January 23, 2014

Present: Deputy Mayor B. McHattie
         Mayor R. Bratina
         Councillors C. Collins, S. Duvall, J. Farr, L. Ferguson,
         T. Jackson, B. Johnson, S. Merulla, J. Partridge, M. Pearson,
         R. Powers, T. Whitehead

Absent: Councillor R. Pasuta – City Business
        Councillor B. Clark – Illness

January 24, 2014

Present: Deputy Mayor B. McHattie
         Mayor R. Bratina
         Councillors B. Clark, C. Collins, S. Duvall, J. Farr,
         L. Ferguson, T. Jackson, B. Johnson, S. Merulla, J. Partridge,
         R. Pasuta, M. Pearson, R. Powers

Absent: Councillor T. Whitehead – City Business

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

January 23

The Clerk advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

(Pearson/Partridge)
That the agenda be approved as presented. CARRIED
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS

Thursday, January 23, 2014

The Committee entertained representatives from the following Boards and Agencies with respect to their 2014 Budget requests:

9:45 a.m. Conservation Halton

Ken Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer, appeared before the Committee and recognized John Vice, Chair of the Board, Ian Dunlop, the City’s appointee to the Board, and Marnie Piggott, who were also in attendance for the presentation. With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Phillips provided an overview of the organization, the 2014 Conservation Halton Budget and spoke to the following:

- 2014 Budget Summary
- 2014 Tax-Supported Budget – Major Drivers
- Expenditure Comparison 2014 vs 2013
- Expenditures by Program
- Funding Comparison 2014 vs 2013
- 2014 Municipal Funding Use
- 2014 Municipal Funding Change
- Municipal Apportionments

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was submitted for the public record and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Farr/Partridge)
That the Conservation Halton presentation be received.

CARRIED
10:15 a.m. **Hamilton Conservation Authority**

Chris Firth-Eaglund, Chief Executive Officer, introduced staff from the Hamilton Conservation Authority, including Neil McDougall, Secretary-Treasurer; Lisa Burnside, Human Resources; Scott Peck, Director of Watershed Planning and Engineering, and Bruce Mackenzie, Director of Community Services. Mr. Firth-Eaglund provided opening comments and indicated that he will be requesting an opportunity in the future to appear before the Committee to speak to the matter of Development Charges.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. McDougall spoke to the following:

- Core Services
- Description of Responsibility
- Resources Employed
- Revenue Sources
- Highlights
- Costs/Revenues
- Levy Use
- Next Priorities
- Managed Properties – Confederation Park/Westfield Heritage Village
- Highlights – Westfield Heritage Village

A copy of the presentation was submitted to the Clerk for the public record and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Powers/Johnson)
That the Hamilton Conservation Authority presentation be received. CARRIED

10:45 a.m. **Grand River Conservation Authority**

Jane Mitchell, Chair of the Grand River Conservation Authority, thanked the Committee for the opportunity to present and introduced Joe Farwell, Chief Executive Officer, to provide the presentation.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Farwell spoke to the following:

- About the Watershed – largest watershed in Southern Ontario; 300 km long from Dundalk to Lake Erie; major tributaries: Conestogo, Speed, Eramosa, Nith; Population: 985,000; rich agricultural region
Watershed issues: watershed population growing rapidly; extensive agricultural; climate change could have major impact

Water Management Plan: issues addressed in new water management plan; participating partners; draft plan completed in September 2013; seeking municipal endorsement in 2014

GRCA Strategic Plan – objectives

2014 budget issues: demand for GRCA services remains high; forestry issues; provincial grant cuts; GRCA Conservation Areas revenue

Response to budget issues: managing staff costs; Emerald Ash Borer; hydro development; Conestogo Dam spillway project; major fundraising campaign underway

Sonja Radoja, Manager of Corporate Services, outlined the 2014 budget and addressed the following:

- GRCA Budget 2014 timetable
- Budget overview: 2014 expenditures: $28.1 million; municipal dollars highly leverages; per capita municipal levy: $10.45
- 2014 Budget – Expenditures/Sources of Revenue
- 2014 Budget: Operating/Capital/Special Projects
- 2014 Budget Summary
- General Municipal Levy for 2014

A copy of the presentation was submitted to the Clerk for the public record and can be viewed on the City's website.

