



**General Issues Committee  
MINUTES  
9:30 a.m.  
Thursday, January 26, 2012  
Friday, January 27, 2012  
Council Chambers  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West**

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**January 26, 2012**

**Present:** Acting Deputy Mayor R. Pasuta (Chair)  
Mayor B. Bratina  
Councillors B. Clark C. Collins, S. Duvall, J. Farr, L. Ferguson,  
T. Jackson, B. Johnson, B. McHattie, S. Merulla, B. Morelli,  
J. Partridge, M. Pearson

**Absent:** Councillor R. Powers – City Business  
Councillor T. Whitehead - Personal

**Also Present:** C. Murray, City Manager  
R. Rossini, General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services  
M. Zegarac, Director, Financial Planning and Policy  
C. Biggs, Co-ordinator, Committee Services/Council/Budgets

**January 27, 2012**

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**Also Present:** R. Rossini, General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services  
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**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION:**

**1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

**January 26**

The Clerk advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

**(Collins/Morelli)**

That the agenda be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**January 27**

The Clerk advised that there are no changes to the agenda.

**(Pearson/Partridge)**

That the agenda be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**January 26 and 27**

None declared

**3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None

**4. PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS**

**Thursday, January 26**

The Committee entertained representatives from the following Boards and Agencies with respect to their 2012 Budget requests:

09:40 a.m.      Hamilton Conservation Authority

Steve Miazga, Chief Administrative Officer of the Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA), addressed the Committee, firstly on behalf of the four conservation authorities within the City of Hamilton, and secondly, on behalf of the HCA specifically. His comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Overview of responsibilities of four conversation authorities
- Introduce Neil McDougall, Secretary-Treasurer, and Bruce McKenzie, Manager of Customer Service
- Did receive guidelines for 0% increase; have met that request; Board made sure that objectives met
- Budget presentation broken into three components: HCA budget, which includes all operations; Confederation Park and Westfield Heritage Village
- Confederation Park is one of two properties managed by HCA and the centre piece is Wild Waterworks; aging facility
- Also manage Lakeland Pool Centre – pool and banquet facility
- 8 leased operations along Van Wagner's Road, which all contribute funds toward the Park; park itself is 200 acres of park land along Lake Ontario, 4.5 km of beach trail
- proposing to remove gate fee, approximately \$240,000; will bring park in line with other City parks
- Westfield Heritage Village is a pioneer village comprised of 330 acres of green space and km of trails; open all year with special events throughout the year; used annually by local school boards

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

10:00 a.m. Conservation Halton

John Vice, Chair of Conservation Halton, Ken Philips, CAO, and Marnie Piggott, Director of Finance, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following:

- Protect more than 10,000 acres of environmentally sensitive lands
- Partnerships that work
- Public Accountability Report 2011
- 2011 Conservation Halton Services in Hamilton
- 2012 Budget – Major Drivers
- 2012 Budget Summary
- Funding Comparison 2012 vs 2011
- Funding by Source
- Expenditure Comparison 2012 vs 2011
- 2012 Total Expenditures by Program
- Municipal Funding; 2012 Municipal Funding Analysis
- Municipal Apportionments

Councillor Partridge recognized the attendance of Ian Dunlop, Chair of Conservation Halton.

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

Councillors B. Clark, L. Ferguson and B. Johnson indicated that they wished to be recorded opposed to the budget presentation provided by Conservation Halton.

10:20 a.m. Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)

Representatives from the Grand River Conservation Authority appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following:

- About the Watershed
- About the Grand River Conservation Authority and goals
- Budget overview
- Conestoga Dam Improvements
- Addressing the watershed issues
- GRCA 2012 Budget timetable
- 2012 Budget expenditures, sources of revenue, major assumptions
- GRCA 2012 Capital Budget
- 2012 Budget – Detailed expenditure breakdown; detailed revenue breakdown
- GRCA 2012 Budget Expenditures – Base Programs (Operating); Base Programs (Capital); Special Projects
- General Municipal Levy for 2012

Jeanette Jamieson, City Appointee on the GRCA Board, was also in attendance.

