April 1, 2026 Council Minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

WHEREAS, with the exception of grants under \$350 that are funded through the Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Discretionary Fund under “Scenario 3: Grants”, all grants require Council approval;

WHEREAS, the Ward Councillor Offices are responsible for administering the payment of grants funded through Ward-Specific Funding Initiatives; and

WHEREAS, no policy currently exists that outlines the procedures for the Ward Councillors Offices are to follow when administering the payment of grants.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to develop a grant payment policy designed to improve transparency and financial accountability for all grants funded through the Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Reserves, Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Discretionary Fund, and Cellular Tower and Ward-Specific Non-Property Tax Revenues; and
- (b) That staff be directed to report back to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee with a grant payment draft policy in Q3 2026.

**11. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**(Spadafora/Kroetsch)**

That Committee move into Closed Session for Item 11.1, pursuant to Section 9.3, Sub-sections (b), (d), and (f) of the City's Procedural By-law 21-021, as amended, and Section 239(2), Sub-sections (b), (d), and (f) of the *Ontario Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; labour relations or employee negotiations; and advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 8 to 0, as follows:**

YES - Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson  
YES - Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch  
ABSENT - Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang  
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  
ABSENT - Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson  
YES - CHAIR - Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora

**Refer to the April 1, 2026 Council Minutes for the disposition of these matters.**

The Audit, Finance and Administration Committee resolved into Closed Session at 10:46 a.m.

The Audit, Finance and Administration Committee meeting reconvened in Open Session at 11:40 a.m.

**11.1 AUD26003  
Auditor General Reporting of Serious Matters to Council (Report #90083) (City Wide)**

**(Spadafora/Kroetsch)**

That Report AUD26003 respecting Auditor General Reporting of Serious Matters to Council (Report #90083), dated March 26, 2026, BE RECEIVED and REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

**CARRIED**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee, adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara Bates  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk

Councillor J. Beattie,  
Chair, Audit, Finance and Administration  
Committee