EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES 08-001(c)
Wednesday, February 20, 2008
Immediately following the regularly scheduled
Emergency & Community Services Committee Meeting
Room 207
Hamilton Convention Centre
1 Summers Lane

Present: Councillors T. Jackson (Chair), S. Duvall (Vice Chair), S. Merulla (Vice Chair), M. McCarthy, B. McHattie and R. Pasuta
Absent with Regrets: Councillor B. Morelli – Police Services Board Business
Also Present: J. Kay, General Manager/Chief, Hamilton Emergency Services
J. Priel, General Manager, Community Services Department
J. Rinaldo, General Manager, Corporate Services
B. Browett, Director of EMS/Deputy Chief
J. Summers, Paramedic
A. Bradford, Director, Culture
H. Klumpp, Manager, Finance & Administration
S. Paparella, Legislative Assistant, City Clerk’s Division

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO BUDGET STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Major Events Office (Hamilton War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration and Other Major Events) (4.2)

(McHattie/Duvall)
That funding in the amount of $150,000, for a Major Events Office (for the Hamilton War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration and other upcoming major events), be approved.

AMENDMENT CARRIED
MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED
FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

There were none.

(b) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were none declared.

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

3.1 January 23, 2008

*(McHattie/Merulla)*

That the Minutes of the January 23, 2008 Emergency & Community Services Committee be approved, as presented.

*CARRIED*

(d) **Hamilton Emergency Services/Emergency Medical Services – Hiring of Paramedics (4.1)**

Jim Kay, General Manager/Chief, Hamilton Emergency Services and Brent Browett, Director/Deputy Chief, Emergency Medical Services provided a presentation in response to the following staff direction, which was given at the January 23, 2008 Emergency & Community Services Committee budget meeting:

(i) **Councillor Ferguson:**

Staff was directed to provide, to the best of their ability, the impact on the levy in 2009 (savings) if recommended number paramedics were not hired, what implications would this action have, and the current land ambulance response and hospital off-load times.

With two less paramedic units and two less ambulances, several of the implications would be:

- Equity across our six communities - LESS
- ZERO ambulances & paramedics to respond - WORSE
- Impact of hospital off-load delays – WORSE
- Emergency response times - SLOWER
- More Street Resources Used for Paramedic Meal Breaks
- Municipal EMS cross-border calls – COST MORE
- Labour Strife and Negative Staff Morale
(ii) Councillor Whitehead:

Staff was directed to confirm timelines, if any, in the recommendations for Report HES06005(a), Item 7 of Committee of the Whole Report 07-023, as approved by Council at its meeting of July 11, 2007.

At the July 11, 2007 Committee of the Whole 2007, the final slide illustrated the following: “2007- begin hiring staff, and 2008 - complete hiring staff”, which is believed to be the intent upon which Option 2 was approved by Council.

(McHattie/Merulla)
That Item “A” – the Stop Hiring of Paramedics, be considered complete and removed from the Emergency & Community Services Committee Budget Task List.

CARRIED

(e) Culture Division – Hamilton War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration and Other Major Events (4.2)

(McHattie/Pasuta)
That Item 4.2 – Hamilton War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration, be lifted from the table.

CARRIED

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)

(McCarthy/Duvall)
There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor T. Jackson, Chair
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Assistant
February 20, 2008