



## GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

MINUTES 13-010

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 1, 2013

Council Chambers

Hamilton City Hall

71 Main Street West

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

**Absent with Regrets:** Councillor R. Powers – City Business (AMO)  
 Councillor L. Ferguson – Vacation

### THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program (HTIGP) – 407 Wilson Street, Ancaster – HTIGP 13/06 (PED13077) (Ward 12) (Item 5.2)

**(Pearson/Bratina)**

- (a) That the Hamilton Tax Increment Grant Program (HTIGP) application submitted by Glendale Services (Ancaster) Ltd. (Douglas Kloet and Peter Boeringa), owner of the property at 407 Wilson Street East, Ancaster, for a HTIGP grant estimated at \$27,817.45 over a maximum of a five (5) year period and based upon the incremental tax increase attributable to the redevelopment of 407 Wilson Street East, Ancaster, be authorized and approved in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Program;
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Grant Agreement, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED13077, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

**CARRIED**

2. **Conveyance of Temporary Easement to Bell Mobility Inc. – Part of 115 Cole Street, Waterdown (PED13078) (Ward 15) (Item 5.3)**

**(Pearson/Bratina)**

- (a) That the Real Estate Section of the Economic Development Division of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized and directed to convey a temporary easement in accordance with Procedural By-law 04-299, over Block 169, Plan 62M-1125, Town of Flamborough, identified as PIN 17511-0343, (Waterdown Water Tower) described as Parts 2, 3 and 4 on Survey Plan W3693, prepared by J. D. Barnes Limited dated July 12, 2012, covering an area of approximately 272.3 square metres (2,931 square feet) as shown on Appendix "A" attached to Report PED13078;
- (b) That the Real Estate Section of the Economic Development Division of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized and directed to convey the temporary easement described in Recommendation (a) of Report PED13078 to Bell Mobility Inc. for the nominal consideration of \$2, exclusive of HST;
- (c) That any applicable HST be collected by the City and credited to Account No. 22828 009000 (HST Payable);
- (d) That the sale proceeds be credited to the Waterdown Reserve Fund Account 108032;
- (e) That the term of the proposed easement run concurrently with the term of the License Agreement between the City and Bell Mobility Inc. approved by Council on March 28, 2012 (Report PED12024), for use of the Waterdown Water Tower as a cell tower location;
- (f) That the Mayor, General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services, and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the Offer to Purchase (Temporary Easement) Agreement in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

**CARRIED**

3. **Consent to Register Trademark (LS13013) (City Wide) (Item 5.4)**

**(Pearson/Bratina)**

- (a) That the City of Hamilton consent to 0920380 B.C. Ltd. registering their trademarks "LIFE MAID EASY" and "LIFE MAID EASY HOME CLEANING SERVICES" for house cleaning services in the Province of British Columbia with the Trademarks Office;
- (b) That the City Solicitor be authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, all necessary documents to implement subsection (a), in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

**CARRIED**

**4. Metrolinx – Regional Funding Tools (FCS13002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

**(Collins/Merulla)**

- (a) That the Provincial and Federal Governments continue to fund 100% of the cost of the Big Move Metrolinx projects in the manner that the first wave of projects valued at \$16 billion were funded;
- (b) That Report FCS13002 respecting Metrolinx – Regional Funding Tools, be forwarded to Metrolinx, the Premier and the Minister of Finance for consideration in their Big Move Investment Strategy.

**CARRIED as amended**

**5. Comments respecting Metrolinx Regional Funding Tools (New Business)**

**(Clark/Pearson)**

That staff be directed to prepare comments for submission to Metrolinx and the Minister of Finance on the specific regional funding tool proposals to clearly convey the City's concerns, including debt allocation. **CARRIED**

**6. Feasibility Study and Business Case for the Development of a Tourism Gateway Centre and Declaration of Surplus Property and Sale of Land – 1400 Baseline Road, Stoney Creek (PED12228) (Ward 11) (Item 8.1)**

**(Johnson/Pearson)**

That Report PED12228 respecting Feasibility Study and Business Case for the Development of a Tourism Gateway Centre and Declaration of Surplus Property and Sale of Land – 1400 Baseline Road, Stoney Creek, be received. **CARRIED**

**7. 2013 Tax Policies and Area Rating (FCS13023) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

**(Pasuta/Duvall)**

- (a) That the following optional property classes be continued for the 2013 taxation year:

- New Multi-Residential
- Parking Lot and Vacant Land
- Large Industrial

- (b) That, based on the 2013 final approved tax operating budget, the following final tax ratios be established for the 2013 taxation year:

- |                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| • Residential           | 1.0000 |
| • Multi-Residential     | 2.7400 |
| • New Multi-Residential | 1.0000 |

• Commercial (residual)	1.9800
• Parking Lot & Vacant Land	1.9800
• Industrial (residual)	3.2078
• Large Industrial	3.7615
• Pipeline	1.7367
• Farm	0.1927
• Managed Forest	0.2500

(c) That the following tax reductions be established for the 2013 taxation year:

• Excess land subclass (residual commercial)	30%
• Excess land subclass (residual industrial)	30%
• Vacant land subclass (residual industrial)	30%
• Excess land subclass (large industrial)	30%
• Farmland awaiting development (1 <sup>st</sup> subclass)	25%
• Farmland awaiting development (2 <sup>nd</sup> subclass)	0%

(d) That the existing property tax relief deferral program for low-income seniors and disabled persons be continued for the 2013 taxation year;

(e) That the existing 40% tax rebate for eligible charities and similar organizations be continued for the 2013 taxation year;

(f) That the existing 30% vacancy rebate for eligible commercial and industrial properties be continued for the 2013 taxation year;

(g) That the existing 100% tax rebate for Veteran's Clubhouses and Legion Halls be continued for the 2013 taxation year;

(h) That the existing Seniors' (65+) Tax Rebate Program be continued, with the following criteria updated for the 2013 taxation year:

(i) **Income threshold (150% of GIS couple)** increased to \$32,832 (\$32,472 in 2012);

(ii) **Assessment cap (120% of city-wide average)** increased to \$344,200 (\$333,600 in 2012);

(iii) **Rebate** increased by the CPI index to \$172 (\$170 in 2012);

(i) That, for the 2013 taxation year, the tax capping percentage for any assessment-related tax increases in the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes be set at the maximum allowable of 10%;

- (j) That, for the 2013 taxation year, any capped property in the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property classes that is within \$250 of its Current Value Assessment (CVA) taxes in 2013, be moved directly to its full Current Value Assessment (CVA) taxes;
- (k) That, for the 2013 taxation year, the minimum percentage of Current Value Assessment (CVA) taxes for properties eligible for the new construction/new to class treatment be set at 100% of Current Value Assessment (CVA) taxes;
- (l) That for the 2013 taxation year, any property in the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential property class which paid full Current Value Assessment (CVA) taxes in 2012, no longer be eligible for capping protection in 2013 and future years;
- (m) That, for the 2013 taxation year, all properties eligible for a tax reduction under the existing capping program receive the full decrease, funded from the approved capping program operating budget;
- (n) That, for the 2013 taxation year, the Area Rated Levies be approved as identified in Appendix A to report FCS13023 "2013 Tax Policies & Area Rating" attached hereto;
- (o) That the City Solicitor & Corporate Counsel be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax policies and tax rates for the 2013 taxation year.

**CARRIED**

**8. Report 13-003 of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities – April 9, 2013 (Item 8.3)**

**Transportation Sub-committee - Report March 26, 2013**

**(Morelli/Collins)**

That staff be requested to provide a status update on the deficiencies of the McNab Street Terminal and to provide potential remedies to these deficiencies along with projected timeline to the General Issues Committee (February 2011 list of deficiencies attached to ACPD Report 13-003).

**CARRIED**

9. **Resolution Urging the Federal Government to Establish a National Department of Peace (Item 9.1)**

**(McHattie/Farr)**

WHEREAS during the course of the 20th century, more than 100,000,000 people perished in wars, and continuing into the 21st century, violence seems to be an overarching theme in the world;

AND WHEREAS such conflict is often unquestionably seen as a reflection of the human condition;

AND WHEREAS the citizens of Hamilton have been, and are, adversely affected by war and violence, whether through the personal loss of loved ones, or through the diversion of public resources that could be used to promote and support healthier and more secure lives;

AND WHEREAS the City of Hamilton has declared itself a nuclear weapons-free zone;

AND WHEREAS the City of Hamilton is a member of the international organization Mayors for Peace;

AND WHEREAS the proposed Federal Department of Peace will benefit the City of Hamilton by working to support existing programs and developing new programs to address and reduce the number and frequency of incidents related to domestic violence, child and spousal abuse, school violence, gang violence, gun violence, and hate crimes;

AND WHEREAS promoting a culture of peace has been recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through passage of a resolution declaring an International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children 2001- 2010;

AND WHEREAS it is our collective responsibility to create institutions that foster the development of a culture of peace in our neighbourhoods, city and nation;

AND WHEREAS communities across North America have recently experienced tragic incidents of extreme violence.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton hereby re-affirms its support for legislation to establish a Federal Department of Peace, and urges our members of Parliament to support such legislation;
- (b) That this Department of Peace work collaboratively with the Department of National Defense to reduce violence domestically and promote peace internationally;

- (c) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Municipalities of Ontario and local Members of Parliament. **CARRIED**

**10. Hamilton Waterfront Trust 2013 Capital Funding (Item 9.2)**

**(Jackson/Farr)**

That the \$1 million in unallocated West Harbour and Waterfront Initiatives Capital Funding contained within the Council-approved 2013 Tax-Supported Capital Budget (FCS12096) be allocated to the Hamilton Waterfront Trust, subject to the following:

- (a) That the funding be used for the projects contained in Appendix "A" attached to Item 9.2;
- (b) That the Hamilton Waterfront Trust provide the City with a detailed transaction listing related to all claims. **CARRIED**

**11. Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Reserve Funded Projects (Item 9.3)**

**(Farr/Duvall)**

- (a) That \$150,000 from Reserve #108058 – Ward 8 Area Rating Special Capital Reinvestment Reserve – be utilized to partially fund the purchase of 220 Cranbrook Drive/20 Gemini Drive (St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Elementary School) and be transferred to Reserve #104090 – Parkland Dedication Fee to facilitate such purchase;
- (b) That \$115,000 from Reserve #108058 – Ward 8 Area Rating Special Capital Reinvestment Reserve – be utilized to fund design work required for the installation of a splash pad at Buchanan Park;
- (c) That \$200,000 from Reserve #108058 – Ward 8 Area Rating Special Capital Reinvestment Reserve – be utilized to fund sidewalk replacement in various locations throughout Ward 8;
- (d) That the operating impacts relating to Buchanan Splash Pad referenced in sub-section (b), amounting to \$6,000 annually when fully implemented, be approved and incorporated into future Tax-Supported Operating Budgets;
- (e) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized to prepare, advertise and award tenders as required for the above-noted works.

**CARRIED as amended**

**12. Provincial Funding Cuts – Children’s Aid Society and Catholic Children’s Aid Society (New Business)**

**(Clark/Pearson)**

That the City correspond with the Province expressing concern about the impact of funding cuts to the Children’s Aid Society (CAS) and Catholic Children’s Aid Society (CCAS) on the children and citizens of Hamilton. **CARRIED**

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:**

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

The Clerk advised of the following changes:

**ADDED NOTICE OF MOTION**

- (i) Resolution respecting “Request for Balance of Start-up Grant for Locke Street Farmers’ Market” (Added Item 10.2)

**ADDED PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

- (ii) Personal Matter about Identifiable Individuals (No Copy) (Added Item 12.4)

**(Pearson/McHattie)**

That the agenda, be approved as amended. **CARRIED**

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

**Item 4.1/6.3 Presentation by Mrs. Louise Rogers respecting Federal Military Spending Effects on Municipalities**

Councillor B. Johnson declared an interest in this item as she has a family member enlisted in the military.

Councillor R. Pasuta declared an interest in this item as he has a family member enlisted in the military.

**(c) APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (Item 3.1)**

**(Partridge/Jackson)**

That the minutes of the General Issues Committee Meeting held on April 17, 2013, be approved as presented. **CARRIED**



**(d) DELEGATION REQUEST**

**(Farr/McHattie)**

- (i) That the delegation request from Mrs. Louise Rogers respecting Federal Military Spending Effects on Municipalities be approved, and that the rules of order be suspended in order to allow Mrs. Rogers to address the Committee at today's meeting. **CARRIED**

**(e) CONSENT AGENDA**

**(i) Minutes of Various Sub-Committees**

**(Pearson/Bratina)**

That the March 12, 2013 Minutes of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities be received. **CARRIED**

**(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS**

**(i) Ms. Maria Ahmed, McMaster University, respecting On-Campus Polling Stations at McMaster University and Mohawk College (Item 6.1)**

Maria Ahmed and Ibrahim Kareemi, Political Science students at McMaster, appeared before the Committee to request re-instatement of on-campus polling stations at McMaster University and Mohawk College.

