EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 21, 2007
1:30 p.m.
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall

Present: Councillors S. Merulla (Chair), T. Jackson (Vice Chair), S. Duvall, B. McHattie, B. Morelli and R. Pasuta
Absent with Regrets: Councillor M. McCarthy – Other City Business
Also Present: J. Priel, General Manager, Community Services Department
J. Kay, General Manager/Chief Hamilton Emergency Services
D. Brodati, Manager, Policy and Program Development
K. Extance, Program Manager, Housing Development & Partnerships
B. Fenwick, Director, Culture & Recreation Division
S. Paparella, Legislative Assistant, Clerk’s Office

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Update on 2006 City of Hamilton Utilities Arrears Program (ECS07019) (City Wide) (Item 5.1)

   (Pasuta/McHattie)
   That Information Report ECS07019 – Update on the 2006 City of Hamilton Utilities Arrears Program, be received.

   CARRIED

2. Impact on Norman "Pinky" Lewis Recreation Centre in 2010 when Sanford Avenue School is Closed (CS06009(a)) (Ward 3) (Item 5.2)

   (Pasuta/McHattie)
   That Information Report CS06009(a) – Impact on Norman "Pinky" Lewis Recreation Centre in 2010 when Sanford Avenue School is Closed, be received.

   CARRIED
3. **Approval for Alcohol as part of a Special Event (Bavarian Garden) at Bayfront Park (ECS07023) (Ward 2) (Item 5.3)**

*(McHattie/Jackson)*

(a) That the following events be approved to host a Bavarian Garden as part of their program at Bayfront Park:

(i) Great Lakes Expo, May 25, 26, and 27, 2007; Bayfront Park, to be hosted by The Great Lakes Expo Organizing Committee.

(ii) Club Afrique, August 18, 2007; Bayfront Park, to be hosted by Club Afrique.

(b) That, if the request to host a Bavarian Garden is approved, the hosting organizations must comply with:

(i) The Ontario Liquor License Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter L.19 and the administration of the Act by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO).

(ii) The conditions contained within the City of Hamilton’s Municipal Alcohol Guidelines, Appendix A of the Policy for Special Event Planning.

(iii) The applicant must provide $5,000,000 comprehensive general liability insurance coverage (which shall include a host liquor liability endorsement), and that the City of Hamilton is named as an additional insured party to this Policy.

CARRIED

4. **Everyone Has a Home: A Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness (ECS07020) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

*(Morelli/Pasuta)*

(a) That the Everyone Has a Home: A Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness, attached as Appendix A to Report ECS07020, be approved and adopted as the City of Hamilton’s Service System Plan to manage homelessness within the city of Hamilton.

(b) That the thirty-six (36) strategies, which are part of the Strategic Plan, attached as Appendix D to Report ECS07020, be approved.

(c) That staff bring forward any of the strategies that require additional resources or will incur additional costs to Council for approval before implementing.

CARRIED
5. Request for Proposals C10-30-06: Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program (COAHP) and Hamilton Affordable Housing Partnership Initiative Fund (HAHPIF) / Sale of 255 West Avenue North (ECS07016/PED07101) (Wards 3, 5, 6 and 7) (Item 8.2) (Jackson/Morelli)

(a) That the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be advised that the City of Hamilton recommends the following prioritized proponents be approved under the Brownfields component of the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program:

(i) Stoney Creek Community Homes Inc., 255 West Avenue North;
(ii) J. Beume Real Estate Limited, 127 Burton Street

(b) That the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be advised that the City of Hamilton recommends the following prioritized proponents be approved under the Rental/Supportive component of the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program:

(i) T. Valeri Construction Limited, 480 Stone Church Road East;
(ii) Polish National Catholic Church of Canada, 2782 Barton Street East;
(iii) 815488 Ontario Inc., 1489-1493 Upper Gage Avenue; and,
(iv) Good Shepherd Non-Profit Homes Inc., 398 King Street West.

(c) That the maximum financial assistance in the form of a forgivable loan through the Hamilton Affordable Housing Partnership Initiative Fund (HAHPIF) be approved as follows:

(i) J. Beume Real Estate Limited, 127 Burton Street - $120,000;
(ii) T. Valeri Construction Limited, 480 Stone Church Road East - $315,000; and,
(iii) 815488 Ontario Inc., 1489-1493 Upper Gage Avenue - $280,000.

(d) That upon funding approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and in accordance with By-law No. 03-148, site specific municipal housing project facilities by-laws for affordable housing be enacted with respect to the following housing providers and respective projects, namely:

(i) J. Beume Real Estate Limited, 127 Burton Street, 24 units;
(ii) T. Valeri Construction Limited, 480 Stone Church Road East, 63 units; and,

(iii) 815488 Ontario Inc., 1489-1493 Upper Gage Avenue, 40 units.

