



Hamilton

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY SUB-COMMITTEE

REPORT 11-001

Monday, October 31, 2011

2.00 p.m.

Room 264

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

Present: Councillors L. Ferguson (Chair), J. Partridge (Vice-Chair), T. Whitehead
J. Chapman, D. Broom, D. Arbuckle and L. Ryan

Absent with Regrets: Mayor B. Bratina

Also Present: P. Barkwell, City Solicitor
L. Pasternak, Senior Solicitor
A. Pekaruk, Director of Audit Services
R. Caterini, City Clerk
V. Robicheau, Legislative Assistant

THE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY SUB-COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 11-001 TO THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Lobbyist Registry – Verbal Report (Item 6.1)

(Whitehead/Partridge)

That the Chair or Vice-Chair, L. Ryan and D. Arbuckle meet with the City of Hamilton's legal staff and arrange meetings with the appropriate staff at the City of Toronto as well as the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario, with the intent to gather information and feedback on the workings of the Lobbyist Register.

CARRIED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Councillor Ferguson was appointed as the Chair of the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee for the 2010-2014 term of Council.

Councillor Partridge was appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee for the 2010-2014 term of Council.

(b) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Agenda for the October 31, 2011 meeting of the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee, was approved.

(c) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

None.

(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

The Minutes of the March 9, 2010 Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee, was approved.

(e) DISCUSSION (Item 6)

(i) Lobbyist Registry – Verbal Report (Item 6.1)

General discussion related to the viability of a Lobbyist Registry for the City of Hamilton based on the cost of managing and enforcing the register (including FTE's) and the benefits gained.

For disposition on this item, refer to Item 1.

(ii) Integrity Commissioner Contract – Verbal Report (Item 6.2)

Rose Caterini provided an update on the Integrity Commissioner's contract. General discussion followed related to the contract.

The Integrity Commissioner is to provide an interim report, before the end of 2011, to the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee on the services provided, the number of claims, costs associated and the findings of the Integrity Commissioner on each claim to date.

(f) NEW BUSINESS (Item 7)

(i) Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee Work Plan

David Arbuckle discussed the direction of the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee with the suggestion of creating a work plan over the next six months so that a timeline may be established to identify the deadline to report to the General Issues Committee (GIC) on the Lobbyist Registry.

(ii) Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee Mandate

Laura Ryan discussed the mandate of Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee and if it included the issue of media relations, such as, newspapers and social media.

Mr. Barkwell indicated that the mandate only provisions for the review and discussion of the *Municipal Act*.

It was also identified in the discussion that there may be a gap in policy and whether or not the *Code of Conduct for Employees Policy* applies to the political staff working in the Mayor and Councillor's offices.

- (a) Staff was asked to report back on whether or not the *Code of Conduct for Employees Policy* applies to the political staff working in the Mayor and Councillor's offices;
- (b) If political staff working in the Mayor and Councillor's offices is not included in the *Code of Conduct for Employees Policy*, that a recommendation be forwarded to Council through the General Issues Committee (GIC) to approve that political staff working in the Mayor and Councillor's offices be required to abide by the *Code of Conduct for Employees Policy*.

(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 8)

There being no further business, the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor L. Ferguson
Chair, Accountability and
Transparency Sub-Committee

Vanessa Robicheau
Legislative Assistant
Office of the City Clerk
October 31, 2011