REPORT 10-004
GOVERNANCE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE
Thursday, September 2, 2010
2:00 p.m.
Room 192, (1st Floor)
Hamilton City Hall

Present:  Councillor R. Powers (Chair)
          Councillors D. Mitchell, M. Pearson, T. Whitehead

Absent with Regrets:  Councillor R. Pasuta – Vacation

Also Present:  Councillor L. Ferguson
               R. Caterini, City Clerk
               T. McCabe, General Manager, Planning and Economic Development
               L. Pasternak, Senior Solicitor
               C. Biggs, Legislative Assistant

THE GOVERNANCE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 10-004 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Amendments to City of Hamilton Procedural By-law 10-053
   (a) That staff reports relating to the following economic development issues be shifted to the General Issues Committee:
      (i) Real estate acquisitions/disposals
      (ii) Airport (Airport Implementation Task Force)
      (iii) Departmental/divisional work plans (including economic development and real estate, downtown renewal, tourism)
      (iv) “Open for Business” initiatives
      (v) Cluster strategies (i.e., Agricultural Action Plan)
      (vi) Incentive/loans programs and approvals (ERASE, CPIG, etc.)
      (vii) All tourism initiatives/annual reports

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(viii) All Downtown/BIA initiatives not requiring public meeting(s);

(b) That the Economic Development and Planning Committee be changed to the “Planning Committee”;

(c) That Appendices “A” and “D” of By-law 10-053 be amended accordingly;

(d) That the appropriate amending by-law to City of Hamilton Procedural By-law 10-053 be passed.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

(a) CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 1)

Chair Powers called the meeting to order and asked if there were any declarations of which there were none.

(b) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 2)

On a motion (Pearson/Mitchell) the June 22, 2010 Minutes of the Governance Review Sub-Committee were approved, as presented.

(c) ITEM REFERRED BACK FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON AUGUST 10, 2010

At the August 10, 2010 meeting of the Committee of the Whole, sub-section 1(iv) of Governance Review Sub-Committee Report 10-004, which reads as follows, was referred back to the Sub-Committee for further discussion:

“That issues relative to economic development be appropriately shifted to the General Issues Committee.”

Tim McCabe re-iterated his understanding that the purpose of shifting economic development-related issues from the Economic Development and Planning Committee to the General Issues Committee is to highlight (focus) the importance of economic development in front of the entire Council. He indicated that he was not opposed to this, but in order to do this, he required clarification on issues related to economic development in terms of the types of reports and subject areas which will be shifted.
Mr. McCabe provided the Committee with a list of issues currently under the jurisdiction of the Economic Development and Planning Committee, highlighting which of those issues relative to economic development would be shifted to the General Issues Committee, for the Committee’s consideration.

Committee members’ comments included:

- **Councillor Ferguson**: Although Planning Committee has a heavy load (i.e., public meetings), shifting the economic development-related issues will take away some of the interesting issues; his preference is the status quo.
- **Councillor Pearson**: Have found more efficiencies when everyone is around the table to get information; is not concerned that interest in the Committee will be lost with the shifting of issues to the General Issues Committee.
- **Reporting structure can be changed if new reporting structure is not working**.
- **Councillor Mitchell**: one of the best items on the current ED&P agenda is “News from the General Manager” and want to have more of that at the Committee; do not have a problem with moving some of the issues over; want to spend more time on issues brought forward by the General Manager.
- **Councillor Whitehead**: has no problem with the issues to be shifted; “good stuff” happening on the economic development side is not getting the appropriate attention.

Mr. McCabe suggested that an option to address some of the concerns expressed would be to change the Procedural By-law to accommodate the important issues at the beginning of the agenda; however, the downside is that public hearings would be delayed. A possible remedy to this would be to start public delegations at 11:00 a.m., and advertise accordingly.

The issue of time-sensitive/emergency matters was also raised, and the fact that the General Issues Committee meets only once per month. The Committee agreed that time-sensitive/emergency matters will be dealt with at the call of the Chair.

Following the discussions, the Committee approved that the economic development-related issues as outlined by Tim McCabe be shifted to the General Issues Committee.

Council, at its meeting on August 10, 2010, referred Item 22(i)(a)(iii), which reads as follows, back to the Governance Review Sub-Committee:

(iii) That the Economic Development and Planning Committee be changed to the “Planning Committee”.

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As a result of the above-discussions, the Committee approved the name change for the Economic Development and Planning Committee.

(d) OTHER BUSINESS (Item 4)

None.

(e) NEXT MEETING

To be advised.

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 6)

There being no further business, the Sub-Committee adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor R. Powers, Chair
Governance Review Sub-Committee

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Assistant
September 2, 2010