Present: Councillors T. Jackson (Chair), S. Merulla (2nd Vice Chair), B. McHattie, B. Morelli, and R. Pasuta

Absent with Regrets: Councillor S. Duvall (1st Vice Chair) – Other City Business
Councillor M. McCarthy – Other City Business

Also Present: Councillor R. Powers
J. Kay, General Manager/Chief, Hamilton Emergency Services
J. Brown, Acting General Manager, Community Services
V. Woodcox, Senior Administrator, Homes for the Aged
B. Powell, Manager, Social Development Section
A. Bradford, Director of Culture
S. Paparella, Legislative Assistant, City Clerk’s Office

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Farmers’ Market Free Bus Passes and/or Tokens for Market Shoppers (ECS08022) (City Wide) (Item 5.1)
   (Merulla/Morelli)
   That Report ECS08022 – Farmers' Market Free Bus Passes and/or Tokens for Market Shoppers, be received.
   CARRIED
2. Military Memorial at all City of Hamilton Cenotaphs and Military Monuments (other than Gore Park) (ECS08021) (City Wide) (Item 5.2)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That Report ECS08021 – Military Memorial at all City of Hamilton Cenotaphs and Military Monuments (other than Gore Park), be received.

CARRIED

3. Forecast of Major Events - City of Hamilton (ECS08020) (City Wide) (Item 5.3)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That Report ECS08020 – Forecast of Major Events - City of Hamilton, be received.

CARRIED

4. Tenant Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated February 8, 2008 (Item 5.4)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That the Tenant Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated February 8, 2008, be received.

CARRIED

5. Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated March 7, 2008 (Item 5.5)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That the Seniors Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated March 7, 2008, be received.

CARRIED

6. 2008 National Child Benefit (NCB) Strategy (ECS08019) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)

(Merulla/McHattie)
(a) That the 2008 municipal portion of the National Child Benefit claw back, in the amount of $1.25 million, be directed into the 2008 Hamilton NCB Entitlement Program.

(b) That the unspent 2007 National Child Benefit funds, in the amount of $252,000, be directed into the 2008 Hamilton National Child Benefit Entitlement Program.

(c) That staff be directed to submit the approved 2008 National Child Benefit Strategy to the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

CARRIED
7. Resolution to Support Funding and Care Standards for Long-Term Care Homes in Ontario (Item 9.1)

(Merulla/Morelli)
WHEREAS Long-term Care residents are older, frailer, suffer from dementia or some other form of cognitive impairment and require more complex and hands on care;

WHEREAS Ontario lags behind other jurisdictions in the level of care standards provided to those living in Long-term Care Homes;

WHEREAS there has been chronic under funding in Long-term Care Homes over the past decade; and,

WHEREAS the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the City of Hamilton would see an immediate and positive result from an increase investment in direct care;

THEREFORE BE IT resolved

(a) That the Mayor correspond with the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, to request that:

   (i) The operating funding for Long-term Care Homes in the province of Ontario be increased by $586 million, or $22.14 per resident per day, in the fiscal year 2008-2009; and,

   (ii) That funding must be increased to support an average of up to 3.5 hours of care per resident per day.

(b) That a copy of this resolution be sent to leaders of all Provincial Parties, local area MPP's, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Family Councils of Ontario and the Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for Seniors (OANHSS).

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 4.1 – A delegation request made by Ms. Lynn Aquin, on behalf of the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting an upcoming report from the Heat Response Committee. Ms.
Aquín would like to appear on the same date that the report is brought forward to the Emergency & Community Services Committee.

(ii) Added as Item 11.3 – Correspondence from Mr. Walter Peace, Chair of the Hamilton Historical Board respecting tobogganing at Battlefield Park in Stoney Creek.

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the General Manager of Public Works for the appropriate action.

(McHattie/Merulla)
That the May 7, 2008, 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)

3.1 April 16, 2008

(Pasuta/Morelli)
That the Minutes of the April 16, 2008 meeting of the Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) Delegation request made by Ms. Lynn Aquín, on behalf of the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting an upcoming report from the Heat Response Committee (Item 4.1)

(Merulla/McHattie)
That the delegation request made by Ms. Lynn Aquín, on behalf of the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting an upcoming report from the Heat Response Committee be approved.

