General Issues Committee
MINUTES (BUDGET DELIBERATIONS)
9:30 a.m.
Thursday, March 7, 2013
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Present:
Deputy Mayor B. Johnson (Chair)
Mayor R. Bratina
Councillors C. Collins, J. Farr, L. Ferguson, B. McHattie,
S. Merulla, B. Morelli, T. Jackson, J. Partridge, R. Pasuta,
M. Pearson

Absent with Regrets: Councillor R. Powers – City Business (AMO)
Councillors S. Duvall, T. Whitehead – City Business (FCM)
Councillor B. Clark – Personal Business

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Clerk advised of the following change:

DISCUSSION AGENDA

(i) Distributed: Appendix “A” to Report FCS13025 (Item 5.1)

(ii) Distributed: Revised Appendices “A”, “B” and “C” to Report FCS13010 (Item 6.1(b))

ADDED PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

(iii) Personal Matter about identifiable individuals (No Copy)

Pursuant to Section 8.1, sub-section (b) of the City’s Procedural By-law and Section 239.2, sub-section (b) of the Ontario Municipal Act, this matter will be considered in Closed Session as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual(s), including municipal or local board employees, respecting an on-going investigation (Added Item 10.1)

(Merulla/Collins)

That the agenda be approved, as amended. CARRIED
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Pearson/Merulla)
That the following Minutes of the General Issues Committee be approved, as presented:

(a) February 21, 2013 (Public Delegations)
(b) February 28, 2013 (Budget Deliberations)  CARRIED

4. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS/HEARINGS

4.1 Joey Coleman respecting the 2013 City of Hamilton Budget (No Copy) (Referred from February 21, 2013 GIC Meeting)

Deputy Mayor Johnson called on Joey Coleman to present to the Committee. Mr. Coleman was not in attendance.

(Collins/Pearson)
That the presentation from Joey Coleman be deferred to the next budget meeting.  CARRIED

5. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

5.1 2012 Draft Tax and Rate Operating Year-End Variance (Unaudited) (FCS13025) (City Wide)

Mike Zegarac provided a presentation respecting the 2012 Draft Tax and Rate Operating Year-End Variance, and spoke to the following issues:

- 2012 Year-End Forecast
- 2012 Draft Budget Variances by Department
- 2012 Major Favourable Variances – Tax
- 2012 Major Unfavourable Variances – Tax
- 2012 Major Variances – Tax
- 2007-2012 Year-End Variance History
- 2077-2012 Tax Programs Net Gapping
- Projected Disposition of Year-End Surplus
- Options for Disposition of Year-End Surplus
- 2012 Major Variances – Rate
A copy of the power point presentation was submitted for the public record and can be viewed on the City of Hamilton web site.

(Pearson/Bratina)
That the presentation respecting the 2012 Draft Tax and Rate Operating Year-End Variance, be received. CARRIED

(Pasuta/Jackson)
That Report FCS13025 respecting the 2012 Draft Tax and Rate Operating Year-End Variance, be received. CARRIED

5.2 Update – 2013 Tax-Supported Operating Budget (No Copy)

Mike Zegarac provided an update with respect to the 2013 Tax-Supported Operating Budget which incorporates the decisions approved by the Committee at their meeting on February 28. The presentation also provided an update on the enhancements and Council-referred items. The presentation addressed the following areas:

- 2013 Updated Budget Tax Impact on Average Home
- 2013 Updated Budget by Department
- 2013 Average Total Tax Impacts
- Reducing the Residential Tax Impact
- 2013 Council Referred Items (Appendix “B” to FCS13010 – updated)
- Requested Enhancements (Appendix “C” to FCS 13010 – updated)
- Process

A copy of the power point presentation was submitted for the public record and can be viewed on the City of Hamilton web site.

(Partridge/Merulla)
That the presentation respecting Update – 2013 Tax-Supported Operating Budget, be received. CARRIED

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Items Deferred from February 28 GIC Meeting:

(a) Boards and Agencies Budget (See Item 5.2 of February 28 GIC Agenda)

(Merulla/Farr)
That the following components of the 2013 Boards and Agencies budgets be deferred:
(i) Hamilton Police Service  
(ii) H.E.C.F.I.  
(iii) Community Partnership Program  

(b) 2013 Tax-Supported Operating Budget – Recommendations (FCS13010) (City Wide) (See Item 5.3 of February 28 GIC Agenda)  

(i) Appendix “B” – 2013 Council Referred Enhancements  

(Merulla/Collins)  
That the 2013 Council-Referred Enhancements, as listed on Appendix “B”, as amended, be deferred to a future budget deliberations meeting.  

Municipal Funding for 2013 James Street North Supercrawl Event in Downtown Hamilton (Item B5)  

(Farr/Merulla)  
Whereas the James Street North Supercrawl has become the premier special event in Hamilton's Downtown Core, with the 2012 Festival attendance of 80,000 people;  

And Whereas 20,000 people, or one-quarter of the total attendance, originated from outside Hamilton’s municipal boundaries;  

And Whereas the estimated economic impact of the Supercrawl event was approximately $6 million, with a return on investment by the City of over 11,000, when matched with the economic impact.  

