GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
2015 BUDGET
MINUTES 15-004(i)
9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, March 24, 2015
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger, Deputy Mayor J. Farr (Chair)

Absent with Regrets: Councillor L. Ferguson – Personal

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following change to the agenda:

(i) Added as Item 8.2 – Report FCS15033, respecting the 2015 Budget Submissions for various Advisory Committees

(Green/A. Johnson)
That the agenda for the March 24, 2015 General Issues Committee Budget meeting be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.
(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Item 3)

(i) March 6, 2015 (Item 3.1)

(Jackson/B. Johnson)
That the Minutes of the March 6, 2015 General Issues Committee budget meeting be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(ii) March 10, 2015 (Item 3.2)

(Duvall/Pearson)
That the Minutes of the March 10, 2015 General Issues Committee budget meeting be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) 2015 Preliminary Tax Operating Budget Update (Item 7.1)

Mike Zegarac, General Manager of Finance & Corporate Services provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting the 2015 Tax Budget Update. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Recommended Budget Amendments (March 24, 2015)
- Recommended Social Housing Reserve
  - Staff will be recommending the creation of a Social Housing Stabilization Reserve to be funded by the transfer of $1.28 M surplus from Housing Services 2014 operations.
  - 2015 preliminary budget is able to be amended by -$1.28 M with zero impact on services.
- Recommended Enhancements (Appendix “A” to Report FCS15010)
- 2015 Total Preliminary Impact for the Average Residential tax Bill
- Enhancements – Other Priorities (Appendix “B” to FCS15010)
- Reducing the Tax Impact
- Tabled Capital Budget Amendments
Process Dates
Recommended Enhancements
Legislated Enhancements
Fully Funded Enhancements
Economic Growth Enhancements
Enhancements – Other Priorities

(Merulla/Collins)
That the presentation, respecting the 2015 Tax Budget Update, be received.

CARRIED

A full copy of the presentation is available on the City’s website at www.hamilton.ca or through the Office of the City Clerk.

(e) 2015 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Recommendations (FCS15010) (City Wide) (Item 8.9)

That the following items, as amended, be approved:

i. A01 Compliance with changes in Provincial requirements for regulatory testing, monitoring, and repairing of well systems in the City’s rural areas. (O. Reg. 319/08) (Book 1 pg. 33) (B. Johnson/Pearson)

ii. A02 Continue Eligibility and Registration Program AODA (Council Referred PW03128(c)) (Book 1 pg. 34) (REVISED) (B. Johnson/Pearson)

iii. A03 Animal Services to provide Flamborough Community with animal control services at par with the rest of the City. (Book 1 pg. 37) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

iv. A04 Youth Business Development Officer within Small Business Development Center partially funded by Ministry of Economic Development and savings built into the budget. (Book 1 pg. 38) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

v. A05 Public Health Inspector Trainees – increased funding from Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. (Eisenberger/Pearson)
vi. A06 For engineering services, replace external contractors with City Staff. (Book 1 pg. 39) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

vii. A07 HVAC maintenance for new facility - Tim Horton’s field. (Book 1 pg. 40) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

viii. A08 Support increased demand for engineering services in the traffic corridor - to address inspection issues associated with road cut permit/restoration work; funding from permit revenues. (Book 1 pg. 41) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

ix. A09 Support work load increase for engineering services resulting from Special Infrastructure area rated project requirements. (Book 1 pg. 42) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

x. A10 Additional Administrative Clerk due to increasing POA workload. (Book 1 pg. 43) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xi. A11 Additional Court Reporter due to increasing POA workload. (Book 1 pg. 44) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xii. A12 Media buyer to consolidate City wide media purchase - to be funded from efficiencies. (Book 1 pg. 45) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xiii. A13 Provide legal administrative support for Water & Waste Water environmental upgrades. (Book 1 pg. 46) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xiv. A14 Provide legal services for Water & Waste Water environmental upgrades. (Book 1 pg. 47) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xv. A15 To support the technology infrastructure for the City’s new Tim Horton’s Field. (Book 1 pg. 48) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xvi. A16 Provide two new tax collection reminder notices immediately after the first due dates. (Book 1 pg. 49) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xvii. A17 Engineering approval staff be increased to enhance the ability to respond to and process applications for Site Plans and Plans of Subdivisions. (Book 1 pg. 53) (Eisenberger/Partridge)