(Partridge/Jackson)
That the Grand River Conservation Authority presentation be received. CARRIED

11:15 a.m. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Carmen D'Angelo, the City of Hamilton’s appointee to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, introduced Bruce Stintz, Chairman of the Board, Stuart Beattie, also the City’s appointee to the Board, and Tony D'Amario, Chief Administrative Officer.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, the Committee was provided with the following information relating to the 2014 Budget:
- Introduction of new Senior Management Team
- Facts about the Binbrook Conservation Area
- Strategic Plan/Organizational Review
- Site Master Plan: Goals/Process
- What people like about the Binbrook Conservation Area
- What people would like to see
- 2014 Budget revenue
- 2014 Operating Budget
- 2014 Capital/Project Budget
- Hamilton Levy – Historical
- Mitigation Efforts

A copy of the presentation was submitted to the Clerk for the public record and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Johnson/Pearson)
That the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority presentation be received. CARRIED

11:45 a.m. Hamilton Public Library

Paul Takala, Chief Librarian provided introductory remarks and introduced Jennifer Gautrey and Suzan Fawcett, the 2013 and 2014 Board Chairs respectively. Board members and senior staff of the Library in attendance at this meeting were also recognized.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Board Chairs provided the following information relating to the 2014 Operating Budget:

- Budget background
- Budget request
- Recent budget submissions
- Improving efficiency
- Staffing and Activity summary
- “HPL” serving the community
- Summer Reading Club
- Promoting literacy and reading
- Programs in 2013
- Relevant and Responsive
- Improving safety and security
- Investment in the Customer Experience: e-commerce and point of sale payments; integrated library system; server infrastructure; website improvements
- Digital Collections
- Maintaining Physical, Growing Digital
Local history and archives
- On-going facility renewal
- Building Community

A copy of the presentation was submitted to the Clerk for the public record and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Pearson/Jackson)
That the Hamilton Public Library presentation be received. CARRIED

(Ferguson/Johnson)
That the Committee recess at 12:37 p.m. and reconvene at 1:15 p.m. CARRIED

1:00 p.m. Hamilton Police Service

Chief Glenn De Caire provided introductory remarks which included, but were not limited to, the following:

- 2014 marks the fifth budget being presented on behalf of the Hamilton Police Service and the Hamilton Police Services Board
- Budget was approved by the Board on Tuesday evening
- Presenting lowest budget request in last 14 years
- Budget ensures that level of service delivery is maintained, as well as staffing level
- Budget maintains an adequate and effective level of policing services in the City as required by statute
- Request in funding increase amounts to $4.2 million; 88% is comprised of salaries and benefits
- Acknowledged efforts of all staff involved in compiling all of the information required to put the budget together

Chief De Caire also spoke to the funding request details and provided details on the following:

- Policing context: legislative changes; changing demographics; changing nature of harm; growing social concerns; City’s economy is growing
- Economic indicators
- 2014 Budgets (excluding Assessment Growth)
- 2014 Budgets (including Assessment Growth)
- 2014 Operating Budget request pressures
- Police responsibilities (Police Services Act)
- Foundation for success
- Success highlights
- 10-year crime trends
10-year crime rates
10-year crime severity indices
2012 crime severity index
10-year clearance rates
10-year youth crime trend
Action – 3 years later – crimes by patrol division – 2009 and 2012/
Hot spot analysis
  Violent Calls-for-service 2012
  Assault Calls-for-service 2012
  Robbery incidents 2012
How this works…outcomes: downtown area/Concession Street area
Why this works…Partners.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Hamilton Police Services Board, Chief De Caire recommended that the Hamilton Police Service 2014 Operating Budget be approved at a 2.98% increase.

A copy of the presentation was submitted to the Clerk for the public record and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Pearson/Ferguson)
That the Hamilton Police Services presentation be received.  
CARRIED

Friday, January 24
9:45 a.m.  Hamilton Beach Rescue

Jim Simmons, member of the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Beach Rescue, appeared before the Committee and introduced Deputy Chief Charlie Witherington, who would be assisting with the presentation. Mr. Simmons also recognized the attendance of Captain Ed Nowlan and Acting Lt. Ian McKillop at the meeting.

