GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
MINUTES 13-023
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, November 6, 2013
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

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

Absent with Regrets:
Councillors B. Morelli, R. Pasuta – Illness
Councillor L. Ferguson – Vacation

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. 2015 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships (Item 6.1)
   (Merulla/Johnson)
   That staff be directed to continue discussions with Skate Canada to facilitate a partnership toward hosting the 2015 World Synchronized Championships.
   CARRIED

2. Social Planning and Research Council Presentation respecting Complete Streets (Item 6.7)
   (Farr/Johnson)
   (a) That the Complete Streets Policy for Hamilton prepared by the Social Planning and Research Council be referred to staff for review and consideration;

   (b) That staff continue to work with the McMaster Institute of Transportation Logistics.
   CARRIED
3. **Letter of Support from the Durand Neighbourhood Association (Item 7.1(a))**

(Farr/McHattie)
That the correspondence from Frances Murray, Secretary, on behalf of the Durand Neighbourhood Association, expressing support for the Pedestrian Mobility Plan, be received. CARRIED

4. **Pedestrian Mobility Plan (PW13078) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 7.1)**

(McHattie/Farr)
(a) That the City of Hamilton Pedestrian Mobility Plan (PMP), attached as Appendix A to Report PW13078, be approved;

(b) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to file the Pedestrian Mobility Plan with the City Clerk for a minimum thirty (30) day public review period;

(c) That the General Manager of Planning and Economic Development be authorized to incorporate the Pedestrian Mobility Plan’s principles and guidelines into the City’s Comprehensive Development Standard regarding the planning and implementation of pedestrian facilities in future developments and subdivisions;

(d) That staff be directed to incorporate the Pedestrian Mobility Plan into the 2014 Development Charges By-Law Study Update;

(e) That the Pedestrian Mobility Plan and the pedestrian “toolbox” be implemented using a process termed “Routine Accommodation”, whereby when streets are reconstructed for infrastructure repair, replacement, upgrades and/or civic streetscape improvements, pedestrian improvements will be incorporated as part of the overall project, understanding that the implementation of a PMP for the City will potentially add approximately 2% to 7% to the costs of each road rehabilitation or expansion project;

(f) That staff be directed to report back to General Issues Committee on opportunities to consolidate existing committees that have similar mandates and terms of reference to create a Mobility Committee for 2015. CARRIED
5. **Pedestrian Signal Program (TOE01010(a)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 8.1)**

   (McHattie/Farr)
   (a) That the City of Hamilton Intersection Pedestrian and Mid-block Traffic Signals Policy (Report TOE01010), attached as Appendix A, be replaced with the Pedestrian Signal Program Policy attached as Appendix B to Report TOE01010a;

   (b) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to file Pedestrian Signal Program Report TOE01010(a) with the City Clerk for a minimum thirty (30) day public review period;

   (c) That Council authorize the General Manager of Public Works to approach the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to participate in a pilot study for “Courtesy Crossings” applications in Hamilton;

   (d) That participation in a minimum two (2) year “Courtesy Crossing” pilot be implemented with funds from the Hamilton Strategic Road Safety Program (HSRSP) not to exceed $200,000;

   (e) That staff report back annually to General Issues Committee (GIC) on the proposed strategy and progress of the “Courtesy Crossings” Pilot for the City of Hamilton. **CARRIED as amended**

6. **Traffic Calming/Management Policy Update (PW07150(a)) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

   (Partridge/Bratina)
   (a) That the Traffic Calming/Management Policy, dated November 2013, attached as Appendix “A” to Report PW07150a replace the City’s 2007 Traffic Calming/Management Policy;

   (b) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to file Traffic Calming/Management Policy Update Report PW07150(a) with the City Clerk for a minimum thirty (30) day public review period; **CARRIED as amended**

7. **Amendment to the Highway Traffic Act (New Business) (No Copy)**

   (Merulla/Collins)
   Whereas the vast majority of Canadian Provinces recognize pedestrians as having the right-of-way;
And Whereas the purpose of right-of-way legislation for pedestrians would assist in creating a complete streets environment.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the City of Hamilton request that the Province of Ontario amend the Highway Traffic Act accordingly.  

