Present: Mayor L. Dilanni

Absent with regrets: Councillor M. Ferguson - Illness
Councillor D. Braden, T. Whitehead

Also Present: G. Peace, City Manager
J. Rinaldo, General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services
C. Graham, General Manager, Human Resources
L.A. Coveyduck, General Manager, Planning and Economic Development
J. Kay, Chief, General Manager HES
P. Barkwell, City Solicitor
K. Christenson, City Clerk
M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator, City Clerks

Mayor Dilanni called the meeting to order.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION:
1. **Summary Results of Public Consultation on Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS) Growth Options (CM06004) (Item 5.1)**

   (Mitchell/Pearson)
   
   That Information Report CM06004 respecting Summary Results of Public Consultation on Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy Growth Options be received. CARRIED

   Steve Robichaud provided a power point presentation which summarized the options, consultation held and written submissions received.

2. **5.2(a) City Interest in Proposed Changes to the Municipal Act (CMO6008)**

   That the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing be advised that the City of Hamilton requests the added powers and authorities found in Bill 53 as described in Schedule A to Report CM06008.

   (Morelli/Jackson)
   
   That the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing be advised that the City of Hamilton requests the added powers and authorities found in Bill 53 as described in Schedule A subject to recognizing and assuring that these powers and authorities need to be accountable, responsive, and tailored to the needs of the city of Hamilton as defined and recommended by the city of Hamilton in future discussions with province. CARRIED.

   (McHattie/Jackson)
   
   That the following be included in Schedule A:
   Authorization to require green roofs and the power to require 60 days notice for demolition of properties listed on the city’s heritage listing CARRIED.

   (McHattie/Morelli)
   
   That staff report back to Committee of the Whole with a list of “Hamilton issues” which can be considered with respect to the Municipal Act changes. Include in the report where we’ve been, where we want to go, pros and cons. CARRIED.

3. **5.2(b) Additional Information: Bill 53 – Stronger City of Toronto for a Stronger Ontario Act, 2005 report by the City Clerk to the Finance Committee**

   AMO Communique respecting Municipal Act Reform Update
   AMO Draft Recommendations on changes to the Municipal Act

   Council discussed the aspects of the proposed changes to the Municipal Act, Bill 53 and Bill 51.

Council – April 12, 2006
Comments and concerns from council on these proposed Acts/changes included:

- with respect to OMB, the City’s ability to have more influence on schools and developing areas – the City should make submission on Bill 51 which will address the decision making for construction of schools

- how the staff report was generated – process

- what is the drop dead date for review and input?

- What are the new powers – specifically to the role of the Mayor

- collection of fines – positive role being considered

- think of things unique to Hamilton we may want to include? – was that considered?

- specific Hamilton benefit – anything we would want to add in the review of the Municipal Act?

- broad power to delegation section – what powers are they speaking to?

- role of a board of control/executive committee – challenges faced, opinions on pros and cons

- beneficial to prepare the information outlining differences and similarities in a chart format

- fundraising – lottery system – funds set aside for communities – they have been pulled away from municipalities – how do we get them back that doesn’t restrict

- Niagara workshop – 35% diversion – recycle more – closing the gap between collection of waste and what we do with the end product – with respect to bonus aspect, if incentives were able to be provided to companies for recycling/reusing of materials which would then assist municipalities meeting their diversion target.

- with respect to property tax write-offs – and how it relates to our contaminated properties and back taxes owed to the municipality – i.e. brownfield issue – private businesses use and abuse our industrial lands – legally what recourse do we have or what powers can we ask for to curb the trend i.e. confiscation of property, securities for rezoning? – ideas from staff? – identify those areas and send to the province – staff to brainstorm ideas and bring them forward

- property standards and entry – permission of tenants to gain entry – does this legislation give us greater authority for entry to units that are occupied – no Bill 53 does not provide for expanded powers.

- powers for imposing fines for violations for property standards
- Strong Mayor system, rep by population, taxing powers to increase accountability and decrease debt
- check and balance should be in place for strong mayor system – require a confidence vote
- should pursue taxing powers – ie. For nuisance businesses
- development charges – ways to recover $. Can it be done some other way? (i.e. for new schools, new services)
- disposal of property – i.e. leaving a vehicle – costs to remove – Bill 53 does address issue, but is not full cost recovery
  ask for full cost recovery to cover difference - lean or charge against property owner
- if we were to pursue hiring additional staff re arms length ombudsman – would come out of the city’s budget
- Brownfield – city owned lands the requirements are so much higher for the municipality – there should be a balance for the private as it is for the municipality – should be explored further
- vacant properties pay less taxes – pay at least as much for vacant buildings
- what are the implications for asking for the additional powers? – especially cost implications
- discussions need to be held with the Province before we agree to added powers
- green roofs – city of Toronto – asking for power to require – why was that left off our schedule a?
- the City of Toronto to require a 60 day notice for any property owner who is proposing to demolish a property that is on the city heritage listing. – suggest adding that in

It was agreed that another special Committee of the Whole would be required to consider all additional information prior to this issue going to City Council for approval.

5.3 Committee Vacancies

(Collins/Morelli)
That Councillor Dave Braden be appointed to the Planning and Economic Development Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence. CARRIED.

(Bruckler/Morelli)
That Councillor Art Samson be appointed to the Grants Sub-Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence. CARRIED.
(Jackson/Bruckler)
That Councillor Pearson be appointed to the City Hall Renovations Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence. CARRIED.

(Morelli/Bruckler)
That Councillor Bob Bratina be appointed to the Gas Tax Transit Master Plan Steering Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence;

That a member of council be appointed at a later date to fill the vacancy left by Councillor Chad Collins.

(Kelly/McCarthy)
That Councillors Collins and Pearson be appointed to the Airport Master Plan replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence and adding one additional Councillor to the committee membership CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
(Pearson/Mitchell)
That the agenda be approved as presented. CARRIED.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None

(c) ADOPTION OF MINUTES
None

Respectfully submitted,

Larry DiIanni
Mayor

M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator
March 28, 2006