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

10:40 a.m. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA)

Representatives from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, including Carmen D'Angelo, City of Hamilton representative on the NPCA Board of Directors, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following:

- Have met City's budget target
- NPCA Water and Land Management Programs
- Budget challenges
- Mitigation efforts

- 2012 Budget (consolidated) revenue
- 2012 Operating Budget; Project budget
- Hamilton Levy Summary – 2012 Budget

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:00 a.m. Hamilton Police Services

Nancy DeGregorio provided opening remarks and introduced Chief Glenn DeCaire to address the Committee respecting the 2012 Hamilton Police Service Budget. Chief DeCaire spoke to the following:

- Posted budget on line and presentation in public session and town hall meetings and live streaming process
- 2012 budget submissions are available on police website
- 2012 Operating Budget request comprised of salary and benefits, discretionary expenditures, revenues; Pressures, including salary and benefits, salary increase, OMERS, benefits, discretionary expenditures; Contains computer expenditures, facilities, repairs and maintenance; fleet, repairs and maintenance; training
- Lowest budget request of board in the last 10 years
- Police responsibilities
- 10-year crime rates
- OMBI total violent crime (2008-2010)
- 5-year Calls-for-Service trend
- Calls-for-Service duration
- Authorized strength (2001-2011)
- Police Officer/100,000 Persons (2011)
- Demand on Resources
- Demand on Computer Aided (CAD) events
- Demand – No Units Available
- Case Preparation Unit
- Increased safety – comparison of perceptions of changes in safety

Deputy Chief Ken Leendertse, Deputy Chief Eric Girt, Ted Mason and Marco Visentini, Accountant and Lawyer, respectively, were in attendance to respond to questions of the Committee.

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:20 a.m. Hamilton Entertainment and Convention Facilities Inc.

John Hertel, Interim General Manager, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- 2011-2012 areas of focus within HECFI mandate
- 2011 budget commitment
- 2012 HECFI budget landscape
- modest expectations: GDP Growth , 2009-2013 for Hamilton, Ontario and Canada (from Conference Board of Canada's Metropolitan Outlook)
- How Hamilton industries are expected to perform
- 2012 budget enablers
- City investment in HECFI venues
- Convention Centre gross margin percentage; staffing costs as a percentage of revenue and ticket sales; total adjusted expenses
- 2011 estimated year end
- revenue, expenses, municipal contribution comparison 2007-2016
- 2012 Business Plan

Committee members thanked Mr. Hertel for his presentation and his team's efforts during this transitioning time.

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:40 a.m. Hamilton Public Library

Representatives from the Hamilton Library Board and Chief Librarian Ken Roberts appeared before Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Discussed the increased circulation
- Discussed the uses of new technologies are being used to meet the increased demands of the community
- Discussed the budget pressures on the library to meet the communities increased demand for services
- Outlined the 2012 Major Budget Drivers for Library Services as well as the mitigating factors

- Outlined the benefits of recent renovations to Central, Barton and Kenilworth locations
- Discussed the upcoming initiatives for 2012

Committee thanked Ken Roberts for his 17 years of service as the Chief Librarian giving him a standing ovation for his efforts on behalf of the City of Hamilton.

Ken Roberts was given the opportunity to address the Committee

**(Pearson/Morelli)**

That the presentations by the Boards and Agencies on January 26, 2012, be received. **CARRIED**

**Thursday, January 27, 2012**

The Committee entertained representatives from the following Boards and Agencies with respect to their 2012 Budget requests:

9:40 a.m. Art Gallery of Hamilton

Louise Dompierre, Director, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Focus on the upcoming year's activities and share some of the highlights
- Focusing this year on theme "A League of Their Own", a year-long celebration of visionary Canadian artists
- Outlined the work of the artists whose works will be displayed in the Art Gallery over the upcoming year, including William Kurelek and Emily Carr
- Education: engaging school children; continued growth of hand-on studio programmes for adults and children; launch of innovative new programmes for adults
- World Film Festival: continues to grow, outstanding community and corporate support; positioned to become landmark Hamilton (and region) festival
- 118 James Street North – Design Annex
- Looking ahead to 100 (AGH 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday)
- Expense/Revenue Overview
- 2012 Budget – Revenues and Expenses
- Request is the same as in 2011

Ms. Dompierre recognized Margaret Hayes, Director of Finance and Ed Kowlovi, Finance Dept. and Larissa Chewtka, Arlene Glee, Assistant and Mark Stewart, Director of Commercial Activities.

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

10:00 a.m. Boris Brott Music Festival

Jackie Templeton-Muir, Director of Development, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Has been very difficult year; attempting to keep ticket prices very level and hope to keep same next year
- No accumulated deficit
- Have partnered with local organizations in 2011
- Have to be innovative, different and challenging selves
- Have artists from the City who are turning into great ambassadors all over the world
- 2012 is 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; audiences have grown exponentially, more concerns each year and wonderful performances planned for 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Committee was shown a video of the 2011 season.