CARRIED

8. Debt Management Policy and Lease Financing Policy (FCS13074) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)

(Collins/Pearson)

(a) That the Debt Management Policy, attached as Appendix “A” to Report FCS13074, be approved;

(b) That the City of Hamilton Lease Financing Policy (which was approved by Council on February 25, 2004) be deleted and replaced with the Lease Financing Policy, attached as Appendix “B” to Report FCS13074.

(c) That the Lease Financing Policy be forwarded to the Hamilton Police Services Board and the Hamilton Public Library Board for information.

CARRIED

9. 2017 Sesquicentennial Steering Committee Terms of Reference (PED13171) (City Wide) (Item 8.4)

(Johnson/Partridge)

(a) That the Terms of Reference for the 2017 Sesquicentennial Steering Committee, attached as Appendix A to Report PED13171, be approved;

(b) That funding to an upset limit of $25,000 to support the Sesquicentennial Steering Committee in its work to develop a Sesquicentennial Strategy be referred to the 2014 Capital Budget process.  

CARRIED

10. Report 13-002 of the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core (Item 8.5)

(i) Task Force Strategic Planning Exercise

(Farr/Bratina)

That Economic Development & Planning staff be directed to report to the next Task Force Committee meeting with options for facilitating a Strategic Planning Exercise with the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core to be undertaken within a six month time frame.

CARRIED
(ii) **Weed Control Measures in Sidewalk Cracks in the Core Downtown Area**

*(Farr/Bratina)*
That staff be directed to report to the Task Force on Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core respecting weeds in sidewalk cracks in the Core Downtown area and to include details respecting treatment options and responsibilities.  

**CARRIED**

11. **2014 Council/Committee Meeting Schedule (Item 9.1)**

*(Partridge/Pearson)*
That the 2014 Council/Committee Calendar attached as Appendix “A”, be approved, with the last meeting of City Council being on September 24, 2014.  

**CARRIED**

12. **Development of a New Long-Term Federal Plan to Fix Canada’s Housing Crunch (Item 10.2)**

*(Duvall/McHattie)*
Whereas a stable and secure housing system that creates and maintains jobs and allows for a range of living options is essential to attracting new workers, meeting the needs of young families and supporting seniors and our most vulnerable citizens;

And Whereas the high cost of housing is the most urgent financial issue facing Canadians, with one in four people paying more than they can afford for housing, and mortgage debt held by Canadians now standing at just over $1.1 trillion;

And Whereas housing costs and, as the Bank of Canada notes, household debt, are undermining Canadians’ personal financial security, while putting our national economy at risk;

And Whereas those who cannot afford to purchase a home rely on the short supply of rental units, which is driving up rental costs and making it hard to house workers in regions experiencing strong economic activity;

And Whereas an inadequate supply of subsidized housing for those in need is pushing some of the most vulnerable Canadians on to the street, while $1.7 billion annually in federal investments in social housing have begun to expire;

And Whereas the stakes are especially high for Ontario’s municipal governments as housing responsibilities have already been downloaded (unlike other provinces and territories) and this is not sustainable on the property tax base;
And Whereas the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has launched a housing campaign, "Fixing Canada’s Housing Crunch," calling on the Federal government to increase housing options for Canadians and to work with all orders of government to develop a long-term plan for Canada’s housing future;

And Whereas FCM has asked its member municipalities to pass a Council resolution supporting the campaign;

And Whereas our community has continuing housing needs, such as the current wait list for social housing of 5,709 households as of September 2013 and the associated costs, that can only be met through the kind of long-term planning and investment made possible by federal leadership.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

(a) That Council endorse the Federation of Municipalities’ (FCM) housing campaign and urge the Minister of Employment and Social Development to develop a long-term plan for housing that puts core investments on solid ground, increases predictability, protects Canadians from the planned expiry of $1.7 billion in social housing agreements and ensures a healthy stock of affordable rental housing for Canadians;

(b) That a copy of this resolution be sent to Ontario’s Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the local M.P.s and M.P.P.s.