CARRIED

(e) Francesca Simone and Bill Armstrong, on behalf of Macassa and Wentworth Lodges respecting Family Councils for Long-term Care Facilities and other matters pertaining to Long-term Care (Item 6.1)

Bill Armstrong, Chair of the Family Council of Wentworth Lodge, and Francesca Simone, Chair of the Family Council of Macassa Lodge, provided a presentation to Committee to raise Council’s awareness of seniors’ issues in the City of Hamilton.
The following points were noted:

- Current funding for long-term care facilities is quite insufficient to the needs of Hamilton's seniors; and,
- Hamilton owns only two (2) long-term care facilities; while the provincial average is three (3) – translating into 81 beds for every 1,000 long-term care residents in this area; while Niagara owns eight (8) and Toronto ten (10).

Council was requested to visit both Wentworth and Macassa Lodges, to financially support improvements for these facilities and to advocate to the province respecting the same.

(Morelli/Merulla)
That the presentation by Francesca Simone and Bill Armstrong, on behalf of Macassa and Wentworth Lodges, respecting Family Councils for Long-term Care Facilities another matters pertaining to Long-term care, be received. CARRIED

In response to this presentation, Committee provided the recommendation shown as Item 7 above.

(f) Jake Lawless, of the Rick Hanson Foundation respecting the 2008 Annual Wheels in Motion Event (Item 6.2)

Jake Lawless, of the Rick Hanson Foundation and Louise MacRae, Hamilton Health Sciences, provided a presentation respecting the 2008 Annual Wheels in Motion event, and requested that members of Council participate in teams of five (5) in the Scotia Bank Wheelchair Challenge. The Council member team(s) would be competing in an obstacle course against teams from Hamilton Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services as well as CHCH T.V.

Funds raised through this annual event are utilized to enhance the quality of life for people with spinal cord injury, in the areas of equipment and assistive devices, sports and leisure activities, education, support programs, skill development, awareness, research and integration back into the community

Committee was advised by Mr. Lawless that Councillor D. Mitchell had already volunteered to participate on the Council team. Subsequent to the presentation, Councillor S. Merulla also volunteered to participate.

Committee was advised that if they are unable to participate, they may also sponsor an individual or a team member.
(Merulla/Morelli)
That the presentation made by Jake Lawless, of the Rick Hanson Foundation, and Louise MacRae, Hamilton Health Sciences, respecting the 2008 Annual Wheels in Motion event, be received.

CARRIED

(g) Appeal Process for Hamilton Farmers’ Market Stallholders Suspended or Terminated Contracts (ECS08009) (Ward 2) (Item 8.1)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That Report ECS08009 – Appeal Process for Hamilton Farmers’ Market Stallholders Suspended or Terminated Contracts, be tabled until after the report outlining the implications of operating the Hamilton Farmers’ Market by an independent operator is brought before the Emergency & Community Services Committee.

CARRIED

(h) Outstanding Business List Items Requiring Approval for Proposed New Due Dates (Item 11.1)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That the proposed new due dates for Items “H” and “N” of the Emergency & Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List, be approved as follows:

(a) Item “H” - City’s Strategy to Manage Greenspace and Open Space Deficiencies
   Due Date: May 21, 2008
   New Due Date: September 17, 2008

(b) Item “N” - Farmers’ Market – Implications of Operating the Market by an Independent Operator
   Due Date: May 7, 2008
   New Due Date: September 17, 2008

CARRIED

(i) Outstanding Business List Items Requiring Approval to be Removed from the Emergency & Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List (Item 11.2)

(Merulla/Morelli)
That the following items be considered complete and removed from the Emergency & Community Services Committee’s Outstanding Business List:

(a) Item “B” – Use, Renovation & Replacement Study – Phase 1A Report (addressed at the April 16, 2008 meeting).
(b) That Item “W” – Provinces contribution to Hamilton’s Long-term Care Facilities (addressed through Item 7 above).

CARRIED

(j) Correspondence from Mr. Walter Peace, Chair of the Hamilton Historical Board, respecting tobogganing at Battlefield Park in Stoney Creek (Item 11.3)

(Pasuta/McHattie)
That the correspondence from Mr. Walter Peace, Chair of the Hamilton Historical Board, respecting tobogganing at Battlefield Park in Stoney Creek, be received and referred to the General Manager of Public Works for the appropriate action.

CARRIED

(k) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(McHattie/Pasuta)
There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor T. Jackson, Chair
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Assistant
May 7, 2008