Committee of the Whole
REPORT 08-012

9:30 a.m.
February 28, 2008
Albion Rooms
Hamilton Convention Centre

Present:
Deputy Mayor Councillor T. Whitehead

Absent with regrets:
Mayor F. Eisenberger – personal appointment

Also Present:
G. Peace, City Manager
J. Rinaldo, General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services
S. Stewart, General Manager, Public Works
T. McCabe, General Manager, Planning and Economic Development
J. Kay, General Manager, HES/Fire Chief
J.A. Priel, General Manager, Community Services
J. Kay, General Manager/Chief HES
Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health
M. Gallagher, Coordinator, COW

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PRESENTS REPORT 08-012 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. Parking Meter Rates/Fees

(a) That City’s User Fee By-law and Animal Control By-laws be amended to increase Animal Control Fees as follows:
- Transportation Fees (Companion Animals) from $40 to $60.
- Surrender by Owner (Healthy Animals) $10 for adoptable animals and $20 for non-adoptable animals.
- Wildlife Euthanasia (Nuisance Wildlife only) from $40 to $80.
- Boarding (Held in Trust) increase from $10 to $20 for Cats and from $15 to $25 for Dogs.
- Animal Quarantine increase from $10 to $20 for Cats and from $15 to $25 for Dogs.
- Administration Fee for Post Service Billing increase from $0 to $20.

(b) That the amount of fine revenues collected through plate denial in the current budget be adjusted upwards by $100,000 annualized for 2008

(c) That staff be authorized and directed to submit an application to the Ministry of the Attorney General requesting a Judicial Order establishing early payment and set fine penalties as follows:
   - expired parking meter $24/19
   - exceed time limit $29/23
   - No Parking $33/26
   - No Stopping $75/60
   - No Parking and No Stopping Fire Routes $100/80
   - Heavy Duty Vehicle Off of a Truck Route $125/100

2. Budget Reduction Opportunity – Household Hazardous Waste Depot located a Hotz Environmental Services (PW08020)

(a) That the Household Hazardous Waste Depot located at 239 Lottridge Street and operated by Hotz Environmental Services Inc. be phased-out and residents be directed to the newly opened Kenora Community Recycling Centre (KCRC) or Dundas or Mountain CRCs for the same services;

(b) That the budget savings of $140,000 from the transfer of services from 239 Lottridge Street to the Kenora Community Recycling Centre be removed from the 2008 Waste Management Operating Budget.

(c) That staff work with ward councillors to ensure that there are opportunities/provisions for collection of hazardous goods in the inner wards.
FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a)  CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Clerk noted the following changes to the agenda:
- Circulated a revised addendum
- Additional correspondence from Waterdown BIA and Locke Street Merchants Association

The agenda was adopted as amended.

(b)  DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

(c)  DELEGATIONS ON THE 2008 BUDGET

9:40 a.m.  Dan Rodrigues

Mr. Rodrigues addressed the following in his presentation:
Requesting support of $47,733 in budget to retain recycling programs in parks and assisting in decrease of litter opportunities.

9:50 a.m.  Bob Grosvenor

Mr. Grosvenor addressed the following in his presentation:
Increase in budget – going into a recession and you need to look at where and how you are spending the funds
Lister Building - taxpayers shouldn’t be paying to fix Lister
Addressed Council priorities – water, sewer, roads
Airport

10:00 a.m.  Nathalie Xian Yi Yan

Ms. Yi Yan addressed the following in her presentation:
Increases in budget would hurt community
Inflation
Lump sum administrative fee for multi-residential
Lower market value of properties
Duplication of programs
Property tax arrears

A motion that the suggestions of Ms. Yan be taken under advisement for future discussions was approved.
10:10 a.m.  Locke Street Merchants’ Association

Written letter received

The delegation advised that the Association is against paid parking on Locke Street South

Association is willing to formally canvass customers, neighbours on the street to provide them with data on paid street parking.