CARRIED

13. City Facility Rental Fees for Winterfest Event Organizers (New Business) (No Copy)

(Collins/Merulla)
WHEREAS Winterfest is a community-driven event that is facilitated by the City of Hamilton;

And Whereas community Winterfest event organizers are mostly volunteers with access to minimal budgets;

And Whereas the City wants to encourage broad community participation in Winterfest;

And Whereas City staff is developing a policy that in future years will assist community event organizers to access City facilities affordably.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That all City facility rental fees for community Winterfest event organizers be waived.
FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes:

ADDED DELEGATION REQUEST

For Future Meeting

4.6 Request from Simon Kiss, Wilfred Laurier University, to appear before the Committee “to address the pending motion by Councillor Clark to hold a referendum on municipal fluoridation”

4.7 Request from Ken Seville, on behalf of “Citizen Engagement Initiative Convening Table” to appear before the Committee on November 20, 2013 to provide an update on the work being done

4.8 Request from Mark Runciman, Royal Botanical Gardens, to present plans of the Rock Garden Rejuvenation Project

For Today’s Meeting

4.9 Request from Justin Jones, on behalf of “Yes We Cannon”, to speak in support of the Pedestrian Mobility Plan and a Complete Streets Policy for Hamilton

4.10 Request from Ken Bellevance to speak to disability issues

4.11 Request from Sara Mayo, on behalf of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, to speak about the Pedestrian Master Plan and present a draft Complete Streets Policy for Hamilton

NOTICE OF MOTION

10.2 Development of a New Long-Term Federal Plan to Fix Canada’s Housing Crunch

(Collins/McHattie)

That the agenda for the October 16, 2013 meeting of the General Issues Committee be approved as amended. CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

None
(c) APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (Item 3.1)

(Powers/Partridge)
That the Minutes of the General Issues Committee Meetings held on October 16 and 18, 2013 be approved as presented. CARRIED

(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS

(i) That the following delegation requests be approved:

(Farr/Collins)
(aa) Tim Potocic of Sonic Unyon to appear before the Committee on December 4, 2013 respecting the Arts Funding Task Force Report (Item 4.1) CARRIED

(Duvall/Collins)
(bb) Louise Dompierre, President and CEO, Art Gallery of Hamilton, to provide an update on the Art Gallery of Hamilton Building Project (Item 4.2) CARRIED

(Collins/Duvall)
(dd) Steve Featherstone, Reptile Camp, respecting an amendment to the “Responsible Animal Ownership By-law” (Item 4.4)

(ee) Paul Goulet, Little Ray’s Reptile Zoo and Nature Centre – Hamilton, respecting an amendment to the “Responsible Animal Ownership By-law” (Item 4.5)

The Motion to approve delegation requests (dd) and (ee) CARRIED on the following recorded vote:

Yeas: Johnson, Powers, Jackson, Duvall, Collins, Merulla, Farr
Total Yeas: 7
Nays: Bratina, Clark, Pearson, Partridge, McHattie
Total Nays: 5
Absent: Morelli, Whitehead, Pasuta, Ferguson
Total Absent: 4

(Clark/Pearson)
(ff) Simon Kiss, Wilfred Laurier University, “to address the pending motion by Councillor Clark to hold a referendum on municipal fluoridation” (Item 4.7)

(Johnson/Farr)
(gg) Ken Seville to provide an update respecting the “Citizen Engagement Initiative”
(Collins/Partridge)
(hh) Mark Runciman, Royal Botanical Gardens, to present plans of the Rock Garden Rejuvenation Project CARRIED

(Johnson/Partridge)
(ii) That John Hawker and Robin McKee, on behalf of the Sir John A. Macdonald Society (Hamilton), be approved to appear before the Committee to provide an update respecting work in progress for the City’s 48th Celebration of Sir John A. Macdonald’s Birthday and that the rules of order be waived to allow the delegation to speak at today’s meeting (Item 4.3). CARRIED

(Powers/Pearson)
(iii) That Justin Jones, on behalf of “Yes We Cannon”, be approved to appear before the Committee to speak in support of the Pedestrian Mobility Plan and a Complete Streets Policy for Hamilton, and that the rules of order be waived to allow Mr. Jones to speak at today’s meeting. CARRIED

