Social & Public Health Services Committee
REPORT 05-014
9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, November 8, 2005
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West, Hamilton

Present:
Chair B. McHattie, Vice-Chair B. Bratina
Councillors T. Jackson, B. Kelly, S. Merulla, B. Morelli

Also Present:
J. Priel, General Manager, E. Richardson, R. Hall,
C. Buffett, R. Barrows-Vrankulj, E. Mathews, Public Health
& Community Services
I. Sturgeon, City Clerks

THE SOCIAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT
05-014 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Review of tickets/charges/convictions under the Smoking By-law No. 02-054, Tobacco Control Act, Health Protection and Promotion Act (SPH05047)(City Wide)

That Report SPH05047 respecting the Review of tickets/charges/convictions under the Smoking By-law No. 02-054 be received as information.

2. Employment Assessment Centre (SPH05055) (City Wide)

That Report SPH05055 respecting the Employment Assessment Centre be received as information.

3. Child Care Service Management Plan (SPH05052) (City Wide)

(a) The City of Hamilton’s Child Care Service Management Plan (Appendix A) be approved.
(b) The approved plan be submitted to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services as required by the Province.

(c) Staff provide Council with an annual progress update of the Child Care Service Management Plan.

(d) Staff be authorized and directed to conduct community information sessions to inform key stakeholders of the contents of the Child Care Service Management Plan.

4. Present and Future Drinking Water Related Responsibilities for the Medical Officer of Health (SPH05054) (City Wide)

(a) That Council request the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to provide 100% of the financial resources needed to implement the imminent and proposed changes to the Mandatory Public Health Safe Water Program and the associated Protocols, along with the transfer of drinking water system regulatory oversight to the Medical Officer of Health.

(b) That Council write to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to request that the transferred water regulatory responsibilities be 100% funded by the province, and not through user fees.

5. Wentworth Lodge Occupancy Based Funding (SPH05046) (City Wide)

(a) That the Mayor and Council request that the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care reinstate Sustainability Funding (estimated cost of $353,590) to Wentworth Lodge from April 1, 2005 until the completion of the redevelopment project in 2006.

(b) That copies of this correspondence also be forwarded to The Honorable Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Ted McMeekin, area M.P.P.

6. Results of Public Health Programs 2005 Accreditation HCS04069(a) (City Wide)

(a) That Report HCS04069(a) – Results of the Public Health Programs 2005 Accreditation process be received.

(b) That Mayor Dilanni, as Chair of the Board of Health, sign the “Agreement of Terms and Conditions of Ontario Council on Community Health Accreditation (OCCHA)” (attached hereto as Appendix C to Report HCS04069(a)).

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7. **Nutritious Food Basket Report SPH05051 (City Wide)**

   (a) That Report SPH05051 respecting the Nutritious Food Basket report SPH05051 and Appendices A and B to Report SPH05051 be received for information.

   (b) That Item (A) “Nutritious Food Basket” be deleted from the Outstanding Business List of the Social and Public Health Services Committee agenda.

8. **Government Assisted Refugees Issues (HCS04063a) (City Wide)**

   (a) That report HCS4063a, Government Assisted Refugees Issue be received for information.

   (b) That staff collaborate with the Immigrant and Refugees Advisory Committee to develop recommendations on extending the Federal funding beyond one year for refugees in the City of Hamilton.

   (b) That Staff be directed to remove Item “H” Somali Refugees from the Social & Public Health Services Outstanding Business Item List.

9. **Loss of Bingo Revenue for Charities as a Result of the Popularity of Casinos**

   Whereas the Province of Ontario has created a Casino Industry in Ontario;

   Whereas the Bingo Industry has been negatively impacted in Ontario as a direct result of the prevalence of Casinos;

   Whereas the thousands of charitable organizations are at risk of expiring as a direct result of the profitability of Casinos and the closing of Bingo Halls;

   Therefore be it resolved that the City of Hamilton strongly urges the Province of Ontario to replace lost revenues to the charitable organizations through Casino profits.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:**

(a) **Changes to the Agenda**

   There were no changes to the agenda noted.
(b) **Declaration of Interest**

None

(c) **Chair**

During the course of the meeting, Chair McHattie relinquished the Chair on several occasions to Vice-Chair Bratina and Councillor Kelly in order to join in the debate.

(d) **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the October 25, 2005 meeting were approved as presented.

(e) **Present and Future Drinking Water Related Responsibilities for the Medical Officer of Health (SPH05054) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

Mr. Eric Mathews, Manager of Health Protection, provided an overview of the staff report. He clarified for members of Committee the responsibilities of both the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Health with respect to the Mandatory Public Health Safe Water Program.

A discussion regarding funding ensued.

Rob Hall advised that negotiations between the two Ministries is currently taking place and that staff will advice members of Committee of the outcome once a decision is made.

(f) **Wentworth Lodge Occupancy Based Funding (Item 8.3)**

Committee suggested that a copy of the City’s correspondence also be forwarded to The Honourable Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and the local area M.P.P., Ted McMeekin.

(g) **Motions**

Councillor Merulla brought forward a motion requesting the Province of Ontario to replace the lost revenues of charitable organizations through casino profits. Committee approved the motion.
(h) General Information (Item 11)

11.1 Petition received from Renee Albrecht on behalf of citizens respecting rehabilitation and recovery of the downtown homeless and addicted people (Correspondence referred from Council on October 26, 2005)

On a motion moved by Councillor Bratina and seconded by Councillor Morelli, the Committee received the correspondence from Renee Albrecht and referred it back to staff for a response.

11.2 Letter from Barbara Laing, expressing concerns with activities at the Wesley Drop-In Centre. (Correspondence referred from Council on October 26, 2005)

On a motion moved by Councillor Bratina and seconded by Councillor Morelli, the Committee received the correspondence from Barbara Laing and suggested that Councillor Bratina, Councillor Morelli along with staff from Public Health and Community Services and the Hamilton Regional Police, meet with representatives from the Wesley Drop-In Centre in order to address the neighborhood concerns.

(j) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor B. McHattie,
Chair

I. Sturgeon,
Legislative Assistant
November 8, 2005