



## **EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

1:30 p.m.

Monday, November 25, 2013

Council Chambers

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

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**Present:** Councillor T. Whitehead, Chair  
Councillor J. Farr, Vice-Chair  
Councillors T. Jackson, J. Partridge, and S. Merulla

**Absent with  
Regrets:** Councillor S. Duvall, Other City Business  
Councillor B. McHattie, Personal  
Councillor B. Morelli, Personal

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### **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL:**

- 1. Recreation Needs Assessment for Persons with Disabilities Progress Update (CS13043) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)**

**(Merulla/Jackson)**

That Report CS13043 respecting Recreation Needs Assessment for Persons with Disabilities Progress Update, be received.

**CARRIED**

- 2. Capital Projects' Status Report as of September 30th, 2013 (CS13036(a)) (City Wide) (Item 5.3)**

**(Merulla/Jackson)**

That Report CS13036(a) respecting Capital Projects' Status Report as of September 30th, 2013, be received.

**CARRIED**

**3. Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion - Funding Agreement (CS11023(f)) (City Wide) (Item 5.4)**

**(Merulla/Jackson)**

That Report CS11023(f) respecting Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion - Funding Agreement, be received.

**CARRIED**

**4. Amending the Standardization of Various Hamilton Fire Department Emergency Equipment (CS13047) (City Wide) (Item 5.5)**

**(Merulla/Jackson)**

That Cairns 1044 Traditional composite Fire Helmet and specifications, attached as Appendix "A", to Report CS13047, be approved as the standard through December 31, 2021.

**CARRIED**

**5. Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Review (CS13017(a)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

**(Farr/Partridge)**

- (a) That \$1,592,855 in revenue from a one-time transitional grant from the Ministry of Community and Social Services be deferred to 2014 to address pressures for programs funded through the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative;
- (b) That effective January 1, 2014, emergency shelters be funded through a block funding framework rather than a combination of per diem and block funding;
- (c) That effective January 1, 2014, \$350,000 in one-time funding for the Emergency Food System previously funded from the Social Services Initiative Reserve (#112214) be funded from the Delivering Opportunities for Ontario Renters (DOOR) Reserve (#112239);
- (d) That effective January 1, 2014, \$250,000 in one-time funding for the YWCA Transitional Living Program be funded from the Delivering Opportunities for Ontario Renters (DOOR) Reserve (#112239);
- (e) That effective January 1, 2014, Domiciliary Hostel providers receive an increase in per diem funding from \$47.75 to \$48.25;
- (f) That the General Manager of the Community and Emergency Services Department or designate be authorized to implement spending caps,

benefit frequency limits, or other controls necessary to ensure costs are contained within the approved budgeted amount;

- (g) That the Mayor correspond with the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Minister of Community and Social Services to request that the Province adequately and appropriately fund the City of Hamilton to deliver programs that fall under the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative.

**CARRIED**

**6. City of Hamilton Domiciliary Hostel Review (CS10036(c)) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

**(Farr/Jackson)**

That Report CS11036(c) respecting City of Hamilton Domiciliary Hostel Review, be received.

**CARRIED**

**7. Affordable Transit Pass Pilot Program Extension (CS13050) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

**(Merulla/Farr)**

- (a) That the 2014 Affordable Transit Pass (ATP) pilot program be continued to December 31, 2014 at a cost of \$304,350 (net) from the Social Services Initiative Fund (SSIF) #112214;
- (b) That the General Manager of Community and Emergency Services Department, or designate, be authorized to implement spending caps, benefit frequency limits or other controls necessary to ensure costs are contained within the approved budget amounts.