(e) That upon funding approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the housing providers J. Beume Real Estate Limited, T. Valeri Construction Limited and 815488 Ontario Inc. be required to enter into the standard form Forgivable Loan Agreement for the Hamilton Affordable Housing Partnership Initiative Fund (HAHPIF).

(f) That the Mayor and City Clerk be hereby authorized and directed to execute the standard form Forgivable Loan Agreement for J. Beume Real Estate Limited (127 Burton Street), T. Valeri Construction Limited (480 Stone Church Road East) and 815488 Ontario Inc. (1489-1493 Upper Gage Avenue).

(g) That the Mayor and City Clerk be hereby authorized and directed to execute the “Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Service Manager Administration Agreement for the Rental and Supportive Component of the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program (2003)” in a form satisfactory to the General Manager, Community Services and the City Solicitor.

(h) That upon funding approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the proposed development at 255 West Avenue North, the Real Estate Section of the Development and Real Estate Division of the Planning and Economic Development Department, be authorized and directed to sell the municipally owned property at 255 West Avenue North (West Avenue School), at fair market value, to Stoney Creek Community Homes Inc, in accordance with the "Procedural By-law for the Sale of Land", being By-law No. 04-299.

(i) That the proposed sale of 255 West Avenue North to Stoney Creek Community Homes Inc. be approved and completed subject to the following terms:

   (i) A sale price of $350,000;

   (ii) The Purchaser acknowledges and agrees that there are no warranties and/or representations by the Vendor whatsoever with respect to the property and that the property is being purchased on an "as is", "where is" basis;

   (iii) The Purchaser acknowledges that, in approving this Offer to Purchase, the approval of the sale does not constrain the discretion of the City Council of the City of Hamilton to determine whether to approve or deny any re-zoning or site plan applications or development applications or any other submission on the subject
lands and any denial of any such application shall not be deemed to be acting in bad faith on the part of the City; and,

(iv) The Purchaser entering into a Heritage Easement Agreement with the Heritage & Urban Design Section, Planning and Economic Development Department of the City of Hamilton, to preserve the historic Victorian architectural component of the structure. The Offer and Agreement are to be finalized and registered contemporaneously with each other; and,

(v) The net proceeds of the sale be credited to Account No. 47702 3560150200 (Civic Property Purchases and Sales).

(j) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute and issue a Certificate of Compliance in the form prescribed pursuant to Section 268 of the Municipal Act, incorporating the following, if required:

(i) The property at 255 West Avenue North was declared surplus by resolution of the City Council on September 13, 2006 by adopting Item #5.5 of Report 06-015 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee;

(ii) An external appraisal of the fair market value of the real property intended to be sold was completed on June 5, 2006; and,

(iii) Notice of the proposed sale of land was given through the issuance of a Request for Proposal and by inclusion of the intended sale to City Council by Report ECS07016/PED07101.

CARRIED

6. Fires in Westdale Area Student Housing (Item 9.1)

WHEREAS, there have been three fires in student housing in the Westdale area surrounding McMaster University in the past 16 months, and;

WHEREAS, the Ainslie Wood/Westdale Community Association of Resident Homeowners Inc. (AWWCA) have been concerned for years about the condition of homes, which have been converted into student rentals, and believe that the situation is becoming more critical, and;

WHEREAS, on behalf of almost 19,000 undergraduate students, the McMaster Students Union (MSU), has requested that the City of Hamilton provide assistance by offering fire inspections to ensure that student housing is meeting code and that these homes are safe for residency, believing that the condition of some student homes are especially dangerous and may contain violations of the fire code.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Hamilton Emergency Services be directed to work with the Ward 1 Councillor, the AWWCA, and the MSU to undertake a
pilot project in which approximately 45 houses in three different neighbourhoods in Ainslie Wood and Westdale (including family homes and student homes) are inspected on a voluntary basis in order to gather information and assess fire safety.

AMENDMENT CARRIED
MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk noted the following changes to the agenda:

(i) Added as Item 6.2 – Ms. Mary Lou Reiman and Beverley Langley, on behalf of the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting the Advocacy Role of Council, with the Provincial and Federal Governments, on Matters Related to Poverty (was postponed from the February 21st Committee meeting).

(ii) A staff presentation has been added to Item 8.1 and hard copies have been placed before you.

(iii) As the April 4, 2007 meeting of the Emergency & Community Services Committee has been cancelled in order to accommodate a Committee of the Whole budget meeting, the proposed due dates for Items 11.5, 11.7 and 11.8 have been changed from April 4 to April 18, 2007.

(Duvall/Jackson)
That the March 21, 2007, agenda of the Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

There were none declared.

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

(Jackson/Duvall)
That the Minutes of the February 21, 2007 meeting of the Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED
(d) Update on the 2006 City of Hamilton Utilities Arrears Program (ECS07019) (City Wide) (Item 5.1)

(Duvall/Jackson)
That Item “R” – Update on the 2006 City of Hamilton Utilities Arrears Program, be considered complete and removed from the Emergency & Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List.

