



**General Issues Committee
MINUTES
1:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 3, 2011
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West**

Present: Deputy Mayor J. Farr (Chair)
Mayor B. Bratina
Councillors B. Clark, C. Collins, S. Duvall, L. Ferguson, T. Jackson,
B. Johnson, B. McHattie, S. Merulla, B. Morelli, J. Partridge,
R. Pasuta, R. Powers, 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, Economic Development & Planning
J. A. Priel, General Manager, Community Services
Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health
H. Hale Tomasik, Executive Director, Human Resources &
Organizational Development
B. Browett, Director, EMS/Deputy
D. Cunliffe, Director, Fire Operations/Deputy Chief
C. Biggs, Co-ordinator, Committee Services/Council/Budgets

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR
CONSIDERATION:**

1. City of Hamilton Closed Landfills (Item 7.1(b))

(Whitehead/Powers)

That the Information Update respecting the City of Hamilton Closed Landfills, be received. **CARRIED**

2. City of Hamilton Policy for Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) Dividends (FCS11002) (City Wide) (Item 7.1(c))

(Whitehead/Clark)

- (a) That the 2009 Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) special dividend of \$500,000, received by the City in November 2010 (originally intended to be used to offset forecast lower recycling revenues) be transferred to a dedicated Closed Landfill Reserve to be established to fund the cost of future liability costs associated with closed landfill sites;
- (b) That for 2010, 75% of the \$757,963 Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) regular dividend be transferred to the Unallocated Capital Reserve (108020) to address the City's current infrastructure deficit;
- (c) That a City of Hamilton Policy for Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) Dividends be approved incorporating the following directions:
 - i) That commencing with 2010, that 25% of the Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) regular dividends be transferred to the Wastewater Capital Reserve (108005);
 - ii) That the following set amounts of \$400,000 for 2011, \$300,000 for 2012, \$200,000 for 2013 and \$100,000 for 2014 of the respective annual Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) regular dividend be directed to the Operations and Waste Management – recycling and waste disposal operating budget with the balance of declared dividends to be transferred to a dedicated Closed Landfill Reserve to be established;
 - iii) That commencing with 2015, that 50% of the Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) regular dividends be transferred to Unallocated Capital Reserve (108020) and 25% be transferred to a dedicated Closed Landfill Reserve to be established;
 - iv) That all future Hamilton Renewable Power Inc. (HRPI) special dividends received be transferred to a dedicated Closed Landfill Reserve to be established, until such time as those liabilities are eliminated, at which time, any future special dividends be transferred to the Unallocated Capital Reserve (108020).

CARRIED

3. Winona Seniors' Centre – Deferral of Budget Request

(Johnson/Partridge)

- (a) That the 2011 Capital Budget request of \$1,650,000 for the expansion and renovation of the Winona Seniors' Centre be deferred;

- (b) That Recreation staff report back to a future General Issues Committee meeting with a feasibility study/report that provides a cost-benefit analysis and other information related to re-purposing these funds toward the proposed Winona Recreation Centre project (currently included in the 2015 and 2016 Capital Budget forecast). **CARRIED**

4. 2011 Tax Supported Capital Budget (FCS11011(a)) (City Wide) (Item 7.1(e))

(McHattie/Pearson)

- (a) That the \$83,686,000 2011 Tax Supported Capital Levy as identified in Table 1 of the Executive Summary of Report FCS11011(a), be approved,
- (b) That the 2011 Tax Capital Budget & Financing Plan in the amount of \$209,281,000 attached as Appendix A, to Report FCS11011(a), as amended, be approved;
- (c) That the funding for the “Parked” projects totalling \$3,275,000 as reflected in Appendix A and in Table 2 of the Executive Summary of Report FCS11011(a), as amended, be transferred to the Unallocated Capital Reserve 108020, until such time that staff report back to GIC and approval is determined;
- (d) That the Tax Supported Discretionary Net Capital Funding Forecast 2011 – 2020 (Options 1) attached as Appendix B to Report FCS11011(a), which assumes a 1.5% levy increase in 2012 and 2013, followed by 1.0% levy increases (2014 – 2020), be approved, in principle, and re-visited by Council each budget year;
- (e) That the operating impacts of the 2011 capital budget, estimated to be \$1,100,000, be approved and incorporated into the 2012 Tax Supported Operating Budget;
- (f) That staff investigate options to mitigate the financial impact identified in Recommendation (e) during the 2012 tax supported operating budget process. **CARRIED**

5. 2011 Tax Supported Capital Budget (FCS11011) (City Wide) (Item 7.1(d))

(Whitehead/Morelli)

That Report FCS11011 respecting 2011 Tax Supported Capital Budget, be received. **CARRIED**

6. **Ontario Works Intake, File Transfers and Ontario Disability Support Program Referrals (CS11036) (City Wide) (Added Item 8.1)**

(Pearson/Clark)

That Report CS11036 respecting Ontario Works intake, File Transfers and Ontario Disability Support Program Referrals, be received. **CARRIED**

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Clerk advised of the following:

ADDED REPORT

Information Report respecting the Ontario Works Intake, File Transfers and Ontario Disability Support Program Referrals (Added as Item 8.1)

(Morelli/Collins)

That the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

None

(c) APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (Item 3)

(Collins/Merulla)

That the Minutes of the February 3, 2011 meeting of the General Issues Committee be approved as presented.

CARRIED

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS

(i) Delegation Request from Gerard Murphy and Kathy Drewitt, Chairman and Executive Director respectively, of the Downtown Hamilton B.I.A., respecting plans for a pilot project for pedestrianizing the south leg of King Street and Gore Park this Summer (Item 4.1)

(Whitehead/Duvall)

That the delegation request from the Downtown Hamilton B.I.A., be approved. **CARRIED**

(e) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) 2011 Capital Budget Update Presentation (Item 7.1(a))

Prior to the budget presentation, the following Notice of Motion was put forward by Councillor B. Johnson:

Winona Seniors' Centre – Deferral of Budget Request

- (aa) That the 2011 Capital Budget request of \$1,650,000 for the expansion and renovation of the Winona Seniors' Centre be deferred;
- (bb) That Recreation staff report back to a future General Issues Committee meeting with a feasibility study/report that provides a cost-benefit analysis and other information related to re-purposing these funds toward the proposed Winona Recreation Centre project (currently included in the 2015 and 2016 Capital Budget forecast).

(Clark/Bratina)

That the rules of order be waived in order to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting the Winona Seniors' Centre – Deferral of Budget Request. **CARRIED**

See Item 4 for the disposition of this item.

Mike Zegarac gave a power point presentation providing a summary of the 2011 recommended tax capital budget, inclusive of the direction provided by the General Issues Committee at their January 21, 2011 meeting, with the goal of obtaining Committee's approval of the 2011 Capital Budget.

The presentation included the following:

- Capital Budget impact on Operating Budget
- Mitigating measures
- "Parked" and deferred projects from the January 21 GIC meeting
- Totals of the Capital Project deferrals and reductions
- 2011 Tax Capital Budget update.

(Whitehead/Duvall)

That the 2011 Capital Budget presentation, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) 2011 Operating Budget Update (Item 7.2)

Rob Rossini gave a power point presentation which included the following:

- “The Starting Point of the draft 2011 budget submission
- Reduction process; potential reductions for Committee review
- Potential updated levies
- Departmental levies: draft (current position) vs potential
- Residential tax impact by Levy
- Council information requests/Outstanding Items Task List – how to access the task list and responses through a link to the “S” drive and the information circulated to date
- Process from hereon in.

Councillor Collins inquired as to whether any discussions have taken place with provincial representatives in terms of a funding stream to the municipality. Staff advised that informal discussions have taken place, and a letter has been drafted for the Mayor’s signature to be sent to the Minister.

Councillor Clark received confirmation from staff that the 30-day time for approval of the budgets for the Conservation Authorities is now underway as their presentations were provided to the Committee on February 24, 2011.

Councillor Clark also inquired if there is a departmental policy for re-allocating funds from one account to another. Staff responded that there is not a policy in the City, and that the ability to do this varies among municipalities. Councillor Clark put out the suggestion that it may be prudent to consider doing this.

(Bratina/Partridge)

That the 2011 Operating Budget presentation be received. **CARRIED**

(g) MOTIONS

The following motion was withdrawn by Councillor Powers:

Establishment of a Budget Sub-Committee (presented as a Notice of Motion on January 21, 2011)

That a sub-committee of Council, with mutually-developed Terms of Reference, be established as soon as possible to work with the City Manager and appropriate staff to further explore opportunities for fiscal savings and business efficiencies within the Operating and Capital Budgets.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

With respect to the Board of Health budget, Councillor Powers indicated that it would be helpful if a program-based list regarding mandated programs, partnership programs and city-initiated programs, could be provided all in one place, with funding mechanism and percentage of funding for future consideration.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor J. Farr, Deputy Mayor
General Issues Committee

Carolyn Biggs, Co-ordinator
Committee Services/Council/Budgets
February 3, 2011