Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger  
Councillors T. Jackson, M. Pearson, R. Powers  

Absent with regrets: Councillor T. Whitehead – City Business  

Also Present: J. Rinaldo, Acting City Manager  
T. McCabe, General Manager, Planning and Economic Development  
P. Barkwell, Acting General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services  
S. Stewart, General Manager, Public Works  
Dr. E. Richardson, MOH  
T. Tollis, J. Spiler, T. Hewitson, C. Wheeler, M. Gallagher  

Mayor Eisenberger called the meeting to order.  

1. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**  

(Powers/Pearson)  
That the agenda be adopted as presented. **CARRIED.**  

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  

None
3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Presentation - 2009 Budget

Joe Rinaldo provided an overview of the following:

- Outlook of Operating and Capital budget and linking to council’s strategic plan.
- Financial Markets, US recession and impacts
- Access to capital markets – issue of borrowing – due to uncertainty would be problematic
- Stricter guidelines and abilities to pay back will evolve over time/Closer scrutiny
- October 27 – Economic Statement expected to be released
- Supplementary taxes are on target
- Ongoing reliance on one time revenues
- Other challenge – funding requirements for capital are becoming significant
- Local service realignment – big impact on what happens – hope to hear by the end of the year.
- Future – great opportunity for rapid transit

Connie Wheeler presented an overview of the 2009 Budget Process. Included in the overview were the following:
- Role of BSC and Standing Committees
- Process and Timelines for transit, Tax Capital and User Fees, Rate Capital and Operating, Tax Operating, Public Engagement
- Linking the Strategic Plan to the Budget Process

Tony Tollis presented an overview of the Current budget outlook. Included in the overview were the following:
- Budget Guidelines
- Outlook –Where we are today
- Tax Capital Budget (investing in Ontario (48 M)
- 2009 Base Budget
- 2009 Pre-approved items
- 2009 Provincial Pressures
- Mitigating the Tax Levy pressures
- potential mitigation items
- Capital Budget Outlook
- Subsidy Allocation Options
(Pearson/Powers)

(a) That staff report back to the Budget Steering Committee in November with an update on the progress of mitigating the tax levy pressures.

(b) That the departmental guideline be 2% excluding pre-approved items and provincial impacts and that staff be directed to highlight efficiencies and/or justifications should a higher increase be requested.

(c) That Boards and Agencies be requested to submit a budget to Committee of the Whole based on a 2.0% guideline and that Boards be requested to justify any additional increase above the 2.0%.

(d) That, as a general guideline, user fees (excluding rate, golf, transit and ice fees) be increased by 3.4% and that any user fee adjustments other than 3.4% be forwarded for consideration with appropriate explanation.

(e) That public delegations be entertained at Committee of the Whole.

(f) That the 2009 Budget process/timeline attached hereto as Appendix A be approved.

(g) That staff submit a multi-year budget projection during the 2009 process and for subsequent budgets. CARRIED.

(Jackson/Pearson)

(h) That the City of Hamilton’s entitlement of $48m under Investing in Ontario be allocated per Option 1: (Refer to Appendix B (2009 Detail and Appendix C (2009-2018 forecast)

2009 Draft Capital Budget Summary re: $48m ($000’s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2009 Block Funding</th>
<th>$48m</th>
<th>Total Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roads/Bridges</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Facilities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Facilities</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Development</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit Housing Rehab</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randle Reef</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development Initiatives</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>48,000</td>
<td>95,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CARRIED.
(Jackson/Powers)
(i) That the 2009 Capital Budget be increased by 0.5 % of the total tax levy ($3.15 million).  
CARRIED.

TO DO LIST

1. Staff were directed to provide to A&A an update on the investment portfolio.

2. Budget Steering Committee to review the benchmarking report including overview by department to highlight where the City stands and seek further direction.

3. That staff report back on a process to undertake a review of all municipal services, identifying opportunities for efficiencies including a review of current service levels.

4. Information report on status of Multi-Residential Property Taxation Sub-Committee recommendations

5. User Fees schedule – staff to email to Councillors

6. Staff will be reporting back on the process for an information sharing and public consultation plan for area rated services at the end of the 2009 Budget

7. Staffing Levels – discussion at the November meeting on capping. No new net staff until Council provides future direction. Bring recent enhancements to table to explore further efficiencies.

(Pearson/Jackson)

The meeting adjourned 11:55 a.m.  
CARRIED.