**CARRIED**

**8. Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program (CS13009(b)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 8.3)**

**(Partridge/Merulla)**

- (a) That health-related Discretionary Benefits for low income recipients be harmonized to the same levels as approved for Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) clients;
- (b) That employment-related Discretionary Benefits for vocational training, psychological assessments and transportation be transferred from the

Benefit Eligibility Division's Special Support program budget to the Employment and Income Support Division budget;

- (c) That housing-related Discretionary Benefits program and administration for utility arrears, appliance repairs, and transportation for residential care facility residents be transferred from the Benefit Eligibility Division's Special Support program budget to the Housing Services Division budget;
- (d) That the Adult Day Care User fee subsidy be referred to the 2014 Budget Process for an enhancement;
- (e) That interim funding for the Adult Day Care User fee subsidy be provided at the 2013 level through Community and Emergency Services Department surplus until budget approval.

**CARRIED**

**9. Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women (CS13051) (City Wide) (Item 8.4)**

**(Merulla/Partridge)**

- (a) That the General Manager of Emergency and Community Services be authorized and directed to provide one-time funding from the Social Services Initiative Reserve (#112214) in the amount of \$99,075 to Good Shepherd Centres to increase the number of emergency shelter beds from 20 to 30 on a temporary basis at Mary's Place for the period of December 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014;
- (b) That the General Manager of Emergency and Community Services be authorized and directed to provide one-time funding for one year in 2014 from the Social Services Initiative Reserve (#112214) in the amount of \$152,815 to Good Shepherd Centres to increase the level of case management and housing supports provided through the Supporting Our Sisters (SOS) program;
- (c) That the Mayor correspond with the Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting an increase to the City of Hamilton's funding allocation for the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative to address pressures related to the increased need for emergency shelter and housing support services.

**CARRIED**

**10. Hamilton Paramedic Service Code Zero Update January 1, 2013 to October 31, 2013 (CS13019) (City Wide) (Item 8.5)**

**(Farr/Jackson)**

That Report CS13019 respecting Hamilton Paramedic Service Code Zero Update January 1, 2013 to October 31, 2013, be received.

**CARRIED**

**11. Hamilton Farmers' Market Sub-Committee Report 13-002 (Item 8.6)**

**(Farr/Merulla)**

(a) That Subsections 6(5), 6(5a), 6(5b), 6(5c) and 6(6) of the Market By-law be amended to remove any limit to:

(i) the number of stalls the Market Supervisor may allocate to any one stallholder; and

(ii) the size of stalls that may be allocated by the Market Supervisor to stallholders;

(b) That the necessary by-law be passed to reflect the resolution in Subsection (a), in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

**CARRIED**

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:**

**(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

**ADDED DELEGATION REQUESTS**

4.3 Elizabeth Cardno, to address Item 8.1 respecting affordable Transit Pass Pilot Program Extension

4.4 Elizabeth McGuire, Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, to address Item 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program

4.5 Trish Balardo, SAM Program representing Adult Day Programs respecting 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program

- 4.6 Margie Goold, respecting Item 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program
- 4.7 Renee Wetselaar, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton respecting Item 8.4 Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women

**ADDED PRESENTATION**

- 7.2 City of Hamilton Domiciliary Hostel Review (CS10036(c)) (City Wide) (Item 8.2 - Moved from Discussion to Presentation)

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

- 12.2 Restructuring within the Community and Emergency Services Department (CS13053) (City Wide) (Distributed under separate cover.)

The Report was withdrawn and will be included on the next meeting agenda.

- Added 12.3 Achieving Operational and Administrative Efficiencies within the Hamilton Fire Department (Verbal – no copy)

***This matter is proposed for consideration in Closed Session pursuant to Sub-section 8.1(b) of the City's Procedural By-law and Section 239.2 of the Municipal Act as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees.***

**(Partridge/Merulla)**

That the agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were none declared.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

**(Farr/Partridge)**

That the Minutes of the October 22, 2013 meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)**

**(Partridge/Jackson)**

That the following delegation requests be approved and the rules of order waived in order to address Committee at today's meeting:

- 4.1 Peter Hutton, Hamilton Poverty Roundtable Advisory Panel on Transportation, to address Item 8.1 respecting the Affordable Transit Pass Program
- 4.2 Calvin Cain, representing the Ontario Homes for Special Needs Association and the Residential Care Facility Operators in the Hamilton region wishing to speak to Item 8.2 respecting the Domiciliary Hostel Review
- 4.3 Elizabeth Cardno, to address Item 8.1 respecting affordable Transit Pass Pilot Program Extension
- 4.4 Elizabeth McGuire, Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, to address Item 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program
- 4.5 Trish Balardo, SAM Program representing Adult Day Programs respecting 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program
- 4.6 Margie Goold, respecting Item 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program
- 4.7 Renee Wetselaar, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton respecting Item 8.4 Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women

**CARRIED**

**(e) CONSENT (Item 5)**

**(i) VARIOUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Item 5.1):**

**(Merulla/Jackson)**

That the following Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes be received:

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – September 6, 2013
2. Seniors Advisory Committee – October 4, 2013
3. Hamilton Veterans Committee – September 10, 2013
4. Food & Shelter Advisory Committee – September 12, 2013

**CARRIED**

**(f) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)**

**(i) Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Review (CS13017(a))  
(City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

Gillian Hendry provided an overview of the report with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and copies of the hand-out were distributed. She covered the following topics:

- The Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)
  - In 2013, the Province consolidated five programs into one;
  - Provincially Mandated CHPI Program outcomes;
  - Hamilton's CHPI Review;
  - CHPI: 2014 Recommended Budget:
    - Funded Expenditures & Sources
    - CHPI Proportional Expenditures
  - 2014 CHPI Budget Pressures
  - Other Recommendations: Emergency Shelters
  - Other Recommendations: Domiciliary Hostels
  - Moving Forward

Gillian Hendry responded to questions from Committee.

**(Farr/Partridge)**

That the staff presentation respecting the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Review be received.

**CARRIED**

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 5.

The Chair recognized the hard work that staff has undertaken with respect to this challenging issue.

**(ii) City of Hamilton Domiciliary Hostel Review (CS10036(c)) (City Wide)  
(Item 8.2 - Moved from Discussion to Presentation)**

1. **Calvin Cain, representing the Ontario Homes for Special Needs Association and the Residential Care Facility Operators in the Hamilton region wishing to speak to Item 8.2 respecting the Domiciliary Hostel Review. (Item 4.2)**

Calvin Cain and John Iovio, representing the Ontario Homes for Special Needs Association and the Residential Care Facility Operators in the Hamilton region addressed Committee with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation regarding following topics:



- Introduction
- DOM Hostels Program
- SHS Report Objectives
- Comparison Funding
- Request for Per Diem Funding
- Closing

Mr. Cain and Mr. Iovio responded to questions from Committee.

**(Farr/Partridge)**

That the delegation from Calvin Cain, and John Iovio on behalf of the Ontario Homes for Special Needs Association and the Residential Care Facility Operators in the Hamilton region, respecting the Domiciliary Hostel Review be received.

**CARRIED**

**2. Staff Presentation**

Steve Rolfe, Director of Policy and Planning at Homestead Christian Care and Co-Chair of the Domiciliary Hostel Program Review Implementation Committee and Brian Kreps, Program Manager of Emergency Shelters and Domiciliary Hostels addressed Committee with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation and copies of the hand-out were distributed.

They covered the following topics:

- Where we were
- Mission Statement
- Where we are now
- Where we are going
- Questions

**(Jackson/Farr)**

That the staff presentation respecting the Domiciliary Hostel Review be received.

**CARRIED**

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 6.

**(g) DISCUSSION**

**(i) Affordable Transit Pass Pilot Program Extension (CS13050) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

**1. Peter Hutton, Hamilton Poverty Roundtable Advisory Panel on Transportation, to address Item 8.1 respecting the Affordable Transit Pass Program. (Item 4.1)**

Peter Hutton from the Hamilton Poverty Roundtable Advisory Panel on Transportation addressed Committee.