(Powers/Pearson)
(iv) That Ken Bellavance be approved to appear before the Committee to speak to disability issues, and that the rules of order be waived to allow Mr. Bellavance to speak at today’s meeting. CARRIED

(Powers/Pearson)
(v) That Sara Mayo, on behalf of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, be approved to appear before the Committee to speak about the Pedestrian Master Plan and present a draft Complete Streets Policy for Hamilton, and that the rules of order be waived to allow Mr. Jones to speak at today’s meeting. CARRIED

(e) CONSENT ITEMS

(i) Minutes of Various Sub-Committees

(Johnson/Duvall)
That the following Minutes be received for information:

(aa) Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities – September 10, 2013

(bb) Business Improvement Area Advisory Committee – September 10, 2013 CARRIED
(f) PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS

(i) Jackie Stell-Buckingham, Director of Events, Skate Canada, and Project Director for the 2015 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, and Debbi Wilkes, Director of Business Development, Skate Canada, to provide an overview of plans for the 2015 ISU Championships to be hosted at Copps Coliseum, Hamilton (Item 6.1)

Jackie Stell-Buckingham, Director of Events, Skate Canada, and Project Director for the 2015 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships, and Debbi Wilkes, Director of Business Development, Skate Canada, thanked the Committee for the opportunity to provide an overview of plans for the 2015 ISU Championships to be hosted at Copps Coliseum.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, the delegation spoke to the following:

- What are the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships
- What to expect
- Benefits to Hamilton as host – economic impact, worldwide media exposure during the event, goal

The Committee was also shown a promotional video and an invitation was extended to the Mayor and members of Council to attend the event in 2015.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available for viewing on the City of Hamilton website.

(Merulla/Johnson)
That the presentation respecting the 2015 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championship be received. CARRIED

(ii) Tim Potocic, Supercrawl Productions, to present results and findings of 2013 Supercrawl Event (Item 6.2)

Tim Potocic and Mark Milne, Board Member, Supercrawl Productions, appeared before the Committee in response to a resolution of Council to report back to the Committee following the 2013 Supercrawl event.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Potocic spoke to the following issues:

- Attendee Survey Results
  - Survey Notes
  - Gender and Age
- Attendee Origin
- Transportation to Supercrawl
- Promotion and Event Awareness
- Satisfaction
- Attractions and Spending
- Additional Comments from Respondents
- Comparisons to 2012 Survey
- Economic Impact of Supercrawl 2013 in Hamilton in 2013
- Engagement Overview

(Farr/Johnson)
That the presentation from Tim Potocic of Supercrawl Productions respecting the 2013 Supercrawl event be received. CARRIED

(Merulla/Collins)
That staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of expanding future Supercrawl events to include Gage Park and report back to the General Issues Committee. CARRIED

(iii) John Hawker and Robin McKee, on behalf of the Sir John A. Macdonald Society (Hamilton), be permitted to appear before the Committee to provide an update respecting work in progress for the City’s 48th Celebration of Sir John A. Macdonald’s Birthday (Item 4.3/6.4)

Robin McKee and John Hawker appeared before the Committee to request the City’s support for the grant proposal in the amount of $2,000 that is being put forward for the 2015 Bicentennial Party for Sir John A. Macdonald.

The Committee was distributed with a prototype Newsletter of The Sir John A. Macdonald Society of Hamilton, October 2013, a copy of which can be viewed on the City of Hamilton website.

The Committee was also distributed with a program for the 2013 Remembrance Day Ceremony that is scheduled at the Hamilton Municipal Cemetery on York Blvd.

(Johnson/McHattie)
That the presentation from Robin McKee and John Hawker providing an update respecting work in progress for the City’s 48th Celebration of Sir John A. Macdonald’s Birthday be received. CARRIED

(Johnson/McHattie)
That the proposal respecting the 2015 Bicentennial Birthday of Sir John A. Macdonald be referred to staff of Tourism and Culture for appropriate action. CARRIED
(iv) Dave Stephens, on behalf of Jamesville Hub, respecting “the complete streets initiative for a safe and healthier environment” (Item 6.3)

Dave Stephens appeared before the Committee on behalf of the Jamesville Hub to speak to the issue of the complete streets initiative.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Stephens showed photographs of how having complete streets would help to renew the vibrancy of the downtown core. The Committee was distributed with a “Complete Streets Fact Sheet”

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation and the Fact Sheet can be viewed on the City of Hamilton website.