A written submission of their comments was submitted to the Clerk for the public record, together with Letters of Support from Andrea Horwath, M.P.P., Hamilton Centre, the McMaster Students' Union, the Graduate Students' Association, the Council of Canadians, Hamilton Chapter, and the Hamilton Civic League.

**(Pearson/Johnson)**

That the presentation from Maria Ahmed and Ibrahim Kareemi, McMaster University, respecting On-Campus Polling Stations at McMaster University and Mohawk College, be received. **CARRIED**

**(ii) Mrs. Louise Rogers respecting Federal Military Spending Effects on Municipalities (Item 4.1/6.3)**

Louise Rogers appeared before the Committee to express concerns with respect to the federal military spending effects on municipalities and requested the Committee to consider forwarding correspondence to the Prime Minister and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario with the request that military expenditures be reduced in order to help meet critical needs in many municipalities.

A written submission of Mrs. Rogers' comments was submitted to the Clerk for the public record.

**(Pearson/Farr)**

That the presentation from Louise Rogers respecting Federal Military Spending Effects on Municipalities, be received. **CARRIED**

**(iii) Christopher Cutler, on behalf of The Canadian Peace Initiative – Hamilton Chapter, respecting the Concept of a Canadian Department of Peace (Item 6.2)**

Mr. Christopher Cutler, on behalf of The Canadian Peace Initiative – Hamilton Chapter, appeared before the Committee to request Council's support for the concept of the Department of Peace. In his comments, Mr. Cutler recognized the efforts of countless community citizens toward the cause of peace.

A written copy of Mr. Cutler's comments was submitted to the Clerk for the public record.

**(Farr/Morelli)**

That the presentation from Christopher Cutler, on behalf of The Canadian Peace Initiative – Hamilton Chapter, respecting the Concept of a Canadian Department of Peace, be received. **CARRIED**

**(g) PRESENTATIONS**

**(i) Metrolinx – Regional Funding Tools (FCS13002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

Mike Zegarac, Acting General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting "Metrolinx – Regional Funding Tools", and spoke to the following:

- Objectives
- Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- Cost of Regional Transportation Plan
- Current Projects
- Next Wave – Proposed Next Wave of Projects
- New Funding Required for Next Wave of Projects
- The RTP Investment Strategy
- Metrolinx – 25 Potential Revenue Tools
- Four Key Principles in Determining Shorter List
- Potential Short List – 7 Big Investment Tools
- Potential Short List – 4 Smaller Investment Tools
- Employer Payroll Tax/Fuel Tax/Highway Tolls

- Parking Space Levy
- Property/Sales Tax
- Vehicle Kilometres Travelled Fee
- Development Charges
- High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes
- Land Value Capture
- Transit Fare Increase
- Other Transportation
- Staff Recommendations

**(Duvall/Jackson)**

That the presentation respecting Metrolinx – Regional Funding Tools, be received. **CARRIED**

**(Collins/Merulla)**

That the recommendations contained in Report FCS13002 be amended as follows:

- (i) By deleting sub-section (a) in its entirety and replacing it with the following in lieu thereof:

“(a) That the Provincial and Federal Governments continue to fund 100% of the cost of the Big Move Metrolinx projects in the manner that the first wave of projects valued at \$16 billion were funded.”
- (ii) By deleting sub-sections (b), (c) and (d);
- (iii) By amending sub-section (e) to include “the Premier and the Minister of Finance” following the word, “Metrolinx”.

