



**General Issues Committee  
MINUTES (BUDGET DELIBERATIONS)**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday, March 27, 2012**

**Council Chambers**

**Hamilton City Hall**

**71 Main Street West**

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

**Also Present:** C. Murray, City Manager  
R. Rossini, General Manager, Finance and Corporate  
Services  
G. Davis, General Manager, Public Works  
T. McCabe, General Manager, Planning & Economic  
Development  
J. Brown, A/General Manager, Community Services  
R. Hall, Director, Health Protection, Public Health Services  
P. Barkwell, City Solicitor  
C. Biggs, Legislative Co-ordinator

<b>1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA</b>
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The Clerk advised of the following change:

**REPORT WITHDRAWN**

- (i) Public Health Services Accommodation – McMaster Health Campus (PED1134(d)/FCS11063(d)/BOH11026(d)/CM11008(d)) (Ward 2) (Item 4.1(a))

**STAFF PRESENTATION**

- (ii) 2012 Budget Update (Added Item 4.2)

**VERBAL UPDATE**

- (iii) Independent External Review of HECFI Operations – Phase II (RFP)

**PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

- (iv) Personal Matter respecting an Identifiable Individual (No Copy) (Added Item 7.1)

**(Powers/Johnson)**

That the agenda be approved, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

**4.1(b) Public Health Services Accommodation – McMaster Health Campus (PED1134(c)/FCS11063(c)/BOH11026(c)/CM11008(c)) (Ward 2) (Deferred by Committee on March 6, 2012)**

Chris Murray, City Manager, reported the following with respect to the matter of Public Health Services Accommodation – McMaster Health Campus:

- Matter respecting swing space for the School Board has been resolved between the HWDSB and Yale Properties; 3 locations do not involve the leasing space that the City was focused on in the Robert Thomson Building
- What this means is that the deal that the City had “inked” with Yale has changed, and the City no longer requires the first two years of that deal to be acted on
- Staff has had discussions with Yale and will be coming back to the Committee with some minor changes to the Agreement that was previously presented; hope to get changes done as soon as possible and bring report forward to the April 18 Committee meeting
- Report will include an evaluation of 3 proposals i.e., Yale Properties, City Centre and Right House; report will clarify a decision to simply have a portion of Public Health staff relocate to the McMaster Health Campus in July 2014

- Want to be able to present what would happen if everyone effectively stayed where they were i.e., do not amalgamate all Public Health functions, evaluation of “do nothing” alternative, understanding that some portion of Public Health will be moving to the McMaster Health Campus

**(Pearson/Farr)**

That Report PED1134(c)/FCS11063(c)/BOH11026(c)/CM11008(c) respecting Public Health Services Accommodation – McMaster Health Campus be received and no action taken. **CARRIED**

**4.2 2012 Budget Update (Added Item 4.2)**

Rob Rossini provided a power point presentation updating the Committee on the status of the 2012 operating budget in terms of percentage increase to date, and provided information relative to the following:

- Budget amendments to date (inclusive of additional proposed reductions)
- Proposed Amendments – March 27, 2012
- Tax Impact on Average Home assessed at \$258,000
- 2012 Average Municipal Tax Impacts of other Ontario municipalities
- 2012 Updated budget by Department
- Reducing the tax impact
- Outstanding Budget Items

The Committee was also provided with a revised Appendix which reflects the proposed reductions and updated urban and rural residential tax impacts and urban with rural fire/rural with urban fire residential tax impacts, all by former area municipality and by Ward.

**(Pearson/Merulla)**

That the presentation provided with respect to the update of the 2012 operating budget, be received. **CARRIED**

**Further Budget Reductions**

**(Johnson/Jackson)**

That the following budget amendments be approved:

- (a) Conference/Training – 5% reduction (in addition to the \$87,000 already reduced) – (\$156,000)
- (b) Revised OW Caseload Assumption – (\$450,000)
- (c) Adjusted Recycling Reserve Revenue/WDO Subsidy Projection – (\$350,000)
- (d) Fire Protective Clothing – 2012 impact, not annualized – (\$65,000)

**CARRIED**

**(Jackson/Farr)**

That the Winter Snow Clearing Operating Budget be reduced by \$1 million to further reduce the 2012 tax impact. **CARRIED**

**(Ferguson/Johnson)**

That with respect to the 1.2% in assessment growth, staff be directed to bring a report back to the Committee outlining what percentage is derived from new construction, and what percentage is derived from existing assessment. **CARRIED**

<b>5. DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>
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**5.1 Lease Extension for Public Health Services – 35 King Street East/1 Hughson Street North – Park Place Real Estate Limited Partnership (PED12013) (Ward 2)**

**(Farr/Pearson)**

That Report PED12013 respecting Lease Extension for Public Health Services – 35 King Street East/1 Hughson Street North – Park Place Real Estate Limited Partnership be tabled pending receipt of an additional report. **CARRIED**

**5.2 Workforce Management Technology Project – KRONOS (CM12002) (City Wide)**

Lora Fontana provided a power point presentation on the Workforce Management Technology Project (WMTP), which included the following:

- Project is a long-term workforce technology strategy to support the City's \$675 million investment in human capital investment
- Current system is manual and fragmented electronic solutions
- Not able to respond to basic questions i.e., how many people call in sick; who/how many people are at work today; scheduling; vacation, absenteeism
- Advantages of enhanced workforce technology
- Current technology
- Leverage technology across the City – Phase 1 Implementation
- Review of recommendations
- SMT commitment.

Ms. Fontana also stated that this is a corporate-wide initiative, and reflects the collaborative effort of representatives from all City Departments to bring this proposal forward for the Committee's consideration.

A copy of the power point presentation is available on the City's website.

**(Collins/Merulla)**

- (a) That Report CM12002 respecting Workforce Management Technology Project (KRONOS) be tabled to the 2013 budget process;
- (b) That the money allocated for 2012 in the amount of \$2.7 million be reinvested into the Public Works Infrastructure Program Project No. 403211018 – Council Priority Roads – Minor Rehabilitation.
- (c) That in the interim, staff be directed to bring a report back providing the following additional information:
  - (i) How other municipalities are handling this information – examples
  - (ii) Experience of other jurisdictions i.e., efficiencies/savings
  - (iii) How this system will make improvements in respective Departments
  - (iv) How this system works with PeopleSoft
  - (v) How long has this system been used in other communities
  - (vi) How many FTE's will be saved as a result of this investment
  - (vii) Financial cost/benefit analysis. **CARRIED**

Councillor R. Powers indicated that he wished to be recorded as opposed to sub-section (a).

**(Jackso/n/Duvall)**

That staff be directed to review all former floral traffic islands that were not reinstated in the 2007 floral traffic enhancement program and report back to the General Issues Committee providing the costs associated to convert them back to floral islands, including irrigation, in the 2013 budget; and that the report include a review of the on-going maintenance required for the existing islands. **CARRIED**

**5.3 Outstanding 2012 Budget Items**

**(Merulla/Farr)**

That the following items be lifted from the table:

- (a) Forestry and Horticulture – Street Tree Trimming (PW05015(a) and (b)) – Deferral recommended of \$1.32 million, including 2012 and deferred amounts from 2010 and 2011 – DEFERRED (February 29 GIC)
- (b) Roads – Road and Sidewalk Safety Maintenance (PW11017) – address deficiencies; sidewalk (\$600K); road surface (\$500K); Minimum Maintenance Standards compliance – TABLED (February 29 GIC)

- (c) Roads – Storm Water Facilities Maintenance (2011 Budget); Catch basin inspection and 3 cleaning cycle (\$300K); Catch basin repairs (\$150K); Storm Water Pont Maintenance (\$650K); Culvert and outfall inspection and maintenance (\$270K) – TABLED (February 29 GIC)
- (d) Horticulture – Maintenance of new traffic roundabouts (\$161,400) – PARKED (March 2 GIC) – approved – identify appropriate funding source **CARRIED**

### Outstanding 2012 Budget Items

#### (Collins/Merulla)

- (a) That the “Forestry and Horticulture – Street Tree Trimming (PW05015(a) and (b)) – Deferral recommended of \$1.32 million, including 2012 and deferred amounts from 2010 and 2011” be deferred to the 2013 budget process;
- (b) That one-time funding for the following programs be approved, to be funded firstly from the 2012 Unallocated Capital Projects Funding and secondly, from the Unallocated Capital Reserve Funding:
  - (i) Roads – Road and Sidewalk Safety Maintenance (PW11017) – address deficiencies; sidewalk (\$600K); road surface (\$500K); Minimum Maintenance Standards compliance
  - (ii) Roads – Storm Water Facilities Maintenance (2011 Budget); Catch basin inspection and 3 cleaning cycle (\$300K); Catch basin repairs (\$150K); Storm Water Pont Maintenance (\$650K); Culvert and outfall inspection and maintenance (\$270K)
  - (iii) Horticulture – Maintenance of new traffic roundabouts (\$161,400)
- (c) That the programs outlined in sub-section (b)(i), (ii) and (iii) be forwarded to the 2013 budget process for consideration. **CARRIED**