Mr. Simmons advised the Committee that as per the guidelines approved by Council, the Hamilton Beach Rescue was able to submit their 2014 budget with a zero percent increase

Mr. Simmons outlined some of the emergencies and rescues that the HBRU has been involved with over the past year, and their participation in the boating safety/preparedness day at the Leander Boat Club.
In closing the HBRU requested consideration of their 2014 request in order to continue to serve the community and assist fire, police and EMS at any emergency in the City.

A copy of Mr. Simmons comments was submitted to the Clerk for the public record.

The HBRU 2013 Year End Report was distributed and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Pearson/Johnson)
That the Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit presentation be received. **CARRIED**

10:15 a.m.  **Royal Botanical Gardens**

Mark Runciman, General Manager, and Andrew Duncan, Director of Finance and Administration, appeared before the Committee on behalf of the Royal Botanical to provide an overview of activities over the past year, and to speak to the 2014 budget submission.

Mr. Runciman’s comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- 2014 budget will involve City priorities and include tough choices
- Note that the Ministry doubled annual operating grant in 2009 and is being maintained at that level
- Budget will continue to move forward initiatives that relate to strategies
- Hope to improve beyond this year
- Started 2014 with another week of successful holiday events, including expanded model train display
- will be an annual feature moving forward
- Art in the gardens will continue to play an even bigger role in the Gardens
- Recap of priorities in 2013-2014 multi-year business plan
- Announced new fundraising initiative called “Green Angels”

The Committee was distributed with the Final Budget Summary 2014 for the Royal Botanical Gardens, a copy of which be viewed on the City’s website.

A copy of Mr. Runciman’s comments was submitted to the Clerk for the public record.
(Pearson/Duvall)
That the Royal Botanical Gardens presentation be received.  
CARRIED

10:45 a.m.  
**Festival of Friends**

Loren Lieberman, General Manager, appeared before the Committee on behalf of Festival of Friends to speak to the activities of the previous year.

Mr. Lieberman's comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- 2013 Festival of Friends in Review
- Issues and Challenges
- Festival of Friends Music Museum – can get indication of where people are coming from; will continue to grow through arrangement with Mohawk College Event Planning Department
- List of Main Stage Concerts
- Photo/indication of crowd
- Stage size required for Festival of Friends; crowd distribution

Mr. Lieberman advised that Festival of Friends does not have audited financials due to unexpected circumstances, but will submit the statements to the City as soon as they are completed.

Copies of the presentation, as well as Website Visitor Information Report for Festival Year 2013, was distributed to the Committee and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Ferguson/Partridge)
That the Festival of Friends presentation be received.  
CARRIED

11:15 a.m.  
**Art Gallery of Hamilton (AGH)**

Louise Dompierre, Chief Executive Officer, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the achievements of the Art Gallery over the past year. Ms. Dompierre's comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Celebrating is celebrating its centennial year by exhibiting extraordinary exhibitions
- Upcoming exhibits and activities being planned
proud to report that each exhibition is curated by a member of the AGH staff; of the 15 exhibits that opened at the AGH, 85% were curated by AGH staff
continue to operate at capacity; in 2013,
AGH world film festival celebrated 5th film festival in 2013
Annex completed its first year of operation last year and is making an important contribution to the James street North arts district
Uncertain economy impacted arts sector broadly in 2013 and AGH, as well as other anchor organizations in the city, were no exception
While revenue increased 2%, those a
Ms. Dompierre announced her departure from the AGH in late 2014 – this is the last budget presentation before the Committee.
In 1998, 20,000 visitors came to the Gallery; 270,000 in 2013, which is a gigantic leap and a tremendous achievement that would not be a reality without the support of the City and the hard work of the AGH and the many volunteers
Challenging times have had a deep impact on all of the arts organizations
Challenging to maintain corporate sponsorship levels, far less trying to increase them
2014 is going to be one of the most exciting years in AGH history as 2nd century is launched
July 27, 2014, will be inviting everyone in community to attend gallery for AGH centennial family picnic – birthday celebration for kids, teens, adults and seniors
Want to express sincere gratitude for City for providing vitally-needed operational funding to AGH to serve the needs of Hamiltonians and continue to contribute to the revitalization in the downtown core and to attract visitors to the City

The Committee was provided with financial information via a PowerPoint presentation, and can be viewed on the City’s website.

