



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

1:30 p.m.  
Monday, May 13, 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 S. Duvall, B. McHattie, S. Merulla, and J. Partridge

**Also Present:** Councillor C. Collins

**Absent with  
Regrets:** Councillor T. Jackson, vacation  
Councillor B. Morelli

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

- 1. Investigation of Lands Suitable for the Development of Recreation Facilities and Seniors Centres (CS10060(a)) (Wards 3,6,7,8,9,11 and 15) (Item 5.2)**

**(Merulla/Farr)**

That Report CS10060(a) respecting Investigation of Lands Suitable for the Development of Recreation Facilities and Seniors Centres be received.

**CARRIED**

- 2. Hamilton Farmers' Market Sub-Committee Report 13-001 (Item 8.1)**

**(Merulla/Partridge)**

**(a) Hamilton Farmers' Market By-law Amendments (Ward 2) (CS13026)**

- (i)** That the Sections 6(5), 6(5a), and 6(5b) of the Market By-law No. 10-209, be amended to permit the Market Supervisor to allocate up to 20 stalls at any given time;

- (1) having a frontage of more than 24-feet and no more than 30-feet, where the Market Supervisor determines there are sound business or logistical reasons which make it necessary for a stallholder to occupy a stall of more than 24-feet; and/or,
  - (2) having a frontage of more than 30-feet, where the Market Supervisor determines that the best use of the frontage in excess of 30-feet is to allocate it to the adjoining stallholder and it is not feasible or desirable to allocate the space for a different purpose;
- (ii) That the definition of “Director of Culture” in the Market By-law No. 10-209, be deleted;
  - (iii) That a definition for “Director” be added to the Market By-law No. 10-209, to mean the Director to whom the Market Supervisor shall report, as designated by the General Manager, Community Services;
  - (iv) That all references to the “Director of Culture” in the Market By-law No. 10-209, be substituted with “Director”;
  - (v) That all references to the “Culture Division” in the Market By-law No. 10-209, be deleted;
  - (vi) That the amending By-law, prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, be introduced and enacted by Council to reflect the resolutions in Subsections (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), and (v).

**CARRIED**

**3. Hamilton Municipal Senior of the Year Awards Ceremony (CS13023) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

**(Merulla/Duvall)**

- (a) That the Hamilton Municipal Senior of the Year Awards ceremony be broadened to a large scale event to recognize seniors across all sectors of the community;
- (b) That the 2013 Hamilton Municipal Senior of the Year Awards ceremony be postponed until June 2014 to provide adequate time for staff and senior community representatives to plan and organize a more prestigious ceremony.
- (c) That staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee with the results of the Request for Proposal and a

recommendation for a not for profit provider to operate the identified facility.

**CARRIED**

**4. YWCA Transitional Living Program and YWCA Senior Centre Operating Agreement (CS13024) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)**

**(Merulla/Partridge)**

- (a) That the General Manager of the Community Services Department be authorized and directed to provide \$250,000 in one-time funding to the YWCA Transitional Living Program from the approved Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative budget;
- (b) That the General Manager of the Community Services Department be authorized and directed to provide one-time funding in the amount of \$55,000 to the YWCA for the operation of two seniors centres in Hamilton, from City of Hamilton's unallocated Capital Reserve # 108020.

**CARRIED**

**5. 2013 Pressures Related to Discretionary Benefits (CS13009(a)) (City Wide) (Item 8.4)**

**(Merulla/McHattie)**

- (a) That one-time municipal funding in the amount of up to \$258,138 be provided from the Community Services departmental surplus, Social Services Initiative reserve, or any combination thereof to maintain the current levels for Discretionary Benefits for the period of July 1 to December 31, 2013;
- (b) That the General Manager of Community Services, or designate, continue to be authorized to implement spending caps, benefit frequency limits or other controls necessary to ensure costs are contained within the approved budget amounts.

**CARRIED**

**6. Extension of Housing Stability Benefit to December 31, 2013 (CS13027) (City Wide) (Item 8.5)**

**(Merulla/Duvall)**

That the provision of the Housing Stability Benefits continue to December 31, 2013, to be funded from the one-time Provincial Transition Grant (\$3,190,278) and the 2013 Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative approved budget (\$3,875,000).

**CARRIED**

**7. Proposal for Partnership with Not for Profit Agency to Operate Recreation Facility (Item 9.3)**

**(Whitehead/Merulla)**

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton's Strategic Priority # 2 is to deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations in a cost effective and responsible manner;

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton remains cost conscious and will ensure value for taxpayer dollars spent;

WHEREAS a partnership to operate a recreation facility owned by the City of Hamilton will realize savings to the operating budget:

Therefore be it resolved:

- (a) That staff be directed to initiate a process to identify a recreation centre in south Hamilton suitable to be operated by a not for profit agency;
- (b) That upon confirmation of a recreation centre in south Hamilton, that staff initiate a Request for Proposal to identify the terms and conditions necessary to enter into a partnership with the goal of operational savings and enhanced program delivery.