#### (Collins/Merulla)

That staff be directed to find an additional \$500,000 reduction from the 2012 levy from the employee-related cost, with no impact on service levels, and report back to the General Issues Committee during the 2012 calendar year. **CARRIED**

**(Whitehead/Johnson)**

That the 2012 budget provide for one additional internal auditor, with a review during the 2013 budget process with respect to the provision of the second internal auditor. **CARRIED**

**2012 Tax-Levy**

**(Merulla/Powers)**

That the City Solicitor and Corporate Counsel be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy. **CARRIED**

As a result of the decisions made by the Committee at this meeting, Mr. Rossini advised that the budget was further reduced by \$620,000, which equates to a .9% increase or \$31 per household based on an average assessment of \$258,000.

<b>6. MOTION</b>
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**6.1 Funding Agreement with the Hamilton Conservation Authority for the purpose of supporting the Cootes to Escarpment Eco-Park area**

**(McHattie/Powers)**

Whereas, Hamilton City Council has endorsed the Cootes to Escarpment Eco-Park Strategy and the City of Hamilton has a seat on the project steering committee, and;

And Whereas, the Cootes to Escarpment Eco-Park area from Dundas to Burlington connecting the Cootes Paradise Marsh and the Grindstone Creek Estuary to the Niagara Escarpment is one of the richest biological areas in Canada, and represents the only location on the north side of Lake Ontario where the Niagara Escarpment is connected to the Great Lakes without being interrupted by a 400 series highway, and;

And Whereas, this corridor faces intense pressures from the surrounding urbanized portions of Hamilton and Burlington, and major transportation arteries such as Highways 403 and 6, and;

And Whereas, since 2009, the City of Hamilton has supported the concept of acquisition of natural areas through the establishment of a Natural Areas Acquisition Fund.

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton enter into a funding agreement with the Hamilton Conservation Authority for the purpose of supporting land acquisition in the Cootes to Escarpment Eco-Park area;
  - (b) That said funding agreement total \$250,000 for 2012 and be funded from the following sources:
    - (i) \$50,000 from the Unallocated Capital Reserve (108020) that was approved through the 2012 capital budget process for the purpose of the Cootes Paradise to Escarpment land acquisition project
    - (ii) \$100,000 through closing and transferring the uncommitted and unspent funding from Capital Project #8121159100 Natural Areas Acquisition Fund; and
    - (iii) \$100,000 through the 2011 tax supported operating surplus.
- CARRIED**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**HECFI Operational Review – RFP Phase II (New Business) (No Copy)**

Art Zuidema provided the Committee with an update on the progress of the review of the proponents' submissions and indicated that additional time is required for this purpose. He respectfully requested the Committee's indulgence to provide staff with more time to carry out their due diligence before bringing a report to the Committee for their consideration and asked that the April 4 reporting date be extended to the last week of April.

**(Farr/McHattie)**

That the Clerk be directed to schedule a special meeting of the General Issues Committee in order to consider the HECFI Proposal – RFP Phase II during the week of April 23

**CARRIED.**

**7. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

**(Whitehead/Collins)**

That the rules of order be waived in order to allow the Committee to move into closed session for the purpose of a personal matter about an identifiable individual.

**CARRIED**



**(Collins/Merulla)**

That the Committee move into closed session at 1:18 p.m. pursuant to subsection 8.1(b) of the City's Procedural By-law and Section 239.2(b) of the Municipal Act as the subject matter pertains to a personal matter about an identifiable individual respecting the application of City policies. **CARRIED**

The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 1:30 p.m.

**7.1 Application of City Policies**

Direction was provided to staff in camera.

<b>8. ADJOURNMENT</b>
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**(Pearson/Collins)**

There being no further business, the Committee recessed at 1:31 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted

Councillor B. Clark  
Deputy Mayor

Carolyn Biggs  
Legislative Co-ordinator  
March 27, 2012