CARRIED

(e) Impact on Norman "Pinky" Lewis Recreation Centre in 2010 when Sanford Avenue School is Closed (CS06009(a)) (Ward 3) (Item 5.2)

(Duvall/Jackson)
That Item “F” – Impact on Norman "Pinky" Lewis Recreation Centre in 2010 when Sanford Avenue School is Closed, be considered complete and removed from the Emergency & Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List.

CARRIED

Staff was directed to ensure that when updates are provided to the Economic Development & Planning Committee, respecting the ongoing discussions between the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the City of Hamilton regarding the dispute over parkland dedication, those updates also be provided to the Emergency & Community Services Committee.

(f) Seniors Advisory Committee Minutes, dated January 5, 2007 (Item 5.4)

(Pasuta/McHattie)
That the Minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting, dated January 5, 2007 be received for information.

CARRIED

(g) Paul Johnson, Chair of the Food, Shelter and Housing Advisory Committee respecting Item 8.1 - Everyone Has a Home: A Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness (ECS07020) (City Wide) (Item 6.1)

Mr. Paul Johnson, Chair of the Food, Shelter and Housing Advisory Committee, spoke in support of staff Report ECS07020 – Everyone Has a Home: A Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness; noting the essential goal of ending homelessness and hunger in the community. Mr. Johnson also emphasized several points that need to remain in the forefront; more specifically, that persistent pressure to all levels of government must continue in order to address the ongoing crisis of homelessness and hunger in our community; that in order for Hamilton to be the best place to raise a child, our children need to grow in a community without hunger and where they have safe and adequate housing; and that all levels of government need to invest in the programs and services that are essential in order to achieve these goals, as well as to invest in the staff supports
to ensure the proper and expedient implementation of those programs and services.

(McHattie/Pasuta)
That the presentation by Mr. Paul Johnson, Chair of the Food, Shelter and Housing Advisory Committee, respecting staff Report ECS07020 - Everyone Has a Home: A Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness, be received.

CARRIED

(h) Mary Lou Reiman and Beverley Langley, on behalf of the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting the Advocacy Role of Council, with the Provincial and Federal Governments, on Matters Related to Poverty (Item 6.2)

Ms. Mary Lou Reiman presented the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits as well as the areas that the organization believes need to be addressed with both the provincial and federal governments.

Beverley Langley, a resident who is experiencing difficulty obtaining the vital social assistance that she requires in order to obtain medical attention and services for her and her infant son, in a timeframe that is effective, shared the story of her struggle with the Committee.

In closing, Ms. Reiman urged the Committee to pass a motion that commits to developing strategies for ongoing lobbying, to other levels of government, for the issues outlined in the presentation.

(McHattie/Morelli)
That the presentation, by Mary Lou Reiman and Beverley Langley, on behalf of the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting the Advocacy Role of Council with the Provincial and Federal Governments, on Matters Related to Poverty, be received.

CARRIED

(McHattie/Morelli)
That staff be directed to develop a strategy for ongoing lobbying in areas identified in the presentation, provided in Item 6.2, and report back to the Emergency & Community Services Committee.

CARRIED

(i) Everyone Has a Home: A Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness (ECS07020) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)

David Brodati, Manager, Policy and Program Development, provided as PowerPoint presentation, which outlined Report ECS07020 – Everyone Has a Home: A Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness.
(j) Outstanding Business List Items (Item 11)

That the new due dates for the following Outstanding Business List Items be approved:

11.1 Item “A” – Fee Waiver Policy
   (Due: March. 21/06) Proposed New Due Date: June 20, 2007

11.2 Item “E” – Employment Trends
   (Due: Q1/07) Proposed New Due Date: April 18, 2007

11.3 Item “G” – Ontario Works Transition Directive 2005-02
   (Due: Q1/07) Proposed New Due Date: April 18, 2007 (will be combined with Item “H”)

   (Due: Q1/07) Proposed New Due Date: April 18, 2007 (will be combined with Item “G”)

11.5 Item “K” – Hamilton & Scourge Presentation
   (Due: Q1/07) Proposed New Due Date: April 18, 2007

11.6 Item “M” – Ice Rates and Times for Non-Affiliated Clubs
   (Due: Q1/07) Proposed New Due Date: May 9, 2007

11.7 Item “N” – Extended Pool Hours during Summer Months
   (Due: Q1/07) Proposed New Due Date: April 18, 2007

11.8 Item “P” – Eastdale Park Bocce Group – Upgrades to Bocce Lanes in Park
   (Due: Q1/07) Proposed New Due Date: April 18, 2007

(k) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(Jackson/Morelli)
There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor S. Merulla, Chair
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Assistant
March 21, 2007