(Farr/McHattie)
That the presentation from Dave Stephens on behalf of Jamesville Hub respecting the complete streets initiative be received. CARRIED

(v) Justin Jones, on behalf of “Yes We Cannon”, to speak in support of the Pedestrian Mobility Plan and a Complete Streets Policy for Hamilton (Item 4.9/6.5)

Justin Jones appeared before the Committee to commend the staff report and to speak in support of the Pedestrian Mobility Plan.

(Farr/Pearson)
That the presentation from Justin Jones, on behalf of “Yes We Cannon”, respecting the Pedestrian Mobility Plan, be received. CARRIED

(vi) Ken Bellavance, to speak to Disability Issues (Item 4.10/6.6)

Ken Bellavance appeared before the Committee to speak to disability issues. As a disabled person, Mr. Bellavance spoke to the challenges that he and others face in a day-to-day basis. Mr. Bellavance stated that he has spoken to various people in the City, but it seems like he can't get anyone to listen. Hopefully with his presentation today, the Committee will have a better understanding.

Mr. Bellavance' comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- One in seven people in Canada has a disability in one way or another
- Of all who are disabled, focus seems to be on those in wheelchairs or scooters
- Individuals who have an electronic device can get around much easier than he can
Mr. Bellavance is considered totally disabled and has multiple other medical issues besides limited mobility

Walking up and down a ramp is very difficult

Made some suggestions of ways that mobility could be made easier, such as providing more benches so people could take a rest while going from Point A to Point B, install a pole at crosswalks to make it easier for people to step down off the curb.

Chair Jackson suggested that Mr. Bellavance may wish to attend meetings of the Seniors Advisory Committee and/or the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities as both of these groups deal with the issues that Mr. Bellavance is speaking of.

(Partridge/Johnson)
That the presentation from Ken Bellavance with respect to disabilities issues be received. CARRIED

(vii) Sara Mayo, on behalf of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, to speak about the Pedestrian Mobility Plan and present a draft Complete Streets Policy for Hamilton (Item 4.11/6.7)

Sara Mayo, on behalf of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, appeared before the Committee to provide a preview of new data that supports the need for a mobility plan, and reasons why the City still needs a Complete Streets policy.

Ms. Mayo requested that the draft Complete Streets Policy prepared by the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton be referred to staff for review.

The Committee was distributed with the presentation material, which is available for viewing on the City of Hamilton website.

(Farr/Johnson)
That the presentation from Sara Mayo on behalf of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, respecting the Pedestrian Mobility Plan, be received. CARRIED

See Item 2 for the disposition of this item.
(g) PRESENTATIONS

(i) Pedestrian Mobility Plan (PW1307) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 7.1)

Don Hull provided opening remarks and introduced Glenn O’Connor, Principal of G. O’Connor Consultants Inc., and Steve Molloy, Project Manager, Transportation Master Plan Implementation, who will be providing presentations respecting the Pedestrian Mobility Plan.

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. O’Connor spoke to the following:

- Acknowledged Consulting Team members, including G. O’Connor Consultants Inc., Project Co-Lead (Burlington); CIMA+, Project Co-Lead (Burlington); McKibbon Wakefield Inc. (Burlington); Toole Dsion Group (Seattle); and DMD & Associates (Vancouver)
- Learning outcomes
- Hamilton’s commitment to improved mobility
- Step Forward – Purpose
- Significant public input/consultation process
- Community walk survey results and comment density
- Top six (6) things public told us…
- Location of pedestrian-involved collisions
- Development patterns – context areas
- Context area map – existing conditions
- Paradigm shift – A New Pedestrian Approach
- Routine accommodation – decision making
- Application of evidence-based design
- Policy and evidence-based practice, policy and design
- Evaluation of toolbox solutions
- Potential toolbox solutions
- Summary/Conclusion

With the assistance of a PowerPoint presentation, Steve Molloy spoke to the following:

Pedestrian Mobility Plan (Item 7.1)
- Report contributors
- Outline: purpose, underlying principles
- Background
- Current activity “snapshot” data
- Current strategic initiatives
- Plan purpose
- Plan vision
- Plan Public Consultation
What the Public told us
• The Plan is only the beginning
• Context-Sensitive Planning
• Along the street solutions
• Crossing the street solutions
• We are already doing it
• Planning for pedestrians with the right-of-way space
• Sidewalk versus clear zone
• Pedestrian clear zone
• Future initiatives: Recommended minimum clear widths
• Future initiatives: New construction & redevelopment
• Return on investments: Health, social, environmental and economic benefits
• Cost recovery mechanism
• Future initiatives
• Recommendations.

Traffic Calming/Management Program (Item 8.2)
• Traffic Calming Program
• Traffic Calming/Management Program recommendation

Pedestrian Signal Program (Item 8.1)
• Recommendations
• Highlights

( Pearson/Partridge)
That the presentation by Greg O’Connor and Steve Molloy respecting the Pedestrian Mobility Plan be received. CARRIED

(h) DISCUSSION ITEMS

(i) Pedestrian Signal Program (TOE01010(a)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 8.1)

(McHattie/Farr)
That the following be added as sub-section (b) and the balance of the sub-sections re-numbered accordingly:

(b) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to file Pedestrian Signal Program Report TOE01010(a) with the City Clerk for a minimum thirty (30) day public review period. Amendment CARRIED
Motion as amended CARRIED
(ii) Traffic Calming/Management Policy Update (PW07150(a)) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)

(McHattie/Farr)
That the following be added as sub-section (b):

(b) That the General Manager of Public Works be authorized and directed to file Traffic Calming/Management Policy Update Report PW07150(a) with the City Clerk for a minimum thirty (30) day public review period.

Amendment CARRIED
Motion as amended CARRIED

(i) MOTIONS

(i) Amendment to the Highway Traffic Act

That the rules of order be waived to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting “Amendment to the Highway Traffic Act”. CARRIED

(Merulla/Collins)
Whereas the vast majority of Canadian Provinces recognize pedestrians as having the right-of-way;

And Whereas the purpose of right-of-way legislation for pedestrians would assist in creating a complete streets environment.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the City of Hamilton request that the Province of Ontario amend the Highway Traffic Act accordingly.

See Item 7 for the disposition of this item.

(ii) City Facility Rental Fees for Winterfest Event Organizers

That the rules of order be waived to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting “City Facility Rental Fees for Winterfest Event Organizers”. CARRIED

(Collins/Merulla)
WHEREAS Winterfest is a community-driven event that is facilitated by the City of Hamilton;

And Whereas community Winterfest event organizers are mostly volunteers with access to minimal budgets;
And Whereas the City wants to encourage broad community participation in Winterfest;

And Whereas City staff is developing a policy that in future years will assist community event organizers to access City facilities affordably.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That all City facility rental fees for community Winterfest event organizers be waived.

See Item 13 for the disposition of this item.

(j) NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor B. Clark put the following Notice of Motion forward:

(i) Question to Electors on the 2014 Municipal Election Ballot respecting Fluoridation of Water Supply (Item 10.1)

(a) That Council pass a by-law to submit the following question to the electors of the City of Hamilton at the October 27, 2014 Municipal Election:

“Are you in favour of continuing fluoridation of the public water supply of the City of Hamilton?”;

(b) That the question be submitted in accordance with the Fluoridation Act and Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

In the absence of Councillor S. Duvall, Councillor B. McHattie put the following Notice of Motion forward:

(ii) Development of a New Long-Term Federal Plan to Fix Canada’s Housing Crunch (Item 10.2)

Whereas a stable and secure housing system that creates and maintains jobs and allows for a range of living options is essential to attracting new workers, meeting the needs of young families and supporting seniors and our most vulnerable citizens;

And Whereas the high cost of housing is the most urgent financial issue facing Canadians, with one in four people paying more than they can afford for housing, and mortgage debt held by Canadians now standing at just over $1.1 trillion;
And Whereas housing costs and, as the Bank of Canada notes, household debt, are undermining Canadians’ personal financial security, while putting our national economy at risk;