10:20 a.m.  BIA delegations

HABIA – Kathy Drewitt

Ms. Drewitt addressed the following in her presentation:

Treatment of parking in all areas with some consistency
Free weekend parking and evening parking
Incentives – merchant validation programs
Parking as revenue neutral
Enforcement programs with customer service focus
Providing common marketing initiatives
Support for early bird payment program

Ottawa St. BIA - Patty Despinic

Ms. Despinic advised that the BIA is In favour of increase
An increase in parking will not be a deal beaker for merchants
Question is of timing however – less American and out of town shoppers – lowest sales a decade
Request waiting until economic upturn
Parking study is pending
Parking Token Program
Feed the Meter it’s worth the Change Program

Stoney Creek BIA - Ed Strecker

Mr. Strecker addressed the following:
The BIA is opposed to downtown parking in downtown Stoney Creek
Revenues generated by program – is it worth the effort?
Challenges faced because of the Big Box Stores

Waterdown BIA – Margaret Robertson
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Correspondence was received by Committee.

Restaurant for 35 years – and past chair of BIA
Minor accidents have occurred due to on street parking
Two business create a bit of problem – post office and the variety store – citizens park on the street
Big Box causing problems – impact on existing businesses
Opposed to on-street parking with meters.

Dundas BIA - Phyllis Kraemer

Ms. Kraemer addressed the following:
Parking is important
Off street lots – half are privately owned property leased to City Of Hamilton
370 off street parking lots available
119 on street parking meters
Opposed to rate increases, especially on off-street

Concession St BIA - Paul Wharton

Mr. Wharton addressed the following:
Hamilton Health Sciences in the area
BIA opposed to parking increases
Drive citizens to park in areas that are free

International Village - Mary Pocius

Ms. Pocius addressed the following:
Do not want meters to be removed
Not opposed to rate increase
Meters should accept as wide a range in coins
Not in favour of extension to time limits on parking meters
Would like more installed on Main Street and neigh
All meters should be free after 6pm evenings and on weekends
Increase for the all day parking fees in lots should be reviewed

David Dayler – Westdale BIA

Mr. Dayler addressed the following:
Effects of growth of McMaster University to the neighbourhood parking issue
No Municipal lots in Westdale
No problem with parking meter rates but increase in fine are a concern
Consider each BIA individually

Downtown Hamilton BIA- Kathy Drewitt

Ms. Drewitt addressed the following:
Commercial Assessment Study
Does not support increase in fees and fines
Fee should be as low as possible
Do not take away the early bird program
Supports free weekend and Christmas parking programmes

10:30 a.m.  Cliff Woodhead and Murray Floyd

Messrs. Woodhead and Floyd addressed the concern with respect to veterans having to pay for parking.

Important to notify the veterans of any events or actions by Council.

Councillor Morelli provided the delegation an update on where Council currently stands on the issue.

10:40 a.m.  Sally Luke

Ms. Luke addressed the following:
Pro parking meter in short term parking
Fines are prohibitive

Councillor Whitehead provided a DVD of his Ward meeting where citizens presented their concerns.

The presentations were received.

(d) Parking Meter Rates/Fees

Subsections (a), (b) and (e) of the recommendations were deferred pending the results of the Parking Consultants report.

This Tabling Motion CARRIED on a Standing Recorded Vote as follows:

Yeas: Bratina, Clark, Collins, Duvall, Jackson, McCarthy, McHattie, Merulla, Morelli, Pasuta, Mitchell, Whitehead
TOTAL: 12
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Nays: Ferguson, Pearson, Powers
TOTAL: 3

A motion to defer subsection (f) of the recommendation LOST on a Standing Recorded Vote as follows:

Yeas: Duvall, Jackson, Morelli, Merulla
TOTAL: 4

Nays: Bratina, Clark, Collins, Ferguson, McCarthy, McHattie, Pasuta, Mitchell, Pearson, Powers, Whitehead
TOTAL: 11

A subsequent motion to approve subsections (c) (d) and (f) was approved.

(e) Budget Reduction Opportunity – Household Hazardous Waste Depot located a Hotz Environmental Services (PW08020)

Item 5 of Public Works Committee Budget Report 08-002 respecting “Budget Reduction Opportunity – Household Hazardous Waste Depot located a Hotz Environmental Services (PW08020)” which was referred to Committee of the Whole was lifted from the table.

Councillors Merulla and Morelli were opposed to the Main motion as amended indicated as Item 2 of this report.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Deputy Mayor T. Whitehead

M. Gallagher, co-ordinator
Council/Committee of the Whole/Budgets
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