**CARRIED**

**8. Funding for the Stoney Creek Cricket Academy (New Item)**

**(Merulla/Partridge)**

- (a) That the City of Hamilton provide a one-time capital grant of \$2,000 to the Stoney Creek Cricket Academy to assist with the cost of replacing their damaged scoreboard, cricket mat and riding mower;
- (b) That Finance staff be directed to identify the appropriate funding source prior to the May 22, 2013 Council meeting.

**CARRIED**

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:**

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

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

- (i) Added Item 4.3, a delegation request from Greg Tedesco, respecting research for the reinstatement of Provincial funding for Discretionary Health Benefits for Ontario Works recipients. (See Item 8.4)
- (ii) Added Item 4.4, a delegation request from Peter Hutton, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction respecting funding for Discretionary Health Benefits. (See Item 8.4)
- (iii) Added Item 4.5, a delegation request from Laura Cattari of the Hamilton Poverty Roundtable for Reduction wishing to speak to the Housing Stability Benefit which is Item 8.5 on the agenda.
- (iv) Added Notice of Motion Item 10.1 respecting Ensuring Access to Services for Immigrants without Full Status

**(Merulla/Farr)**

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)**

**(Duvall/Merulla)**

That the Minutes of the March 25, 2013 meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

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

**(Merulla/McHattie)**

(i) That the following delegation requests be approved:

- (1) Tammy Francoeur, Turning Point Detox, wishing to initiate a "Recovery Day" in the City of Hamilton on September 8, 2013. (Item 4.1)
- (2) Evelyn Myrie and Milé Komlen, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion respecting the Centre's progress report. (Item 4.2)

**CARRIED**

**(Duvall/McHattie)**

(ii) The following delegation requests be approved and the Rules of Order waived in order to hear the delegations at today's meeting:

- (1) Greg Tedesco, respecting research for the reinstatement of Provincial funding for Discretionary Health Benefits for Ontario Works recipients. (Added Item 4.3)
- (2) Peter Hutton, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction respecting funding for Discretionary Health Benefits (Added Item 4.4))
- (3) Laura Cattari, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, to provide an update respecting the Roundtable's activity regarding the Housing Stability Benefit. (Added Item 4.5)

**CARRIED**

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

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

**(Merulla/Farr)**

That the following Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes be received:

- (i) Hamilton Veterans Committee meeting, February 12, 2013
- (ii) Hamilton Veterans Committee meeting, March 12, 2013
- (iii) Seniors Advisory Committee meeting of March 1, 2013

**CARRIED**

**(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS DELEGATIONS**

**(i) Greg Tedesco, respecting research for the reinstatement of Provincial funding for Discretionary Health Benefits for Ontario Works recipients. (Added Item 4.3)**

Greg Tedesco addressed Committee and provided a hand-out which was distributed. A copy has been uploaded onto the City's website and has been retained for the Clerk's record. He indicated that he is a second year social work student at McMaster University. He outlined his findings on a project he undertook at university in partnership with the Poverty Roundtable to assess the impact and importance of the Discretionary Benefits.

His comments included but were not limited to the following:

- Who is impacted?
- Why are the Discretionary Benefits important?
- What is the long term impact if the funding is not brought back to previous levels?
- The research showed that cutting the Discretionary Benefits affected community health, wellness and social inclusion.

**(Merulla/McHattie)**

That the delegation from Greg Tedesco be received.

**CARRIED**

**(ii) Peter Hutton, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction respecting funding for Discretionary Health Benefits (Added Item 4.4)**

Peter Hutton was unable to attend and Tom Cooper, Director of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, addressed Committee on his behalf.

Tom Cooper's comments included but were not limited to the following:

- It is the position of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction that the Discretionary Benefits should be funded by the Province;
- The Roundtable for Poverty Reduction is in negotiations with McMaster University to do more research and advise further;
- There has been a good analysis done to date;
- The goal is to determine an evidence based social service rate;
- These health benefits save money in the long run as they are an investment in the community's future;
- Although the benefits are labelled discretionary, they are truly essential to the health of the community;
- The roundtable will continue to strongly advocate to the Province for the benefits.

Tom Cooper responded to questions from Committee.

**(Partridge/McHattie)**

That the delegation from Tom Cooper be received.

**CARRIED**

Committee also approved Item 8.4.

**(iii) Laura Cattari, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, to provide an update respecting the Roundtable's activity regarding the Housing Stability Benefit. (Added Item 4.5)**

Laura Cattari addressed Committee.

Her comments included but were not limited to the following:

- As an update from her last delegation to Committee, she advised that the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction has been in contact with various Provincial Ministers respecting the housing benefits;

- They will begin talks with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to discuss the need for increasing the funding which has been decimated;
- The Roundtable hopes to have the Ministry recognize that there is a burden on the City and that the Province should provide the funding.

