Committee of the Whole
Report 10-025
9:30 a.m.
Thursday, September 16, 2010
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present:
Mayor F. Eisenberger
Councillors B. Bratina, B. Clark, C. Collins, L. Ferguson,
B. McHattie, S. Merulla, B. Morelli, M. Pearson, R. Powers

Absent with
Regrets:
Councillor S. Duvall – Illness
Councillors T. Jackson, M. McCarthy, R. Pasuta,
D. Mitchell – City Business
Councillor T. Whitehead – Personal Commitment

Also Present:
C. Murray, City Manager
T. Tollis, A/General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services
B Janssen, A/General Manager, Planning and Economic
Development
G. Rae, A/General Manager, Public Works
J. Priel, General Manager, Community Services
Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health
J. Kay, General Manager/Chief; Hamilton Emergency Services
C. Biggs, Legislative Assistant, Office of the City Clerk

THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT PRESENTS REPORT 10-025
AND RESPECTUFLLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Living Wage (CS10092) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)

That Report CS10092 respecting Living Wage be received.

2. 2010 Corporate Priority Plan Update (CM09021((a)) (City Wide)

That Report CS09021(a) respecting 2010 Corporate Priority Plan Update
be received.

Council – September 29, 2010
FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a)  **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

The Clerk advised there were no changes to the Agenda.

On a motion (Clark/Pearson) the agenda was adopted as presented.

(b)  **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

(c)  **PRESENTATIONS**

(i)  Tom Cooper, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, to present its new strategic directions: “An Action Plan to Poverty Reduction” (Item 6.1)

Tom Cooper and Sheree Meredith, Vice President of the Hamilton Community Foundation, provided a power point presentation to the Committee outlining the new action plan for the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction (HRPR).

Prior to giving the presentation, key members of the Roundtable in attendance were introduced. Mr. Cooper also acknowledged the contributions of Dr. Elizabeth Richardson and Dr. Chris Mackie, as well as members of the various working groups. He also acknowledged the work of Joe-Anne Priel and Jane Soldera in this on-going work. Mr. Cooper also sent regrets on behalf of Mark Chamberlain, Chair of the Roundtable, who was unable to attend this meeting.

Comments during the presentation included, but were not limited to, the following:

- A review of the work that has taken place to date and the get directions of the Roundtable moving forward
- The action plan was developed by the Roundtable in conjunction with the community and in consultation with members of the community, business sectors and others
- Priorities being presented are good reflection of the direction that the community wants to take over the next few years
- Values include inclusiveness, the need to work urgently and particularly around collaboration
• Roundtable has had very good relationship with other community collaboratives and is seen as a strong model to address many of the core issues
• Asking Council to put in place guidelines and principles on how social services uploading money is going to be spent over the coming years, and look forward to engaging in conversation on this issue over the coming months and during budget deliberations
• HRPR Priorities:
  o Shift attitudes about poverty
  o Put community developers back into neighbourhoods
  o Make Hamilton a living wage community
  o Incubate and implement a universal school nutrition program for all children
  o Establish an evidence-based system for setting social assistance rates
  o Advocate for a National Poverty Strategy (and Guaranteed Annual Income
  o Build a socially-inclusive Hamilton and leverage opportunities through Pan Am Games to benefit all Hamiltonians
  o Track poverty reduction progress and report annually to the community

• Advised that on October 5, first Hamilton “vital signs” report will be released in the Spectator and similar reports will simultaneously be released in 15 communities across Canada which looks at 10 areas and key indicators showing how each is doing as a community; this is a very important tool to engage the public to be part of the action and the solution

At the end of his presentation, Mr. Cooper acknowledged and thanked Councillor McHattie for the tremendous commitment and support he demonstrates as a member of the Roundtable and in his role as Council Liaison to the Roundtable.

Following the presentation, members of the Committee asked staff to provide additional details that represent the areas of poverty and the impact on local residents in reference to their respective Wards.

Committee requested if it would be possible to show the budget in a different way; i.e. interested in cost-benefit issues; budget broken down into EMS costs, but as it relates to other programs in the City; or emergency shelter initiatives.
Committee of the Whole

On a motion (McHattie/Merulla) the following direction was provided:

(i) That staff and Council investigate and negotiate a tripartite pilot agreement on poverty reduction between the City of Hamilton, the Province of Ontario and the Federal Government and other appropriate logical partners, and report back to the Committee of the Whole;

(ii) That the tripartite agreement include programming, governance, funding parameters, commitments and timelines.

(d) MOTIONS

None

(e) NOTICES OF MOTION

None

(f) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

None

(g) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger
Chair, Committee of the Whole

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Assistant
September 16, 2010