THE FOLLOWING WAS REPORTED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Enclosure under Council Chamber

   (Pearson/Eisenberger)
   That an enclosed area directly under the Council Chambers be incorporated into the design of City Hall, contingent on determining the appropriate funding source. CARRIED
2. **Correspondence from Art French, Chair, Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee, respecting alterations to the exterior of Hamilton City Hall**

*(Whitehead/Pearson)*

(a) That the correspondence from Art French, Chair, Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee (MHC), respecting alterations to the exterior of Hamilton City Hall, be received;

(b) That a response be forwarded to the MHC advising that the disposition of the existing marble cladding is part of the overall contract and therefore, its re-use is not at the discretion of the City. **CARRIED**

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**FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE:**

(a) **Call to Order/Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Ferguson called the meeting to order and requested if there were any declarations of interest, of which there were none.

(b) **Changes to the Agenda (Item 2)**

None

(c) **Approval of Previous Minutes – December 1, 2008 (Item 3)**

*(Pearson/Collins)*

That the Minutes of the December 1, 2008 meeting of the City Hall Renovations Steering Committee, be approved, as presented. **CARRIED**

(d) **Updates:**

(i) **Schedule/Budget/Quality (Item 4.1)**

Gerry Davis advised that the Committee will be receiving a power point presentation providing updates on the City Hall renovation project. Two of the issues to be presented include the enclosure under the Council Chamber and the ice rink/reflecting pool. In terms of decisions required on these two components, the Committee was advised that a decision on the ice rink/reflecting pool was not critical at this point; however, a decision would be required on the enclosure under the Council Chamber as this affects the design process. If the Committee is at all interested in an enclosed area, this would be the last opportunity for consideration.
Kieran Hawe, Samir Raza, Walter Woloshyn and Susan Conner were in attendance to respond to questions of the Committee.

Samir Raza spoke to the power point presentation, which included the following:

- Progress update
- Schedule status (high level summary)
- Key schedule milestones
- Budget status
- Design status, including permit approvals
- Key permit status
- Decisions required at this meeting i.e., enclosure under Council Chamber
- Site layout and fencing plan
- Request for opening west side green space (response to discussions from previous meeting)

Also included in the presentation were renderings of the enclosure under the Council Chamber (exterior and interior – north and south facing), open ceiling space on the 2nd floor, landscaping plan and landscaping with ice rink option.

The Committee was advised that the project is on target for occupancy on July 2, 2010.

With respect to the enclosure, staff advised that the cost is not part of the overall budget; however staff has been reviewing the concept which enhances the overall project. The enclosure would provide additional square footage and could be utilized for ceremonial activities. A decision to incorporate the enclosure would impact the 2010 move in date. Staff are requesting the Committee’s direction to continue to investigate the inclusion of the enclosure.

The Committee was advised that the green space on the west side of City Hall will be turned back to the City in the Spring of 2010; however, until that time, the entire area will be fenced in due to safety concerns. The Committee requested staff and the consultants to find a way to phase in construction on the west side so as not to take away the green space for the neighbourhood residents or alternatively, placing more benches and shading at the corner of Bay and Hunter Streets, or consider if a parkette atmosphere can be created on the former St. Mark’s Church site at the south-west corner of Bay and Hunter Streets. Staff will report back on this issue at the next meeting.

Following the Committee’s discussions, the recommendation shown as Item 1 was put forward and **CARRIED** on the following vote:
Yeas: Eisenberger, Ferguson, Pearson, Whitehead
Total Yeas: 4
Nays: Collins
Total Nays: 1

(e) Other Business (Item 6)

(i) Date of Next Meeting – Monday, March 2, 2009

(f) Adjournment (Item 7)

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Councillor L. Ferguson
Chair
City Hall Renovations Steering Committee

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Assistant
January 19, 2009