His comments included but were not limited to:

- Is disappointed the Report refers to a pilot project rather than a permanent program;
- It is a “six year pilot program”;
- There’s only one central location to purchase affordable pass;
- An affordable transit fare rather than an affordable monthly pass would be more economically feasible for those workers who work part-time;
- Affordable transit has become a problem throughout the Province;
- Some Regional and Municipal governments within the Province are looking to address the issue.

Peter Hutton responded to questions from Committee.

**(Farr/Jackson)**

That the delegation from Peter Hutton from the Hamilton Poverty Roundtable Advisory Panel on Transportation respecting the Affordable Transit Pass Program, be received.

**CARRIED**

**2. Elizabeth Cardno, to address Item 8.1 respecting affordable Transit Pass Pilot Program Extension. (Item 4.3)**

Elizabeth Cardno addressed Committee and spoke to Committee regarding her experience as an applicant for Ontario Works (OW). It took her over a year to qualify for the affordable transit pass and it was only after meeting with an employment counsellor and convincing her that she needed it was she able to qualify.

She could have started working sooner rather than later if she had had the pass. Finding work is compromised for those who do not qualify.

She recommends strongly that an appeal process be established for people who are denied discretionary benefits. Right now the only option is to go to the social tribunal. For example, she was surprised when she was accepted to move into Hamilton Housing she did not receive any financial aid for the move despite her medical reasons for needing it. Establishing an appeal process should be a priority.

**(Merulla/Farr)**

That the delegation from Elizabeth Cardno respecting the Affordable Transit Pass Program, be received.

**CARRIED**

Staff responded to questions.

**(Merulla/Farr)**

That staff report back in October 2014 with an update and recommendation(s) for the Affordable Transit Program.

**CARRIED**

For disposition of this item refer to Item 7.

**(ii) Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program (CS13009(b)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 8.3)**

**1. Elizabeth McGuire, Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, to address Item 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program (Item 4.4)**

Elizabeth McGuire from the Campaign of Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits addressed Committee and read from a prepared statement, a copy of which was included in the Clerk's official record and has been uploaded on the City's website.

She emphasized the following two points:

- The hydro benefit should not be called a "benefit" as it is an indentured servitude to Hydro;
- The delivery model being used today is the same one that was established by Mike Harris with heavy surveillance on the recipients which is very costly and the City should bring this issue forward to Toronto on Hamilton Day;

**(Merulla/Farr)**

That the delegation from Elizabeth McGuire from the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, regarding the Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program, be received.

**CARRIED**

2. **Trish Balardo, SAM Program representing Adult Day Programs respecting 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program (Item 4.5)**

Trish Balardo from the SAM Program representing Adult Day Programs addressed Committee and read from a prepared statement, a copy of which was included in the Clerk's official record and has been uploaded onto the City's website. She also provided copies of the Guide to Hamilton's Adult Day Services which were distributed and are included in the public record.

She responded to questions from Committee indicating that although she would prefer that there were no cut backs on the discretionary benefits, she realizes that due to budget constraints the two day a week cap on the Adult Day Care Program is necessary in order to preserve the program on a long term basis. She acknowledged that there will be a domino effect on some adults who use the program.

**(Jackson/Merulla)**

That the delegation from Trish Balardo from the SAM Program representing Adult Day Programs, regarding the Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program, be received.

**CARRIED**

3. **Margie Goold, respecting Item 8.3 regarding Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program (Item 4.6)**

Margie Goold addressed Committee indicating that she is representing herself and other people on ODSP and OW. She asked that Council please continue the benefits as they help address homelessness, assist people in paying utility bills, moving expenses and the cost of eliminating bed bugs. As 50% of recipients live below the poverty line, they cannot afford these

expenses. The fact that so many depend on food banks is proof that the funds are not sufficient.

**(Partridge/Merulla)**

That the delegation from Margie Goold regarding the Update on Efforts to Mitigate Funding Pressure to Discretionary Benefits delivered by the Special Supports Program be received.