xviii. A18 Open for Business Coordinator to ensure ongoing implementation of recommendations and coordinate high profile and Council initiated issues. (Book 1 pg. 54) (Eisenberger/Partridge)
xix. A20 Global Hamilton Office Project Lead to support the "Global Hamilton Office" and the "Immigrant Attraction Action Plan". (Book 1 pg. 56) (Eisenberger/Partridge)

xx. A21 Business Facilitators in Planning Division to promote City strategy for attracting and retaining businesses, promote residential, commercial, rural and greenfield developments. (Book 1 pg. 57) (Eisenberger/Partridge) AS AMENDED

xxi. A26 Bed Bug/Pest Infestation Investigations - investigation, support and legislation enforcement of increasing number of bed bug, cockroach and rat complaints. (Book 1 pg. 62) (B. Johnson/Green)

xxii. A27 Promote Air Quality through collection, analysis and communication of air quality data to support positive air quality and decision making. (Book 1 pg. 63) (Merulla/Eisenberger) AS AMENDED

xxiii. A29 Affordable Transit Pass Program to Permanent Funding (Council Referred CES14040(a)). (Jackson/Eisenberger)

xxiv. A31 Road Network growth from Development to maintain service levels for additional 90km of roads introduced since 2009. (Book 1 pg. 66) (Jackson/Whitehead) AS AMENDED

xxv. A32 Contract Lawyer position supporting Planning and Growth Management project. (Book 1 pg. 67) (Eisenberger/Pearson)

xxvi. B24 Additional Ambulances - to manage response volumes and improve response times. Additional supervisor to assist in managing hospital offload delays and front line supervision. (Book 1 pg. 96) (Eisenberger/Jackson) AS AMENDED

xxvii. B31 Operating costs for new acquisition: 255 Winona Road - Council Referred GIC 14-016. (Book 1 pg. 103) (B. Johnson/Green)

xxviii. B33 Fund the Arts Program category created within the City Enrichment Fund for "Strategic Municipal Investment in the Arts" - Council Referred (FCS14024(b)). (Book 1 pg. 105) (Merulla/Collins)
Councillor Whitehead wished to be recorded as OPPOSED to the following Items:

(i) A01 Compliance with changes in Provincial requirements for regulatory testing, monitoring, and repairing of well systems in the City's rural areas. (O. Reg. 319/08) (Book 1 pg. 33)

(ii) A13 Provide legal administrative support for Water & Waste Water environmental upgrades. (Book 1 pg. 46)

(iii) A14 Provide legal services for Water & Waste Water environmental upgrades. (Book 1 pg. 47)

Councillor Collins wished to be recorded as OPPOSED to the following Item:

(i) A09 Support work load increase for engineering services resulting from Special Infrastructure area rated project requirements. (Book 1 pg. 42)

(Collins/B. Johnson)
That Item A21, respecting Business Facilitators in the Planning Division, be amended by reducing the 3.0 FTEs in the 2015 budget process to 2.0 FTEs, as follows:

(i) 1 FTE for the Urban Area;
(ii) 1 FTE for the Rural Area; and,
(iii) 1 FTE to be brought forward to the 2016 budget process.

CARRIED

Mayor Eisenberger and Councillors Farr, VanderBeek, A. Johnson and Merulla wished to be recorded as OPPOSED to the following Item, as amended:

A21 Business Facilitators in Planning Division to promote City strategy for attracting and retaining businesses, promote residential, commercial, rural and greenfield developments. (Book 1 pg. 57) AS AMENDED

Councillor B. Johnson wished to be recorded as OPPOSED to the following Items:

A17 Engineering approval staff be increased to enhance the ability to respond to and process applications for Site Plans and Plans of Subdivisions. (Book 1 pg. 53)
A18  Open for Business Coordinator to ensure ongoing implementation of recommendations and coordinate high profile and Council initiated issues. (Book 1 pg. 54)

A20  Global Hamilton Office Project Lead to support the "Global Hamilton Office" and the "Immigrant Attraction Action Plan". (Book 1 pg. 56)

(Eisenberger/Merulla)
That the Air Quality Initiative Team be directed to provide a report and presentation to the Board of Health on the status of air quality in Hamilton at the same meeting as the Clean Air Hamilton presentation, prior to June 2015.  
CARRIED

(Eisenberger/Merulla)
That Item A27, respecting the Promotion of Air Quality through collection, analysis and communication of air quality data to support positive air quality and decision making, be amended by reducing the 3.5 FTEs in the 2015 budget process to 2.0 FTEs.