The Amendment **CARRIED** on the following Standing Recorded Vote:

Yeas:	Bratina, Far, Morelli, Merulla, Collins, Jackson, Duvall, Whitehead, Partridge, Pasuta, Johnson, Pearson, Clark
Total Yeas:	13
Nays:	McHattie
Total Nays:	1
Absent:	Powers, Ferguson
Total Absent:	2

(h) **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- (i) **Feasibility Study and Business Case for the Development of a Tourism Gateway Centre and Declaration of Surplus Property and Sale of Land – 1400 Baseline Road, Stoney Creek (PED12228) (Ward 11) (Item 8.1)**

**(Clark/Johnson)**

That the Outstanding Business Item respecting Tourism Gateway Centre, be lifted from the table. **CARRIED**

- (ii) **Children's Aid Society and Catholic Children's Aid Society – Provincial Government Funding Cuts**

**(Clark/Pearson)**

That the Medical Officer of Health be directed to bring a report to the May 8, 2013 Council meeting outlining the impacts of the provincial funding cuts to the Children's Aid Society and Catholic Children's Aid Society and how the City can express concerns to the Province. **CARRIED**

(i) **MOTIONS**

- (i) **Area Rating Special Capital Re-Investment Reserve Funded Projects (Item 9.3)**

**(Farr/Duvall)**

That sub-section (d) be amended to delete the words, "and .33 FTE's".

**Amendment CARRIED**

**Motion as amended CARRIED**

(j) **NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following Notices of Motion will be placed on the May 15, 2013 agenda of the General Issues Committee:

- (i) **Establishment of a Music Working Group (Item 10.1)**

Whereas, the City of Hamilton is participating in the provincial music industry working group;

And Whereas, the City of Toronto is in the final stages of establishing a music office, branded on "Toronto connects you to a world of music" and "music as the currency of cool";

And Whereas, Hamilton has a unique and vibrant music scene with clear advantages such as scale and affordability;

And Whereas, it is important that Hamilton establish itself as a key music destination for musicians, music industry players, and music tourists.

Therefore be it resolved:

That the Economic Development Department establish a Hamilton Music Working Group and report back on a Hamilton music strategy and the possibility of establishing a Hamilton Music Office.

**(ii) Request for Balance of Start-up Grant for Locke Street Farmers' Market (Added Item 10.2)**

Whereas, the Locke Street Farmers' Market had requested a \$10,000 start-up grant in May 2011;

And Whereas on May 25, 2011, City Council approved a grant of \$5,000 (Item 5 of General Issues Committee Report 11-013(a)) with a recommendation included that the group come back to City Council for the second \$5,000 once the Market had advanced further;

And Whereas, the Locke Street Farmers' Market has now been in place for two years and is expanding, growing from five vendors in 2012 to eight vendors in 2013.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the outstanding balance of the start-up costs in the amount of \$5,000 be approved for the Locke Street Farmers' Market, to be funded from the Economic Development Investment Fund Account No. 3620908900.

**(i) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11.1)**

**(i) Outstanding Business Items List**

**(Pearson/Clark)**

That the following items be deemed complete and removed from the Outstanding Business List:

Item G: Metrolinx Investment Strategy Consultation and Regional Transportation Funding Option (Item 7.1)

Item FF: Tourism Gateway Centre (Item 8.1)

**(j) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

**(i) Closed Session Minutes – April 17, 2013 (Item 12.1)**

**(Farr/Merulla)**

(a) That the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of the General Issues Committee held on April 17, 2013, be approved;

(b) That these Minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure. **CARRIED**

**(Morelli/Merulla)**

That the Committee move into closed session at 2:32 p.m. pursuant to sub-sections (b), (e) and (f) of the City's Procedural By-law and Section 239(2) of the Municipal Act as the subject matters pertain to:

(e) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board;

(f) the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose,

respecting Canadian Ballet Youth Ensemble (LS13014) (Item 12.2); and,

(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual(s), including municipal or local board employees,

respecting Performance Review – Senior Management Team (Item 12.3) and On-Going Investigation (Item 12.4) **CARRIED**

The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 4:43 p.m.

**(i) Canadian Ballet Youth Ensemble (LS13014) (Item 12.2)**

No action to be reported.

**(ii) Performance Review – Senior Management Team (Item 12.3)**

This item was deferred to the May 15, 2013 General Issues Committee meeting.

**(iii) On-going Investigation (Item 12.4)**

No action to report.

(k) **ADJOURNMENT**

**(Pearson/Collins)**

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor T. Whitehead  
Deputy Mayor

Carolyn Biggs  
Legislative Co-ordinator  
Office of the City Clerk