The Committee was distributed with presentation material and a copy has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

10:20 a.m. Festival of Friends

Loren Leiberman, on behalf of Festival of Friends, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- 2011 was an exceptional year and thanked all of Council for assistance in transitional year
- Visitor Locations
- Most viewed pages on the Festival of Friends website
- Visitor Traffic
- Radio Broadcast map
- New initiatives for the Festival of Friends, including museum, gallery

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.



10:40 a.m. Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit

Representatives from Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Provided 2011 year end report, 10-year capital replacement plan, updated history of the organization
- Provided with power point presentation demonstrating the work of the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit, including search and rescue, training exercises, ice rescue, ice banks; various pieces of equipment
- Requesting additional operating funds of \$2,780 in 2012 to cover additional expenses related to the support vehicle acquired from Hamilton EMS and refurbished with water-related emergency equipment

A copy of the presentation and speaking notes was submitted to the Clerk and is available on the City's website.

11:00 a.m. Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

Representatives from the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Mission and Vision
- HPO Strategic Plan: Four Pillars
- Quick Facts
- Board of Directors
- Accomplishments of 2011
- Artistic Highlights of 2011
- Plans for 2012
- Economic and Community Impact
- 2012 Requests
- HECFI costs
- Financial Information

The Committee was distributed with a copy of the HPO 2011 Annual Report, 2010-2011 Actuals and 2011-2012 Forecast budget.

Copies of the documents and power point presentation were submitted to the Clerk and is available on the City's website.

11:20 a.m. Opera Hamilton

Stephen Bye, Opera Hamilton, provided copies of their financial statements to members of Committee. A presentation was given to Committee respecting the work that has been done by Opera Hamilton during the previous financial year. Mr. Bye spoke to the following:

- Reduction in costs due to moving facilities
- Forecasting surpluses for this year and years to come in order to tackle debt
- Board has been transformed; now have 3 members that live in Hamilton where previously, no board members were from Hamilton
- Addressed initiatives to boost the box office revenues and funding sources (donations)
- Have taken initiatives to lower costs and become more efficient
- Asking for 0% increase this year.

A copy of the Operating Budget was submitted to the Clerk and is available on the City's website.

11:40 a.m. Royal Botanical Gardens

Representatives from the Royal Botanical Gardens appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Provided a brief overview of some of the activities
- Working to minimize deficit from 2011 budget
- Addition of many activities and promotions in 2012
- Increases in membership sales, education programming, rental and food services and grants increased in 2011
- Will be reviewing better tracking method for visitors to open spaces
- Aim to provide high quality tourism and customer attraction
- New fundraising campaign launched in 2011 "Growing Up Green"
- Volunteers celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2011 – 350 volunteers with approximately 44,000 hours of volunteer time contributed
- New multi-year business plan approved – 2012 to 2014
- Developed strategic planning in 2011
- Draft budget submitted to staff; final budget approved by Board recently; currently being reviewed by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

- Request on-going support from the City within guidelines

The Committee was distributed with the Executive Summary of the 2012 budget. A copy has been submitted for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

12:00 p.m. Theater Aquarius

Lorna Zaremba, General Manager, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Requesting \$250,000 for capital project
- Regional Theatre in Canadian Communities
- Theatre Aquarius – A Creative Catalyst
- Impact on the City – Economic Engine
- Keeping the Theatre affordable for all – pay-what-you-can series and new low-price admissions
- Community involvement
- Expenses and Revenues (2010-2011 (Audited))
- Theatre Aquarius – Strong Growth, Enormous Potential – Production Revenue by Season
- Municipal Investment in Professional Regional Theatre
- “Team”

A copy of the presentation was submitted to the Clerk and is available on the City’s website.

**(Farr/Collins)**

That the presentations by the Boards and Agencies on January 27, 2012, be received. **CARRIED**

**5. DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**5.1 2012 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Boards and Agencies (FCS12013)**

**(Collins/Jackson)**

That Report FCS12013 respecting 2012 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Boards and Agencies, be referred to the 2012 budget deliberations. **CARRIED**

**6. MOTIONS**

None

**7. NOTICES OF MOTION**

None

**8. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**9. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**(Pearson/Johnson)**

That the Committee recess at 2:45 p.m. on January 26 and reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on January 27.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:10 p.m. on January 27, 2012.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor R. Pasuta, Acting Deputy Mayor  
General Issues Committee

Carolyn Biggs, Co-ordinator  
Committee Services/Council/Budgets  
January 26 and 27, 2012