Present: Deputy Mayor S. Merulla
Mayor R. Bratina
Councillors B. Clark, C. Collins, J. Farr, L. Ferguson,
T. Jackson, B. Johnson, R. Morrow J. Partridge, M. Pearson,
R, Pasuta, and T. Whitehead

Absent
Councillors S. Duvall and R. Powers, City Business
with regrets: Councillor B. McHattie, Personal

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS REPORTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL:

1. Corporate Financials (Item 4.3)

(Collins/Whitehead)
That the recommended adjustments based on Actuals as outlined below be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Recommended Adjustment $</th>
<th>2014 Revised Budget $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supplementary Taxes</td>
<td>(500,000)</td>
<td>(8,925,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments in Lieu</td>
<td>(117,900)</td>
<td>(14,542,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flamborough Slot</td>
<td>(500,000)</td>
<td>(5,030,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(117,900)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CARRIED
FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

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

(Ferguson/Partridge)
That the agenda for the February 11, 2014 General Issues Committee meeting be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)

None.

(d) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 4)

(i) Community and Emergency Services Operating Budget (including Business Plan) (Item 4.1)

Vickie Woodcox, Acting General Manager of Community and Emergency Services, addressed Committee. She thanked her colleagues and Directors and Helen Klumpp and her staff for their assistance.

She provided a PowerPoint presentation and a detailed overview of the Community and Emergency Services Department’s 2014 Operating Budget. Copies of the hand-out were distributed and a copy has been retained for the Clerk’s record. The presentation included, but was not limited to the following:

- Overview – Organization Chart
- 2013 Highlights
  - A Prosperous & Healthy Community
  - Valued and Sustainable Services
  - Leadership and Governance
- 2014 Initiatives
  - A Prosperous & Healthy Community
  - Valued and Sustainable Services
• Leadership and Governance
• Service Delivery Profiles
• 2014 Gross – Net Departmental Budget
• 2014 Gross Expenditures $501,194,640
• 2014 Revenue Sources $501,194,640
• 2014 Net operating Budget by Division
• 2014 Major Cost Drivers
• 2014 Base Budget Savings
• Funding Sustainability Issues
• Additional Information
  • Permanent Vacancies
  • FTE Complement by Funding Source

Vicki Woodcox and her staff and Mike Zegarac, Acting General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services responded to questions from Committee.

(Clark/Pearson)
That the presentation, respecting the Community and Emergency Services Department’s 2014 Operating Budget, be received.

CARRIED

Committee by-passed the presentations by the Directors and posed questions to the individual Directors regarding but not limited to the following issues:

• The impact of Hamilton Health Sciences ABC program;
• The status of the arbitration process to negotiate a new collective agreement with the firefighters;
• Code Zeros and what the hospitals are doing about them;
• The funding for the land ambulance agreement with the Province;
• The on-going issue of the hospitals not hiring a sufficient number of nurses to work in the emergency rooms;
• The emergency rooms servicing residents from outside areas;
• The current spikes in structure fires;
• The significant spike in off loads when 60 paramedics have been hired and the Province has provided funding for extra emergency room nurses;
• Progress of the joint Job Operations Committee and the Job Executive Committee regarding the off load issues;
• Overall net levy for Recreation – explanation for the 30% increase in the contractual;
• Explanation for the increase in the Recreation operating budget;
• The pressures for the children that are on the wait list for fee subsidies;
• The 24 hour shifts for fire fighters;
• The current level of absenteeism for fire fighters;
• A break down of the total incidents in the last three years for the Fire Department (26,361);
• Fire Department inspections in response to complaints vs mandatory inspections;
• The response times by paramedics when the emergency room closed down at St. Joseph’s Hospital due to burst water pipes caused by freezing.

John Hertel, Director of Enterprise Management and Revenue Generation, provided a brief verbal update respecting the Hamilton Farmers’ Market.

(Jackson/Whitehead)
That the verbal updates respecting the Fire and Paramedic Services and the Hamilton Farmers’ Market, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) City Manager’s Office Operating Budget (including Business Plan) (Item 4.2)

Chris Murray, City Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation and a detailed overview of the City Manager’s Office’s 2014 Operating Budget. Copies of the hand-out were distributed and a copy has been retained for the Clerk’s record. The presentation included, but was not limited to the following topics:

• Overview – Organizational Chart
• 2013 Highlights
  • A Prosperous & Healthy Community
  • Valued & Sustainable Services
  • Leadership and Governance
• 2014 Initiatives
  • A Prosperous & Healthy Community
  • Valued & Sustainable Services
  • Leadership and Governance
• Service Delivery Profiles
• 2014 Net Operating Budget by Division
• 2014 Gross – Net Departmental Budget
• 2014 Major Cost Drivers
• 2014 Base Budget Savings
• Additional Information – Total Legal, Arbitration and Mediation Costs 2006 to 2013
• FTE Funding Sources
• Vacancies as at December 31, 2013
• Absenteeism (from HR Business Intelligence Tool)

The balance of the presentation by the City Manager focused on the Administration in the City Manager’s Office, Human Resources, Audit Services and Legal Services and included information with respect to performance metrics/service levels, the 2014 net operating budget by section, the 2014 major cost drivers, historical volunteer turnover rates (%), overall permanent employee turnover (%), management to staff ratio, 2013 job evaluations, vacation carryovers and payoffs, 2014 gross – net divisional budget.

Chris Murray responded to questions from Committee.

Staff responded to questions including but not limited to employee absenteeism, strengthening organizational oversight in cash handling, and changes in employee demographics.

*Whitehead/Jackson*
That the verbal updates respecting the Human Resources Division be received.

CARRIED

*Clark/Jackson*
That the presentation, respecting the Corporate Services Department’s 2014 Operating Budget, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) **Corporate Financials (Item 4.3)**

Mike Zegarac, Acting General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services provided a PowerPoint presentation and a detailed overview of the Corporate Financials and Non-Program Revenues. Copies of the hand-out were distributed and a copy has been retained for the Clerk’s record. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following topics:

• The Corporate Financials include Corporate contingencies, budgeted gapping savings, retiree benefits, and operating impacts from capital and also includes Hamilton Entertainment Facilities;
• Non-Program Revenues include Property tax related revenues and provisions (supps, write-offs), Horizon Utilities Corporation dividend, Provincial Offences Act, Investment revenues and Flamborough Slot revenue.

Mike Zegarac responded to questions including but not limited to the following topics:
• Property tax write-offs for industrial properties;
• Risk management;
• The sharing of slot revenues.

(Johnson/Pearson)
That the staff presentation respecting the Corporate Financials, be received.

CARRIED

For disposition of this matter refer to Item 1.

(e) ADJOURNMENT (Item 10)

(Pearson/Johnson)
That, there being no further business, that the General Issues Committee be adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Mayor S. Merulla
Chair, General Issues Committee

Ida Bedioui
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk