Committee of the Whole
MINUTES
9:30 a.m.
December 7, 2007
Albion Room, Hamilton Convention Centre

Present:
Mayor F. Eisenberger
Councillors B. Bratina, B. Clark, C. Collins, S. Duvall,
M. McCarthy, B. McHattie, M. Pearson, D. Mitchell, R.
Pasuta, R. Powers, T. Whitehead

Absent with regrets:
Councillors L. Ferguson – Vacation
Councillor B. Morelli – Sick Leave
Councillor S. Merulla – Medical Appointment
Councillor T. Jackson – Personal Business

Also Present:
G. Peace, City Manager
T. Tollis, Acting General Manager, Finance and
Corporate Services
S. Stewart, General Manager,
T. McCabe, General Manager, Planning and
Economic Development
J. Kay, General Manager HES/Fire Chief
J. Priel, General Manager, Community Services
K. Christenson, City Clerk
M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator

THE FOLLOWING WAS REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION:

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Added Item 7.3 respecting Accountability and Transparency Policy

The agenda was adopted as amended.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
None

4. CONSENT ITEMS
None

5. DELEGATION REQUESTS
None

6. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 Budget Steering Committee Report 07-001

(Collins/McCarthy)

2008 Draft Capital Budget

(a) That a new reserve be established to fund Council’s Strategic Capital Program funded from 2007 Budget approved $3m unallocated capital and $2m from the $10m Hydro dividends;

(b) That the Federal Gas Tax Subsidy (2008 - $15.9m) be used exclusively to fund the Tax-Supported Capital Program; (Transit not included except for specific one-time funding announcements;

(c) That the 2008 Tax-Supported Capital Program and Financing Plan in the amount of $150,806,000 as identified in Appendix 1 – 4 of the 2008 Tax Capital Budget Book – FCS08022 (1/2% option plus $10 Hydro Dividends), be approved;

(d) That the 2008 Tax-Supported Capital Program and Financing Plan in the amount of $3m, as identified in Table 4 in Appendix 1-3, pg. 57 of the 2008 Tax Capital Budget Book.
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- FCS08022 (additional ½%) be referred to the 2008 tax-supported Operating Budget deliberations for Council’s consideration. CARRIED.

Joe Spiler presented a power point presentation highlighting the following:

- Summary of major issues
- Capital Program Growth History
- Capital Forecast
- Debt Forecast
- Debt Charges Forecast
- The Levy Compared to Capital Levy
- Capital Levy Components
- Debt Charges
- Capital Revenue Forecast
- Gas Tax Funding Forecast
- 2008 Funding Envelope ½%
- 2008 Funding Shortfall
- Assessment Generators
- Capital Levy Increase

(McHattie/Collins)
Whereas the amount of new lane km continues to increase every year
Whereas the cost of building and resurfacing roads continues to increase well above the cost of inflation
And Whereas the roads infrastructure deficit is currently 44.5 million and rising
Therefore be it resolved:

That staff be requested to report back on following the 2008 budget:
a) the number of new lane km planned for 08 and project for 09
(b) sustainability strategy for funding the new roads both to build them and to maintain them over time CARRIED.

(Collins/McHattie)
That staff be directed to schedule a strategic planning session to discuss the Brownfield Reserve CARRIED.

(Clark/Pearson)
That the 2008 tax bills indicate a line item which highlights that the 1% capital allocation is for infrastructure due to funding shortfall from senior levels of government. CARRIED.
7.2 Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee Report 07-001
(McHattie/McCarthy)
Services of the Ontario Ombudsman

That the City of Hamilton accept the services of the Ontario Ombudsman, as outlined in Appendix A to this Report, for the investigation of complaints respecting closed door meetings, and that this arrangement be reviewed by Council within two years of its inception, to consider the effectiveness and timeliness of the service and consideration of available alternatives. CARRIED

7.3 Amendments to the Municipal Act, 2001 Respecting: Accountability and Transparency Policy (CL07010 / LS07025) (City Wide)
(McHattie/McCarthy)
(a) That the Accountability and Transparency Policy attached as Appendix “A” to Report CL07010, be adopted;

(b) That the Accountability and Transparency Policy be referred to the Subcommittee on Accountability and Transparency for their review and recommendations regarding any future improvements and amendments to the Policy.

CARRIED.

Councillor Whitehead will raise at the Budget Steering Committee the issue of other/unused revenue sources for allocation by Council

8. MOTIONS

(Collins/Clark)
Capital Budget for Confederation Park and Westfield Heritage

That the Capital budget for Confederation Park and Westfield Heritage Village in the amount of 384K be approved and funded from the Unallocated Capital Reserve. CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mayor F. Eisenberger

M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator
December 7, 2007