(Pearson/Clark)
That the Art Gallery of Hamilton presentation be received.

CARRIED

(Pearson/Clark)
That the Committee recess at 11:46 p.m. and reconvene at 12:30 p.m.

CARRIED
12:30 p.m.  Boris Brott Music Festival

Jackie Templeton-Muir, appeared before the Committee to respond to questions with respect to the 2014 Boris Brott Music Festival budget.

Through the medium of a video recording, Mr. Brott addressed the Committee. His comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Spoke to the activities of the Festival and performances throughout the year in Milton, Burlington, Mohawk College, St. John’s Church in Ancaster, for the Hamilton Tiger Cats in Guelph, Hamilton Place and St. Patrick’s Church
- Past year has been special; conducted at the Vatican, received honourary doctorate from McGill University, as well as receiving lifetime achievement award
- Website received 20,000 hits in 2013 and on-line sales continue to grow
- Are developing new website for 2014 which is more interactive
- Moved education concerts from Hamilton Place to Mohawk College; cost to rent Hamilton Place is too much
- With move to Mohawk College, have increased performances from 3 to 5 and have accommodated 8,500 students
- Response to the change in venue has been generally positive
- Have been able to introduce 2 local youths and during new change, able to utilize the College’s considerable technology, using students from the College
- Incurred deficit of $25,000 in 2012; but have been very prudent and recouped most of that deficit in 2013
- Continue to scale back this year; however, continuing to operate at the same level of funding has becoming difficult; funding has been frozen for 3 years
- Noted that new money has been found for SuperCrawl, but is that fair to all that have been in the City for longer than a quarter of a century
- Welcome the opportunity to compete in a forum for more money or greater support for what is being done in the community – to complete projects with fiscal responsibility
- Extended thanks and Council’s consideration for more money
That the Boris Brott Music Festival presentation be received.  

1:00 p.m.  Opera Hamilton  

That the funding allocated to Opera Hamilton be referred to staff for a report back on the implications as it relates to other associations that have a relationship with that organization, and to provide options with respect to those funds.  

1:30 p.m.  Theater Aquarius  

Lorna Zaremba, General Manager, appeared before the Committee with respect to the 2014 budget submission and recognized the attendance of members from their Board at the meeting. With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Zaremba spoke to the following:

- Thanked Council for past investment in Theatre Aquarius; support and passage of the Cultural Plan; recognition of the importance of Culture as the 4th Pillar of sustainable development; willingness to re-examine historical funding models; and the work Council has done to establish equitable funding models
- Enormous impact/tremendous potential
- Creative industry leader
- Anchor arts organization
- Serving the City
- A Regional economic engine
- Investing in Success
- Revenues and Expenses – 2012-13 Audited
- Ten years ago vs today
- Municipal Investment – 2011 figures
- Arts investment profile for London, Ontario (the Grand Theatre)
- 10 Years from Now

That the Theater Aquarius presentation be received.
2:00 p.m.  Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

Carolyn Kehoe, Executive Director, appeared before the Committee to speak to the 2014 budget submission. Ms. Kehoe recognized the attendance of several members of the HPO to the meeting.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Kehoe spoke to the following:

➢ Spoke to how the HPO aligns with the City of Hamilton’s Vision
➢ Key accomplishments and Highlights in 2013
➢ Citizen Engagement
➢ Image, community and economic enhancements
➢ Quick Facts

(Johnson/Powers)
That the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra presentation be received.  CARRIED

5. MOTIONS

None.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

7. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

None

8. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

(Jackson/Duvall)
That the Committee recess at 2:10 p.m. on January 23 and reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on January 24.  CARRIED
There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 1:46 p.m. on January 24, 2014.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor B. McHattie
Deputy Mayor
General Issues Committee

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Co-ordinator
Office of the City Clerk