And Whereas those who cannot afford to purchase a home rely on the short supply of rental units, which is driving up rental costs and making it hard to house workers in regions experiencing strong economic activity;

And Whereas an inadequate supply of subsidized housing for those in need is pushing some of the most vulnerable Canadians on to the street, while $1.7 billion annually in federal investments in social housing have begun to expire;

And Whereas the stakes are especially high for Ontario’s municipal governments as housing responsibilities have already been downloaded (unlike other provinces and territories) and this is not sustainable on the property tax base;

And Whereas the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has launched a housing campaign, "Fixing Canada’s Housing Crunch," calling on the Federal government to increase housing options for Canadians and to work with all orders of government to develop a long-term plan for Canada’s housing future;

And Whereas FCM has asked its member municipalities to pass a Council resolution supporting the campaign;

And Whereas our community has continuing housing needs, such as the current wait list for social housing of 5,709 households as of September 2013 and the associated costs, that can only be met through the kind of long-term planning and investment made possible by federal leadership.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

(a) That Council endorse the Federation of Municipalities’ (FCM) housing campaign and urge the Minister of Employment and Social Development to develop a long-term plan for housing that puts core investments on solid ground, increases predictability, protects Canadians from the planned expiry of $1.7 billion in social housing agreements and ensures a healthy stock of affordable rental housing for Canadians;

(b) That a copy of this resolution be sent to Ontario’s Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the local M.P.s and M.P.P.s.
(Duvall/McHattie)
That the rules of order be suspended in order to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting “Development of a New Long-Term Federal Plan to Fix Canada’s Housing Crunch”. CARRIED

See Item 12 for the disposition of this matter.

(k) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11.1)

(i) Outstanding Business Items List

(aa) Revised Due Dates

(Pearson/Partridge)
That the due dates for the following items on the Outstanding Business List be revised as follows:

Item G: Removal of Fill from toxic contaminated site at Hamilton Airport
Due Date: November 6, 2013
Revised Due Date: February 2014

Item I: HPS Forensic Building
Due Date: Q4 2013
Revised Due Date: Q1 2014

Item Y: Citizens’ Committee Report on Farmers’ Market White Paper
Due Date: November 6, 2013
Revised Due Date: January 15, 2014

Item DD: ACPD Report 13-003 – Transportation Subcommittee Report
Due Date: November 6, 2013
Revised Due Date: December 4, 2013 CARRIED

(bb) Item to be transferred to another Standing Committee

(Pearson/Partridge)
Item NN: Reduction in Greenhouse Gas and Energy
To be transferred to the Public Works Committee CARRIED

(cc) Items to be removed from the Outstanding Business List

(Pearson/Partridge)
That the following items be removed from the Outstanding Business List:
Item KK: 2017 Sesquicentennial Committee (Item 8.4)

Item OO: Pedestrian Mobility Plan (Item 7.1)

Item PP: Installation Policy for Intersection and Mid-Block Pedestrian Signals (Item 8.1) CARRIED

(I) PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

(Powers/Johnson)
That the Committee move into closed session at 1:00 p.m. pursuant to subsections 8.1(b) and (c) of the City’s Procedural By-law and Section 239.2 of the Municipal Act as the subject matters pertain to:

(i) Personal matters about identifiable individuals, including municipal or local board employees, respecting the on-going investigation of City employees (Item 12.2);

(ii) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipality or local board respecting a real estate matter regarding 64 Melrose Avenue North (Item 12.1) CARRIED

The Committee reconvened in Open Session.

12.1 Real Estate Matter regarding 64 Melrose Avenue North (No copy) (Ward 3 with City Wide Implications)

Direction provided in Camera

12.2 Verbal Update – On-going Investigation respecting City Employee(s)

No action to be reported.

(m) PRODEDURAL MATTERS

The Committee moved into Closed Session at 1:00 p.m. to entertain the Private and Confidential matters on the agenda and reconvened to continue the business on the agenda at 3:25 p.m.
(n) ADJOURNMENT

(Pearson/Johnson)
There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

Councillor T. Jackson
Deputy Mayor

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Co-ordinator
Office of the City Clerk