General Issues Committee
MINUTES
Thursday, January 24, 2013
10:00 a.m.
Friday, January 25, 2013
9:30 a.m.
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

January 24, 2013

Present:  Deputy Mayor M. Pearson (Chair)
Mayor B. Bratina
Councillors B. Clark C. Collins, S. Duvall, J. Farr, L. Ferguson,
T. Jackson, B. Johnson, B. McHattie, S. Merulla, B. Morelli,
J. Partridge, R. Pasuta, T. Whitehead

Absent:  Councillor R. Powers – City Business

January 25, 2013

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J. Partridge, R. Pasuta, T. Whitehead

Absent:  Councillor R. Powers – City Business

1.  CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

January 24

The Clerk advised of the following changes:

PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS

The following is a revised time schedule of delegations presenting on January 24:
10:00 a.m. Hamilton Public Library
10:20 a.m. Hamilton Conservation Authority
10:40 a.m. Conservation Halton
11:00 a.m. Grand River Conservation Authority
11:20 a.m. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
11:40 a.m. Hamilton Waterfront Trust

The following delegations will not be presenting:
(i) Hamilton Police Service
   See attached correspondence from Glenn De Caire, Chief of Police
(ii) HECFI
(iii) CityHousing Hamilton

(Johnson/Ferguson)
That the agenda be approved, as amended. CARRIED

January 25

The Clerk advised that there are no changes to the agenda.

(Partridge/Pasuta)
That the agenda be approved, as presented. CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

January 24, 2013
None declared

January 25, 2013
None declared

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

None
4. PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS

Thursday, January 24

The Committee entertained representatives from the following Boards and Agencies with respect to their 2013 Budget requests:

10:00 a.m. Hamilton Public Library

Paul Takala, Chief Librarian, recognized the attendance of Jennifer Gautrey, incoming Board Chair, and George Geczy, the outgoing Board Chair, and introduced the members of his “team” who provide support and assistance. He also recognized Councillors Maria Pearson and Tom Jackson, the City’s representatives on the Hamilton Library Board.

With the assistance of a power point presentation, Mr. Takala spoke to the following:

- 2012 Successes and Current Activities
- Summary
- Summer Reading
- Terryberry Branch – Reopened in 2012
- New Lynden Branch – Opened in January, 2013
- Central Library Renewal continues
- Facility Renewal, including new Waterdown Branch, Binbrook renovation, Dundas renovation
- New Technologies
- Budget Details
  - Employee Expenses and FTE Count
  - Other Budget Drivers in 2013
  - Budget Pressures for 2014
  - Draft Report: Library Budget 2013
- Looking Ahead
- Effective Service
- Staff Our Most Important Asset/Our Focus is our Community

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.
10:20 a.m.  Hamilton Conservation Authority

Chris Firth-Eaglund, Chief Executive Officer, introduced members of Council who are on the Board of the Hamilton Conservation Authority. He also spoke to the natural assets of the Conservation Authority and various initiatives that are underway in 2013.

Neil Mcdougall, Secretary-Treasurer, and Bruce McKenzie, Director of Community Services, provided a power point presentation and spoke to the following:

- Outlined Core Services
- Description of Responsibility
- Resources Employed
- Revenue Sources
- HCA Budget Breakdown of Total Expenditures
- Budget presented is zero per cent increase
- Highlights
- HCA Operations Budget
- Levy/Funding Summary
- Operating Budgets for Confederation Park and Westfield Heritage Village
  - 2013 Budget
  - Highlights

Councillor McHattie recognized and thanked Steve Mlzaga, past Chief Executive Officer of the Conservation Authority, for his years of service and wished him well in his retirement.

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

10:40 a.m.  Conservation Halton

John Vice, Chair of Conservation Halton, Ken Philips, CAO and Marnie Piggott, Director of Finance, appeared before the Committee to present the Conservation Halton 2013 budget and addressed the following:

- A Partnership that Works
- 10,000+ acres and 800,000 annual visitors; 5% of annual pass holders are Hamilton residents
- Conservation Halton’s Public Accountability Report 2012
- Achieving Hamilton’s Strategic Goals
- 2012 Return on Investment
- 2013 Budget – Major Drivers
2013 Budget Summary
Funding Comparison 2013 vs 2012
Funding by Source 2013
Expenditure Comparison 2013 vs 2012
2013 Total Expenditures by Program
2013 Municipal Funding Use
2013 Municipal Funding Change
Municipal Apportionments

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:00 a.m. Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)

Representatives from the Grand River Conservation Authority appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following:

About the Watershed
Watershed Issues
Water Management Plan
GRCA Strategic Plan
2013 Budget Issues
Response to Budget Issues
Budget Overview
GRCA Budget 2013 Timetable
2013 Budget – Expenditures; Sources of Revenue; Major Assumptions; Capital; Detailed Expenditure Breakdown; Detailed Revenue Breakdown
GRCA Budget 2013 Summary
GRCA Budget
Section A: Base Programs – Operating
Section B: Base Programs – Capital
Section C: Special Projects
General Municipal Levy for 2013

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:20 a.m. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA)

Representatives from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, including Carmen D’Angelo, City of Hamilton representative on the NPCA Board of Directors, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following:
Map outlining the boundaries of the Conservation Authority
Challenges/Mitigation Efforts
Program/Service Expenditure Change
Strategic Plan/Organization Review
2013 Budget Revenue
NPCA 2013 Operating Budget
2013 Capital/Project Budget
Hamilton Levy – 2013 Budget; Historical

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:40 a.m. Hamilton Waterfront Trust

Werner Plessl, Executive Director, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- Various attractions at the Waterfront, including the Hamiltonian, Williams Fresh Café, Hamilton Harbour Queen, Waterfront Trolley, Scoops Ice Cream Parlour, Waterfront Grill, Hamilton Harbour Fishing Derby, Music on the Waterfront, Waterfront Outdoor Rink Ice Skating, Roller Skating and Rental Concessions, Waterfront Warm-up Room and Addition
- Learn-to-Skate Program for Children, Youth and Adults
- HWT Operating Budget – 2012 and 2013
- HWT Statement of Operations, Capital Projects, Summary of Capital Budgets

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

(Partridge/Ferguson)
That the presentations by the Boards and Agencies on January 24, 2013, be received. CARRIED

Councillor Jackson expressed concern that CityHousing Hamilton and HECFI would not be presenting their respective budgets.

Councillor McHattie responded that the budget for CityHousing would be provided during presentation of the Community Services Department budget.

Staff advised that appropriate arrangements would be made to have a presentation provided by HECFI with respect to their budget.
Friday, January 25

The Committee entertained representatives from the following Boards and Agencies with respect to their 2013 Budget requests:

9:40 a.m. **Art Gallery of Hamilton**

Louise Dompierre, Director, appeared before the Committee to present an overview of achievements. Ms. Dompierre also recognized the staff from the Art Gallery in attendance to respond to questions of the Committee. With the assistance of a power point presentation, Ms. Dompierre spoke to the following issues:

- Presented an overview of achievement and look ahead at 2014 when celebrating Gallery’s 100th anniversary
- Record-breaking attendance in 2012
- Programming at capacity
- Film and Performance Success
- Increased membership, admission and commercial revenues in 2012
- Art Acquisition Endowment created
- Curatorial Excellence
- Award-winning Exhibitions
- AGH as City Builder
- New Community Partnerships
- Entrepreneurial Strategy
- AGH the largest independent Art Gallery in Ontario
- AGH Celebrates is 100th Anniversary in 2014
- Expense/Revenue Overview – Actual 2011; Budget 2012; Budget 2013
- 2013 Budget – Revenues, Expenses
- AGH Request remains the same

A copy of the power point presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

10:00 a.m. **Boris Brott Music Festival**

Boris Brott, Conductor and Motivational Speaker, Artistic Director, appeared before the Committee and introduced members of the team. Mr. Brott’s comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Largest orchestral festival in Canada
- 25th anniversary of National Academy, which is centerpiece of the Festival
Program brings in excess of $750,000 in support from federal and provincial levels of government
Zero increase for 2013 budget

The Committee was shown a DVD of the 2012 season.

The Committee was distributed with presentation material and a copy has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

10:20 a.m.  Festival of Friends

Loren Leiberman, on behalf of Festival of Friends, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following issues:

- 37 years of entertainment
- Overall history of where the festival is today
- 2012 Festival of Friends in Review
- History of Police Services at the Festival of Friends
- Weather report for the 2012 Festival of Friends' Weekend
- Festival of Friends Website Visitor Information Report for Festival Year 2012 prepared by Brighton Internet Services, including visitor locations for October 2011 to September 2012; visitor locations 30 minutes to 1 hour drive; one to two hour drive; two plus hours drive; worldwide; visitor traffic; most viewed pages
- Not asking for an increase
- Public safety remains top priority for festival
- Too small of an organization – don’t have any “fat” to cut
- Asking city to move forward, need to have a financial formula
- Police costs is a big “chunk” of budget
- Festival of Friends specific request is to remain at the same level of funding; however, because police costs is a line item that is not stable, asking that it be assigned to the appropriate department within the City of Hamilton, from contract to financial responsibility
- Staff reported that $34,126 outstanding balance owing to Hamilton Police Service

A copy of the presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.
2013 Interim Funding from the Community Partnership Program to Hamilton Wentworth Creative Arts

(Ferguson/Partridge)
(a) That interim payments to Hamilton Wentworth Creative Arts, through the Boards and Agencies budget, continue for 2013 only pending discussions with the Hamilton Police Service with respect to the outstanding balance owing for policing costs incurred during the Festival of Friends event;

(b) That the Police Chief, or his designate, be invited to attend a future Grants Sub-Committee meeting to discuss policing costs that are charged to community event organizers.

CARRIED

10:40 a.m. Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit

Mark Dean, Deputy Chief and Member of the Board of Directors, spoke on behalf of the Hamilton Beach Rescue Marine Unit and introduced his team members also in attendance. Mr. Dean’s comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit was able to submit budget based on the 0% guideline
- Committee circulated with request for 2013 operating and capital grants, 10-year capital replacement plan, up to date pamphlet outlining the history of the organization and the training and response report for 2012

The Committee was provided with a power point presentation showing various pieces of equipment, training exercises and rescue missions that the HBRU have provided assistance.

A copy of the presentation and speaking notes was submitted to the Clerk and is available on the City’s website.

11:00 a.m. Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

Carol Kehoe, Executive Director, appeared before the Committee. Her comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- In position since September 2012
- Hamilton’s future is very bright
- Introduced team
- Mission and Vision
HPO Strategic Plan: Four Pillars
Quick Facts
HPO Board of Directors
Accomplishments of 2012
Artistic Highlights of 2012
Plans for 2013
Economic and Community Impact
Value Added to the City of Hamilton
2013 Request of $113,695, which is a 0% increase from 2010, 2011 and 2012

A copy of the presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:20 a.m. Opera Hamilton

Stephen Bye, Opera Hamilton, appeared before the Committee and spoke to the following:

- Brief history of Opera Hamilton
- More recent history
- Current Season at Dofasco Centre
- Financial history
- Board rejuvenation
- Revenues – Other Areas
- Operating Budget 2013/2014
- 2013-2014 Season

A copy of the presentation has been retained for the public record and is available on the City of Hamilton website.

11:40 a.m. Royal Botanical Gardens

Mark Runciman and Andrew Duncan, representatives from the Royal Botanical Gardens appeared before the Committee. Mr. Runciman’s comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Have been busy in 2013 with Business Plan
- Provided a brief overview of activities at RBG
- 2012 audit just started and looks like balanced budget
- 2012 is the first year of a 3-year business plan
- Fell short on some of the revenue targets and as a result, had to utilize some of reserve funds to balance budget; reserve are funds through donations
- Incredibly complex mandate and diverse strategies
- Close to 50,000 volunteer hours at RBG
- Educational program
Had challenges to contend with; fell short on sponsorship revenues
Membership sales are up
Limited resources and RBG needs to raise additional revenues
Continues to review its significant programs as it strives to achieve
Moving forward – priorities in 2013
RBG will continue to play an active role while investigating new partnerships
Budget – draft submitted to staff; approved by Board of Directors in December and being reviewed by the Ministry
Have complied with request of 0% increase
Wish to be a delegation at future GIC meeting to provide a detailed report of the RBG’s activities

12:00 p.m. Theater Aquarius

Lorna Zaremba, General Manager, appeared before the Committee and provided a power point presentation which addressed the following issues:

- Thanked the City of Hamilton for one-time capital funding to complete the final stage of energy retrofit of the Dofasco Centre for the Arts
- Celebrating 40 Seasons as Hamilton’s Professional Theatre
- A Creative Industry Leader Producing World-Class Theatre
- Profound Impact; Economic Impact; Economic Engine; Serving Our City; Welcoming Visitors; Keeping Theatre Accessible;
- Revenues and Expenses 2011-12 (Audited)
- Municipal Investment
- Requesting an increase of $34,300

A copy of the presentation was submitted to the Clerk and is available on the City’s website.

(Johnson/Morelli)
That the presentations by the Boards and Agencies on January 25, 2013, be received. CARRIED

5. MOTIONS

None
6. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor J. Farr introduced the following Notice of Motion:

Public Access On-Line Crime Mapping Service

Whereas on Thursday, January 24, 2013, the Halton Police Service publicly released a crime mapping software that enables residents to view crime trends online;

And Whereas the cost of the new crime mapping service is reported to be $2,000 annually, considerably less than the $250,000 mapping program for Hamilton police use, with “a public access component” slated for implementation in the next two years;

And Whereas the service is based on dispatched calls, not completed investigations and Halton Police Board Chair Bob Maich has stated the software raises public awareness in that it “strengthens the Neighbourhood Watch concept and enhances it…” therefore assisting Police in crime reporting from residents assisting in creating safer environments.

Therefore be it resolved:

That the Hamilton Police Services Board be requested to investigate the feasibility of adopting a public access on-line crime mapping service similar to the service released in Halton for the residents of Hamilton and report back to Council on its viability at a future General Issues Committee.

8. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

Thursday, January 24, 2013

Correspondence from Glenn De Caire, Chief of Police, respecting 2013 Budget Presentation

(Jackson/Johnson)
That the correspondence from Glenn De Caire, Chief of Police, advising that the 2013 Hamilton Police Service Budget will not be presented at the January 24, 2013 General Issues Committee meeting, be received. CARRIED

8. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

None
9. ADJOURNMENT

(Duvall/Jackson)
That the Committee recess at 1:14 p.m. on January 24 and reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on January 25.

(Pasuta/Morelli)
There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 1:54 p.m. on January 25, 2012.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor M. Pearson, Deputy Mayor
General Issues Committee

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Co-ordinator
Office of the City Clerk