Therefore Be It Resolved:  

(a) That the 2013 James Street North Supercrawl be sponsored by the City of Hamilton in the amount of $125,000;  

(b) That the funding source for this sponsorship commitment be identified as the Economic Development Investment Fund Account No. 112221;  

(c) That within 90 days after the event has been held, a senior representative of the James Street North Supercrawl present to the General Issues Committee a summary of its economic benefits to the City of Hamilton;
(d) That staff from the Corporate Services Department identify a source of sponsorship funding from a corporate source as opposed to a departmental reserve for future James Street North Supercrawl events.

The Motion was **DEFEATED** on the following tie vote:

Yeas: Jackson, Collins, Merulla, Farr, McHattie  
Total Yeas: 5

Nays: Pearson, Ferguson, Pasuta, Partridge, Johnson  
Total Nays: 5

Absent: Bratina, Clark, Powers, Whitehead, Duvall, Morelli  
Total Absent: 6

**(McHattie/Farr)**  
That Item B4 of Appendix “B”, Contribution for the Innovation Factory – second year operational funding, with a gross impact of $50,000 and zero net levy impact, be approved and funded from the Economic Development Investment Reserve Fund.  
**CARRIED**

**(Jackson/Ferguson)**  
That Item B9 of Appendix “B”, as amended, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion (HCCI) additional funding request, with a gross impact of $25,000 and zero net impact, be approved.  
**CARRIED**

**(ii) Appendix “C” – 2013 Requested Enhancements**

**(Ferguson/Pearson)**  
(aa) That Item C6 of Appendix “C”, as amended, to Report FCS13010, being Customer Service, Access & Equity – Language line enhancement pilot (interpretation service), with a gross impact of $10,000, net impact of $10,000, be eliminated from the 2013 Requested Enhancements.  
**CARRIED**

**(Jackson/Collins)**  
(bb) That staff be directed to monitor this program and report back to the General Issues Committee prior to the 2014 budget deliberations.  
**CARRIED**
(Ferguson/Farr)

(cc) That the four (4) FTE’s for Building – additional FTE’s to address increase in building permit activity, be approved and funded from the Building Enterprise Reserve and Increased Zoning Activity Revenue (Item C1 of Appendix “C”, as amended, to Report FCS13010). CARRIED

(Ferguson/Farr)

(dd) That Appendix “C”, as amended, to Report FCS13010, 2013 Requested Enhancements, be approved. CARRIED

NOTE: Due to urgency, sub-section (cc) will be forwarded to the March 27 meeting of Council for consideration.

(iii) Recommendations A to L of Report FCS13010

(Jackson/McHattie)

That Recommendations A to L of Report FCS13010 respecting the 2013 Tax-Supported Operating Budget, be deferred to a future budget deliberations meeting. CARRIED

(c) Increase to the 2013 Community Partnership Program Budget (Item 6.2) (Referred from Audit Finance and Administration Committee on February 11, 2013) (See Item 5.7 of February 28 GIC Agenda)

Staff advised that this item is included in the Council-Refereed Enhancements and as a result, is not required to be shown as a separate issue to be dealt with by the Committee.

7. MOTIONS

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor B. McHattie brought the following Notice of Motion forward:

That the City guarantee that Coronation Minor Hockey Association receives same ice allocation in 2013/2014 as they did in 2011/2012.
The Committee Clerk advised that this matter is more appropriate for consideration by the Emergency & Community Services Committee. As a result, Councillor McHattie advised that he would bring his Motion to the March 25 Emergency & Community Services Committee meeting.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Hamilton Police Services Budget

(Collins/Ferguson)
That staff present what a maintenance budget for the Hamilton Police Service would look like from a percentage increase standpoint. CARRIED

(b) Options to Mitigate 2.2% Budget Increase

Councillor T. Jackson outlined three possible areas that could potentially mitigate the 2.2% budget increase, as follows:

(i) $2.7 million Departmental Surplus Reserve
(ii) $1.8 million from fuel costs
(iii) $1 million from winter budget pressure for Priority 3 roadways.

10. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

(Collins/Partridge)
On a motion, the Committee moved into Closed Session at 1:16 p.m. pursuant to Section 8.1(c) of the City’s Procedural By-law and Section 239.2(b) of the Ontario Municipal Act as the subject matter pertains to personal matters about an identifiable individual(s), including municipal or local board employees, respecting an on-going investigation. CARRIED

The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 2:50 p.m.

No action to report.
11. ADJOURNMENT

(Jackson/Collins)
There being no further business, the Committee recessed at 2:53 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

Councillor B. Johnson
Deputy Mayor

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Co-ordinator
Office of the City Clerk