Committee of the Whole
MINUTES
1:30 p.m.
March 8, 2006
Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West, Hamilton

Present: Mayor L. DiIanni

Absent with regrets: Councillors M. Ferguson, B. Morelli - Illness

Also Present: G. Peace, City Manager
J. Rinaldo, General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services
S. Stewart, General Manager, Public Works
C. Graham, General Manager, Human Resources
J. Priel, General Manager, Community Services and Public Health
L. A. Coveyduck, General Manager, Planning and Development
J. Kay, General Manager/Chief HES
K. Christenson, City Clerk
M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator

Mayor DiIanni called the meeting to order

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

(Mitchell/Pearson)
That the agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None
3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

3.1 February 17, 2006

(Jackson/Bruckler)
Minutes of February 17, 2006 were adopted as presented. CARRIED.

4. **PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

4.1 Personnel Matter

(Collins/Bruckler)
Committee moved in camera to discuss a personnel matter CARRIED.

(Collins/Bruckler)
Reconvene in Open Session CARRIED.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

Joe Rinaldo provided Committee with an update on where we currently stand with respect to the budget and budget areas where council could consider potential amendments.

Joe Rinaldo was directed to provide to council additional information on the following:
- rationalization of the Use of Surplus funds in the amount of 2.0 to 2.5 million.
- use, impacts and alternatives to be further explored.
- Winter Control numbers to be provided as well.

6. **BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Planning and Economic Development Department

6.1(a) Identifying Core Services and Obligations of Animal control for the City of Hamilton (PED06011) (Previously was a Private and Confidential Report listed on the February 16, 2006 Agenda) (Collins/Merulla)

(a) That Animal Control ceases adoption operations and closes the facility at 345 Jones Road in 2006.

(b) That staff be directed to pursue other options for the use of 345 Jones Road.
(c) That Council approve a multi-tier user fee system for animal surrenders, to promote responsible pet ownership and reduce euthanasia rates at Animal Control.

(d) That Council approve the increase of impound fees from $60 to $85 to encourage responsible ownership, increase re-homing rates of lost pets and reduce euthanasia rates.

(e) That enforcement staff carries out their legislative duties and obligations through a zero tolerance policy as it pertains to licensing and enforcement due to infractions of Municipal By-laws and Provincial Legislation.

(f) That Animal Control explores leasing and installation of computers to be installed in Animal Control vans, subject to the development of a Corporate standard for mobile computing.

(g) That Animal Control enters into an Agreement with a private contractor to provide a door-to-door Licensing and Education Program.

(h) That Animal Control pursues opportunities for community and private business partnerships in order to leverage Animal Control services in the community.

(i) That staff explore the development of an education program with School Boards to present in schools.

(j) That staff be directed to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of continuing to use contracted Animal Control Services for Flamborough and Glanbrook, or have Municipal staff assume the responsibilities.

(Braden/Mitchell)
That subsection (j) be amended to read as follows:
That staff be directed to compare animal control services for either city forces, the private sector or a combination of the two with the intention of ascertaining best values

DEFEATED

(Collins/Jackson)
That the following be added as subsection (k):
(k) That $94,450 be utilized as part of the 2006 budget reduction strategy

CARRIED.
(Collins/Jackson)
That subsection (j) be amended to include the words “or expanding” after the word continuing. CARRIED.

(Jackson/Whitehead)
That the motion with respect to the York Parkade Funding of Subsidy for Parking be reconsidered CARRIED

(Jackson/Whitehead)

(a) That staff be directed to proceed with the implementation of free on-street parking on Saturdays in the Downtown Community Improvement Plan area; and

(b) That $100,000 be allocated to the Public Health and Community Services Department budget from corporate surplus to allow the 1 hour free parking program in the York Boulevard Parkade to continue for 6 months until the Farmer’s Market Strategic Analysis report is complete. CARRIED.

6.2 Public Health and Community Services Department

(a) Council Referred Items (Book 1) Appendix 1-6, Page 104 Utilities Arrears Program

(Whitehead/Merulla)
That this item be lifted from the table. CARRIED.

(Bratina/Bruckler)
That this item be deferred until the 2007 process. CARRIED.

(b) Information Report – Worker’s Arts and Heritage centre – Increased Funding

(Whitehead/Merulla)
That the motion to receive the request for funding by Workers Arts and Heritage Centre be reconsidered. CARRIED.

(Merulla/Whitehead)

(a) That Council approve an increase from $15,000 to $50,000 on a one-time basis for the Workers Arts and Heritage Centre;
(b) That the organization make a presentation to a committee of council providing a business plan to demonstrate how the organization and the city will partner in the future and what is being done to boost revenue and attendance figures. CARRIED.

7. Public Works, Infrastructure and Environment Department (Book 1), Appendix 1-1, page 36

(Merulla/Collins)
(a) That there be no increase to transit fares in 2006
(b) That staff report back on utilizing the Provincial Gas Tax Revenue to address the shortfall.

(Merulla/Collins)
That this motion be deferred. CARRIED.

(Collins/Merulla)
That Transit incorporate $496,000 in increased revenue base toward the transit fares. CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.