**(Duvall/Merulla)**

That the delegation from Laura Cattari be received.

**CARRIED**

Committee also approved Item 8.5.

**(g) DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- (i) Hamilton Municipal Senior of the Year Awards Ceremony (CS13023)  
(City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

**(Merulla/Duvall)**

That staff be directed to report back on the financial implications of the Hamilton Municipal Senior of the Year Awards ceremony by October 2013.

**CARRIED**

- (ii) 2013 Pressures Related to Discretionary Benefits (CS13009(a)) (City  
Wide) (Item 8.4)**

**(Merulla/McHattie)**

That staff be directed to report to the Emergency & Community Services Committee on October 8, 2013, with an update regarding measures taken to contain discretionary benefit costs in 2013 and recommendations for the 2014 budget.

**CARRIED**

- (iii) Extension of Housing Stability Benefit to December 31, 2013  
(CS13027) (City Wide) (Item 8.5)**

**(Merulla/Duvall)**

That staff provide an update to the Emergency and Community Services Committee in September 2013 regarding the on-going status of the funding of the Housing Stability Benefits.

**CARRIED**



**(iv) Proposal for Partnership with Not for Profit Agency to Operate Recreation Facility (Item 9.3)**

**(Whitehead/Merulla)**

That staff report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee with the results of the Request for Proposal and a recommendation for a not for profit provider to operate the identified facility.

**CARRIED**

**(h) MOTIONS (Item 9)**

**(i) Coronation Minor Hockey Association Ice Allocation for 2013/2014 (Item 9.2)**

Councillor McHattie withdrew his motion respecting the Coronation Minor Hockey Association Ice Allocation for 2013/2014.

**(ii) Hamilton Farmers' Market Sign (Item 9.2)**

On a motion, Committee approved the following:

- (a) That staff be directed to report back with the results of their efforts in locating the previous Hamilton Farmers' Market sign and the feasibility of reusing it at the renovated Market site;
- (b) That staff provide the update outlined in subsection (a) at the next Emergency and Community Services Committee meeting scheduled on June 10, 2013.

**(iii) Proposal for Partnership with Not for Profit Agency to Operate Recreation Facility (Item 9.3)**

Chair Whitehead relinquished the Chair to Councillor Partridge in order to move this Item.

**(i) NOTICES OF MOTION (Item 9)**

Councillor McHattie presented the following Notice of Motion:

**(i) Ensuring Access to Services for Immigrants without Full Status  
(Added Item 10.1)**

Whereas, the City of Toronto passed a resolution on February 21 2013, re-affirming its commitment to ensuring access to services without fear to immigrants without full status or without full status documents, with direction to staff to review opportunities and strategies on how the City can assist;

Whereas, the Public Health Department has been active with others in Hamilton ensuring service is provided to undocumented individuals;

Whereas, several Hamilton agencies have also been active in assisting undocumented workers and are interested in working with the City of Hamilton in developing policy on this issue, with a workshop being planned by the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic / Clinique juridique communautaire de Hamilton;

Therefore, that the Community and Emergency Services Department engage with the Public Health Department and local agencies to investigate how undocumented individuals are treated in Hamilton, and report to the Emergency & Community Services Committee.

Councillor Merulla presented the following Notice of Motion:

**(ii) One time Funding for the Stoney Creek Cricket Academy (New Item)**

- (a) That the City of Hamilton provide a one-time capital grant of \$2,000 to the Stoney Creek Cricket Academy to assist with the cost of replacing their damaged scoreboard, cricket mat and riding mower;
- (b) That Finance staff be directed to identify the appropriate funding source prior to the May 22, 2013 Council meeting.

**(Merulla/McHattie)**

That the Rules of Order be waived to permit the introduction of a motion respecting One Time Funding for the Stoney Creek Cricket Academy.

**CARRIED**

For disposition of this matter, see Item 8 of this Report.

**(j) GENERAL INFORMATION (Item 11)**

**Outstanding Business List**

**(Merulla/Partridge)**

That the following Items be identified as completed and removed from the Outstanding Business List:

- (i) Item "A" – Investigation of Lands Suitable for the Development of Recreation Facilities and Seniors Centres  
(See Item 5.2 on this agenda.)
- (ii) Item "J" – That staff report back re: providing one-time funding to the YWCA Transitional Housing Program in 2013 of up to \$250,000 from the 2013 Community Services departmental surplus, the 2013 Corporate surplus and/or the Tax Stabilization Reserve subject to staff approval of a business case to support the funding. (See Item 8.3 on this agenda.)

**CARRIED**

**(k) ADJOURNMENT**

**(Partridge/Duvall)**

There being no further business, that the Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting be adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor T. Whitehead, Chair  
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Ida Bedioui  
Legislative Co-ordinator  
Office of the City Clerk