**CARRIED**

**(Partridge/Merulla)**

That the staff recommendations be amended by adding the following subsections and re-lettering the subsequent sub-section accordingly:

- (d) That the Adult Day Care User fee subsidy be referred to the 2014 Budget Process for an enhancement;
- (e) That interim funding for the Adult Day Care User fee subsidy be provided at the 2013 level through Community and Emergency Services Department surplus until budget approval.

**Amendment CARRIED**

**Main Motion as amended CARRIED**

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 8.

**(iii) Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women (CS13051) (City Wide) (Item 8.4)**

**1. Renee Wetselaar, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton respecting Item 8.4 Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women (Item 4.1)**

Renee Wetselaar confirmed that she is appearing on behalf of the Women's Housing Planning Collaborative. She provided copies of a hand-out which were distributed and a copy has been retained in the Clerk's file for the public record.

Women experience homelessness differently from men. She spoke in support of the staff report and she responded to questions from Committee.

**(Farr/Partridge)**

That the delegation from Renee Wetselaar on behalf of the Women's Housing Planning Collaborative respecting the report

regarding Pressure at Emergency Shelters Serving Single Homeless Women be received.

**CARRIED**

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 9.

**(h) GENERAL INFORMATION (Item 11)**

Chair Whitehead relinquished the Chair to Vice-Chair Farr to present the following petition which has 47 signatures:

**(Whitehead/Partridge)**

- (i) Petition from residents of the St. Thomas More Precinct respecting concerns with the negative effects on the neighbouring residents when the sports field at St Thomas More High School is rented out to outside groups**

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the appropriate staff for report back to Committee

**CARRIED**

Chair Whitehead assumed the Chair.

**(ii) Outstanding Business List**

**(Merulla/Partridge)**

That the due dates of the following outstanding business list items be amended as indicated:

**(a) Proposed New Due Date:**

- (i) Item "B" - Follow-up report re: HHS ABC Program pre and post conditions after one year.  
Due date: November 25, 2013  
Proposed New Due Date: December 9, 2013**
- (ii) Item "I" - Staff to report back on the financial implications of the Hamilton Municipal Senior of the Year Awards ceremony.  
Due date: November 25, 2013  
Proposed New Due Date: January 20, 2014**
- (iii) Item "N" - Letter from the Hamilton Jewish Social Services requesting change to City's funding of EPC – staff to report back.  
Due date: November 25, 2013  
Proposed New Due Date: December 9, 2013**

(b) Completed Items to be removed from the Outstanding Business Items List:

(i) Item "E" - Recreation Access Policy (Needs Assessment)  
(See Item 5.2 on this agenda)

Item "J" - Staff to update Committee regarding measures taken to contain discretionary benefit costs in 2013 and recommendations for the 2014 budget.

Item "K" - Funding Status of the Housing Stability Benefits.

**CARRIED**

**(i) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**(i) Private and Confidential Minutes of the October 22, 2013 meeting (Item 12.1)**

**(Merulla/Farr)**

(a) That the Private and Confidential Minutes of the October 22, 2013 meeting be approved as presented;

(b) That the Private and Confidential Minutes of the October 22, 2013 meeting remain private and confidential and restricted from public disclosure.

**CARRIED**

**(ii) Achieving Operational and Administrative Efficiencies within the Hamilton Fire Department (Verbal – no copy) (Added 12.3)**

**(Merulla/Farr)**

That Committee move into Closed Session at 4:55 p.m. to receive verbal information respecting Achieving Operational and Administrative Efficiencies within the Hamilton Fire Department pursuant to Section 8.1(b) of the Procedural By-law and Section 239 of the Municipal Act to deal with personal matters about identifiable individuals, including City employees.

**CARRIED**

Committee reconvened in Open Session at 5:14 p.m. Committee had received a verbal update in Closed Session with nothing to report in Open Session.

**(j) ADJOURNMENT**

**(Merulla/Jackson)**

There being no further business, that the Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor T. Whitehead, Chair  
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Ida Bedioui  
Legislative Co-ordinator  
Office of the City Clerk