Item A27 above CARRIED, as amended, on the following Standing Recorded vote:

Yeas:  Eisenberger, Whitehead, Duvall, Jackson, Merulla, Green, A. Johnson, VanderBeek, Pasuta
Total:  9
Nays:  Conley, Pearson, B. Johnson
Total:  3
Absent:  Ferguson, Collins, Farr, Partridge
Total:  4

(Jackson/Whitehead)
(a) That Item A31, respecting Road Network growth from Development to maintain service levels for additional 90km of roads introduced since 2009, be amended by reducing the 8.0 FTEs in the 2015 budget process to 3.0 FTEs, as follows:

   (i)  2.0 FTEs – After Hours
   (ii) 1.0 FTE – East District

(b) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with respect to the financial impact assuming a May 1, 2015 hiring date for the 3 FTEs.

CARRIED
(Whitehead/Jackson)
That the Mayor correspond with the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to request that the Province of Ontario provide 50% of the funding required for Additional Ambulances to manage response volumes and improve response times.

CARRIED

Councillors Whitehead and B. Johnson wished to be recorded as OPPOSED to the following Item:

A32 Contract Lawyer position supporting Planning and Growth Management project. (Book 1 pg. 67)

(Eisenberger/Jackson)
(a) That Item B24, respecting Additional Ambulances - to manage response volumes and improve response times and additional Supervisor to assist in managing hospital offload delays and front line supervision, be amended to reflect a 2 year phase in, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B24 - Option 1 Phased in over 2 years</th>
<th>2015 (Phases 1&amp;2)</th>
<th>2016 (Phase 3)</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Gross Costs</td>
<td>963,729</td>
<td>3,281,636</td>
<td>3,570,955</td>
<td>3,570,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% Subsidy</td>
<td>(481,864)</td>
<td>(1,640,818)</td>
<td>(1,785,478)</td>
<td>(1,785,478)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funded from Reserve</td>
<td>(481,864)</td>
<td>(1,158,954)</td>
<td>(144,660)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Net Levy</td>
<td>481,864</td>
<td>1,640,818</td>
<td>1,785,478</td>
<td>1,785,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in Net Levy</td>
<td>481,864</td>
<td>1,158,954</td>
<td>144,660</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>762,534</td>
<td>508,356</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) That staff be directed to report back to the Emergency & Community Services Committee in six months with options on how to phase in the implementation of the additional ambulances and staffing over the two year period.

CARRIED

(B. Johnson/Farr)
(a) That Item B25, as shown below, be removed from consideration during the 2015 budget process:

(i) B25 Provide recreational programming for the Winona community. (Book 1 pg. 97)

(b) That staff be directed to proceed with hiring of additional, temporary staff to provide recreational programming for the Winona community to first be funded from the existing Departmental operating budget; and then overrun be funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve.
CARRIED

B33 Fund the Arts Program category created within the City Enrichment Fund for "Strategic Municipal Investment in the Arts" - Council Referred (FCS14024(b)). (Book 1 pg. 105)

Item B33 above CARRIED on the following Standing Recorded Vote:

Yeas: Eisenberger, Whitehead, Duvall, Jackson, Collins, Merulla, Farr, Green, A. Johnson, Conley, Pearson, B. Johnson, VanderBeek, Partridge
Total: 14
Absent: Ferguson, Pasuta
Total: 2

(Eisenberger/Pasuta)
That the balance of the March 24, 2015 General Issues Committee agenda be TABLED to the March 26, 2015 GIC budget meeting.

CARRIED

(f) Proposed Additional FTEs (Item 8.1)

This matter remained TABLED.

(g) 2015 Budget Submissions - Volunteer Advisory Committees (FCS15033) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)

This matter was TABLED.

(h) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(Eisenberger/Conley)
That, there being no further business, the General Issues Committee, be adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Farr, Deputy Mayor
Chair, General Issues Committee

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk