Mayor DiIanni called the meeting to order.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PRESENTS REPORT 06-006 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. **Summary Results of Public Consultation on Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS) Growth Options (CM06004) (Item 5.1)**

   That Information Report CM06004 respecting Summary Results of Public Consultation on Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy Growth Options be received.
2. Committee Vacancies to be filled in the absence of Councillor Ferguson (Item 5.3)

(a) That Councillor Dave Braden be appointed to the Planning and Economic Development Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence.

(b) That Councillor Art Samson be appointed to the Grants Sub-Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence.

(c) That Councillor Maria Pearson be appointed to the City Hall Renovations Steering Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence.

(d) That Councillor Bob Bratina be appointed to the Gas Tax Transit Master Plan Steering Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence; and that an additional member of council be appointed at a later date to fill the vacancy left by Councillor Chad Collins.

(e) That Councillors Chad Collins and Maria Pearson be appointed to the Airport Master Plan Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence and adding one Councillor to the committee membership.

(f) That Councillor Maria Pearson be appointed to the Public Works, Infrastructure and Environment Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence;

(g) That the Grants Sub-Committee’s membership be increased by one additional member to allow the appointment of Councillor Terry Whitehead for the remainder of the term of Council.

(h) That Councillor Whitehead be appointed to the Joint City/School Board Relations Committee replacing Councillor Ferguson in his absence.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
The agenda was approved as presented.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None

(c) ADOPTION OF MINUTES
None
(d) The following recommendations as approved will be forwarded to City Council following a special Committee of the Whole meeting to be scheduled to entertain additional information being sought by committee.

(i) City Interest in Proposed Changes to the Municipal Act (CMO6008) (Item 5.2(a))

(a) That the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing be advised that the City of Hamilton requests the added powers and authorities found in Bill 53 as described in Schedule A subject to recognizing and assuring that these powers and authorities need to be accountable, responsive, and tailored to the needs of the city of Hamilton as defined and recommended by the City of Hamilton in future discussions with province.

(b) That the following be included in Schedule A:
   (i) Authorization to require green roofs
   (ii) Power to require 60 days notice for demolition of properties listed on the city’s heritage listing.

Staff were further directed to report back to Committee of the Whole with a list of “Hamilton issues” which can be considered with respect to the Municipal Act changes. Include in the report where we’ve been, where we want to go, pros and cons.

(ii) Additional Information: Bill 53 – Stronger City of Toronto for a Stronger Ontario Act, 2005 report by the City Clerk to the Finance Committee
AMO Communique respecting Municipal Act Reform Update
AMO Draft Recommendations on changes to the Municipal Act (Item 5.2(b))

Council discussed the aspects of the proposed changes to the Municipal Act, Bill 53 and Bill 51.

Members of Council raised issues/concerns on the proposed Acts/changes. Staff were directed to consider the issues and concerns raised and report back on impacts and implications for Hamilton
- with respect to OMB, the City’s ability to have more influence on schools and developing areas – the City should make submission on Bill 51 which will address the decision making for construction of schools
- how the staff report was generated – process
- what is the drop dead date for review and input?
- What are the new powers – specifically to the role of the Mayor
- collection of fines – positive role being considered
- think of things unique to Hamilton we may want to include? – was that considered?
- specific Hamilton benefit – anything we would want to add in the review of the Municipal Act?
- broad power to delegation section – what powers are they speaking to?
- role of a board of control/executive committee – challenges faced, opinions on pros and cons
- beneficial to prepare the information outlining differences and similarities in a chart format
- fundraising – lottery system – funds set aside for communities – they have been pulled away from municipalities – how do we get them back that doesn’t restrict
- Niagara workshop – 35% diversion – recycle more – closing the gap between collection of waste and what we do with the end product – with respect to bonus aspect, if incentives were able to be provided to companies for recycling/reusing of materials which would then assist municipalities meeting their diversion target.
- with respect to property tax write-offs – and how it relates to our contaminated properties and back taxes owed to the municipality – i.e. brownfield issue – private businesses use and abuse our industrial lands – legally what recourse do we have or what powers can we ask for to curb the trend i.e. confiscation of property, securities for rezoning? – ideas from staff? – identify those areas and send to the province – staff to brainstorm ideas and bring them forward
- property standards and entry – permission of tenants to gain entry – does this legislation give us greater authority for entry to units that are occupied – no Bill 53 does not provide for expanded powers.
- powers for imposing fines for violations for property standards
- Strong Mayor system, rep by population, taxing powers to increase accountability and decrease debt
- check and balance should be in place for strong mayor system – require a confidence vote
- should pursue taxing powers – ie. For nuisance businesses
- development charges – ways to recover $. Can it be done some other way? (i.e. for new schools, new services)
- disposal of property – i.e. leaving a vehicle – costs to remove – Bill 53 does address issue, but is not full cost recovery ask for full cost recovery to cover difference - lean or charge against property owner
- if we were to pursue hiring additional staff re arms length ombudsman – would come out of the city’s budget
- Brownfield – city owned lands the requirements are so much higher for the municipality – there should be a balance for the private as it is for the municipality – should be explored further
- vacant properties pay less taxes – pay at least as much for vacant buildings
- what are the implications for asking for the additional powers? – especially cost implications
- discussions need to be held with the Province before we agree to added powers
- green roofs – city of Toronto – asking for power to require – why was that left off our schedule a?
- the City of Toronto to require a 60 day notice for any property owner who is proposing to demolish a property that is on the city heritage listing. – suggest adding that in

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry DiIanni
Mayor

M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator
March 28, 2006