Committee of the Whole
REPORT 07-026
9:30 a.m.
September 11, 2007
Council Chambers, Hamilton City Hall

Present:
Mayor F. Eisenberger


Also Present:
G. Peace, City Manager
R. Marini, Acting General Manager of Planning and Economic Development
J. Rinaldo, General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services
J. Priel, General Manager, Community Services
D. Hull, Acting Manager, Public Works
Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health
M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PRESENTS REPORT 07-026 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Canadian International Military Tattoo – Future Plans (Item 6.4)

That the Canadian International Military Tattoo be encouraged to submit future funding requests to the Grants Sub-committee for consideration.

2. Joanna Santa Barbara, Physicians for Global Survival respecting Threat of Nuclear Weapons (Item 6.5)

(a) That the City of Hamilton Council endorse the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons and its goal namely to:
(i) achieve complete nuclear disarmament
(ii) prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons
(iii) achieve a nuclear weapons convention

(b) That this recommendation be forwarded to FCM for their endorsement.

3. Establishment of a Federal Department of Peace (Item 8.1)

(a) That correspondence be forwarded to Prime Minister Stephen Harper calling for the establishment of a Federal Department of Peace;

(b) That correspondence be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, requesting their consideration of and support for this initiative.

4. 2008 Budget Process (FCS07078) (Item 6.6)

(a) That Option 3 (Standing Committee/Budget Steering Committee - made up of 2007 Committee Chairs/COW) including the proposed budget schedule be adopted for the 2008 Tax Operating budget process;

(b) That the Water, Wastewater & Storm Budget (Operating and Capital) be considered for approval in December 2007;

(c) That the Tax Supported User Fee report be considered for approval in December 2007;

(d) That the Council directed 2008 budget guideline for all authorities, boards, agencies and grants be set at 3% or less;

(e) That Council set an internal department guideline of 3% or less for the Tax Supported Budget excluding previously Council approved and Council referred items.

5. 2008 Capital Budget Prioritization and Process Schedule (FCS07080) (Item 6.7)

(a) That report FCS07080 detailing the past and present City Tax Supported Capital Prioritization Methodologies be received;

(b) That the Budget Steering Committee (refer to report FCS07078) direct staff on the Capital Budget process including budget objectives, priority setting and block funding allocations; and

Council – September 12, 2007
(c) That the 2008 Tax Capital Budget Schedule (Appendix 3 to report FCS07080), realizing a December 2007 capital budget approval date, be approved in principle.


(a) That the June 30th, 2007, Capital Projects’ Status and Projects’ Closing Report and the attached Appendices A, B, C, D and E to Report FCS07081 for the tax levy and the rate supported capital projects be received for information; and

(b) That the General Manager of Finance & Corporate Services be directed to close the completed capital projects listed in Appendix B to Report FCS07081 in accordance with the Capital Closing Policy and that the net transfers be dealt with as listed in Appendix A to Report FCS07081 and summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reserve/Project #</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Net Transfers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated Reserves</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>(2,753)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-Total</td>
<td>(2,753)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to Capital Levy Reserve</td>
<td>108020 Tax Projects</td>
<td>14,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use to Reduce Outstanding Debentures</td>
<td>Rate Projects</td>
<td>286,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Transfers</td>
<td></td>
<td>298,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Support materials provided by Opera Hamilton which were distributed at the Audit and Administration Committee – FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES (Item 6.9(b))

That the materials submitted by Opera Hamilton be received.
8. Funding request by Opera Hamilton (Item 6.9(b))

That the funding request made by Opera Hamilton to have the City guarantee a Line of Credit in the amount of $250,000.00 for a period of 3 years and a one time grant of $166,149.00 be denied.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Item 6.9(a) was moved to the Closed Session of the meeting as the matter relates to information respecting identifiable individuals

The agenda was approved as amended.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

(c) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 August 8, 2007

The Minutes of August 8, 2007 were adopted as presented.

3.2 August 16, 2007 (special)

The Minutes of August 16, 2007 were adopted as presented.

(d) DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

(i) John Hall and Jim Hudson provided an update on the Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan (Item 6.1)

Mr. Hall provided a powerpoint presentation to committee outlining the following:

- Governance Structure
- RAP Investments
- 2000-2005 Highlights and Summary
- Toxic Substances and Sediment Remediation for 2001-2005
- Cootes to Escarpment Conservation and Land Management Strategy
- Public Access and Aesthetics
- Research and Monitoring
- Education System
- 2007 Report Card Toward Safe Harbours

Members of council addressed the following issues:
- Waterfowl problem – plan
  Keeping birds away from beach themselves – at pier 4 is a buoy system and a fence system at back of beach to keep them from walking onto the beach
  Drainage control for runoff
  Type of overhead system – wires that act as a scare tactic for the birds
  Don’t feed the birds – more signage

- Impact of phosphorus
  Marshes in great lake system – problem in Cootes is phosphorus, which grows algae forcing other plants to have difficulty establishing
  Runoff from urban landscapes
  Rural watershed
  impact of Biedeman fire on Spencer Creek and Cootes Paradise – no update was able to be provided

The delegation was thanked for their presentation and their dedication and work on the RAP program.

(ii) Judith Bishop, Chair, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board respecting accommodation needs for the next ten years
Dr. Chris Spence, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board respecting “The Pedagogy of Poverty - The Pedagogy of Plenty” (Item 6.2 and 6.3)

A delegation comprised of Judith Bishop, Dr. Chris Spence, Darryl Sage, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board addressed Committee.

The delegation addressed the following:
Role in educating students
Literacy - establish link between literacy and economic security
Concept plan for accommodation for the next 10 years as new schools are built and others closed.
How the City and the Boards work proactively together
Responsibility of school system and community
Improving Achievement
Ruby Paynes Poverty Research
System of Learning Supports
Review of the Board’s Capital Plan
Issues addressed by Committee:

- high schools – conditions of schools – public school students now attending Catholic high schools – any data available on this?
- Upkeep of playgrounds – funding issues for maintenance
- an additional secondary school in Waterdown
- surplus of lands - ongoing discussions to establish a communication plan
- facilities remaining open later in the day for recreation
- closure of Ancaster schools
- Board Office – Plans
- Land swap for Dr. Davy School (will have off-line discussions)
- Lake Avenue School
- West Hamilton School Committee
- Redeveloping of existing communities
- don’t want to lose more schools in the older parts of the City Of Hamilton

The delegation was thanked for the presentation.

(iii) **Canadian International Military Tattoo – Future plans (Item 6.4)**

Col. Rick Kennedy, Chair, Board of Directors, Canadian International Military Tattoo addressed Committee

The delegation provided an overview of the Tattoo including changes to the Board, business plan, addressing efficiencies, sponsorship and fundraising plan, and future plans.

(iv) **Joanna Santa Barbara, Physicians for Global Survival respecting threat of nuclear weapons**

Joanna Santa Barbara and delegates presented a “drama presentation” on the threat of nuclear weapons.

(v) **2008 Budget Process (FCS07078) (Item 6.6)**

Glen Peace provided an overview of the report. Finance staff was thanked for their efforts to date on the preparation of the upcoming budget deliberations.

Strategic Planning Process to be done by November. Staff was directed to report back on options for pre-budget/public consultation for Committee’s review
The following motion was withdrawn:

“That any member of Council who wishes to participate on the Budget Steering Committee, as a voting member, be allowed to do so.”

The following amendments were DEFeated:

(a) That the Council directed 2008 budget guideline for all authorities, boards, agencies and grants be set at 0% and that business cases be provided for committee’s consideration for any request above the 0%

(b) That Council set a corporate guideline of 0% and any impacts for anything above the 0% be provided to committee for consideration

Yeas: Clark, Collins, Duvall, Pasuta
Total: 4
Nays: Bratina, Jackson, McCarthy, Merulla, Morelli, Pearson, Powers
Total: 7
Councillor Clark Opposed to Item 4 as amended

MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED AS FOLLOWS:
Yeas: Bratina, Whitehead, Clark, Collins, Duvall, Jackson, Merulla, McHattie
Total: 8
Nays: Ferguson, Pasuta, Pearson, Powers, Eisenberger
Total: 5

Staff were directed to report back on the following:

1. How to focus key issues (i.e. transit) including a suggested completion date for the budget.

2. Area Rating:
   Implications of phasing out area rating for all currently area rated services

3. Accumulated debt ratios through the grants process.
(vi) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

The Closed Session Minutes of August 8th and 16th were adopted as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger

M. Gallagher
Co-ordinator
September 11, 2007