Committee of the Whole
MINUTES 10-003

9:30 a.m.
January 13, 2010
Albion Room
Hamilton Convention Centre

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger
Deputy Mayor S. Merulla
Councillors B. Bratina, B. Clark, C. Collins, S. Duvall,
L. Ferguson, T. Jackson, M. McCarthy, B. McHattie,
B. Morelli, D. Mitchell, R. Pasuta, M. Pearson, R.
Powers, T. Whitehead

Also Present: C. Murray, City Manager
R. Rossini, General Manager, Finance and Corporate
Services
S. Paparella, Legislative Assistant
M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator, Council and Committee of the
Whole/Budgets

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO CITY COUNCIL FOR
CONSIDERATION:

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

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

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None
3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS

Committee entertained the following Boards and Agencies on the 2010 Budget:

9:40 a.m.  Hamilton Beach Rescue Unit

The delegation addressed Committee and provided a power point presentation highlighting the following:

- Training
- Summary of Activities and Emergency Responses in 2009
- Special Activities
- Tree Damage
- Other sources of Funding
- Celebrate Ontario designated Festival as an attraction

Commended for the work done for the community and for the detailed perspective of services provided.

(Pearson/Collins)
That the 2010 request in the amount of $126,805 be approved. CARRIED.

10:00 a.m.  Festival of Friends

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:
- Festival of Friends is growing in stature
- Crowds increasing
- Outstanding Debt

(Powers/Merulla)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.
10:20 a.m.  **Opera Hamilton**

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- Evolution of Opera Hamilton
- Value to the community
- Update on season to present
- Budget
- Financial Picture

*(Jackson/Bratina)*

That the 2010 request in the amount of $126,928 be approved and advanced in January, 2010.  **CARRIED.**

10:40 a.m.  **Boris Brott Music Festival**

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- 2009 interchange – outreach program with various seniors homes – performed for seniors in the facilities
- National Academy Orchestra – young people opportunity to gain experience/training to get jobs.
- employed 41 local artists, 222 people altogether

*(Pearson/Mitchell)*

That the presentation be received.  **CARRIED.**

11:00 a.m.  **Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra**

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- 19th largest in Canada
- Have been in the community for 60 years
- performs with local organizations annually and international touring acts e.g. Diana Krall, etc.
- education programs reach 10,000 school children annually
- Instrument for every child – initiative aimed at reaching 1,000 inner city children.
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- musicians teach at faculties and studio throughout the community.
- keep local entertainment in the community, attract tourism, employ Hamiltonians, generate revenue for other city businesses (restaurants, hotels, etc.)
- contributes to the city’s positive image and attractive livability.

(Pearson/Collins)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.

11:20 a.m. Royal Botanical Gardens

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- Ministry of Culture has been main funder since 2008 and assisted in a multi-year strategy.
- Base funding, from Ministry of Culture, more than doubled on an annual basis.
- Developing a concept re organization that will attract national interest; from community and donor circles.
- Had first winter exhibit in 2009 – Winter Monsters, which generated new memberships.
- Currently about 12,000 memberships, and are hoping to increase to 15,000 in near future.
- Horticulture, conservation, education and science are items of core mandate.
- Lead (with stakeholders’ user group) in development of Cootes to Escarpment Land Management initiative.
- New events: Art in Paradise (artists working with native art materials), Music in the Gardens, Tranquil Thursdays.
- Largest botanical gardens in Canada.
- River Ride on the Amazon exhibit coming this year.

(Powers/Pasuta)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.

11:40 a.m. Art Gallery of Hamilton

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:
- Launch of first international film festival in partnership with Festitalia – 33 films, 6 animated shorts for children, 14 films featuring local artists
- Sax in the City; the Sequel
- 25 exhibitions in 2009 and several local artists in the community gallery
- Modernists photographs
- Hamilton 365 in show in community gallery
- more than 8,000 people attended programs
- Adult workshops
- touch tours – intended to assist those with visual challenges to learn about art through touching
- Gallery tours and audio guides – people can borrow audio guides to hear about exhibitions
- Family days, school days and workshops.
- Themed art site – small space that connects with overall theme of gallery (for children)
- summer camps and touch tours for children
- 165,000 people visited the Gallery in 2009
- Hosted two citizenship ceremonies at the Gallery; all new Canadians receive a free membership if they receive their Canadian citizenship at the Gallery.
- announcement of major gift to the Art Gallery of Hamilton to be announced on January 14th at 11:00 a.m. at the Gallery
- 2010 will show the long-term affect and importance of Africa on our World.
- Ontario Arts Council – $237,000 – confirmed for 2010
- Canada Council currently considering request for 2010-2012.

(Pearson/Duvall)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.

Recess for lunch

1:00 p.m. Conservation Halton

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- Partnerships
- Public Accountability
- Achieving Hamilton Strategic Goals
- 2009 CH Services in Hamilton
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- 2010 Major Budget Drivers
- 2010 Budget Summary
- Funding Comparison 2010 vs. 2009
- Funding by Source
- Municipal Funding
- Municipal Apportionments
- Natural Champions for a Healthy Watershed

(McCarty/Jackson)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.

1:20 p.m. Grand River Conservation Authority

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:
- Future of Conservation
- Water control
- Reducing Flood Damages
- Low Flow Augmentation
- Infrastructure Issues
- Grand River Basin Study Update
- 2010 Draft Budget Expenditures
- Sources of Revenue
- Special Projects
- Source Protection Planning

(Duval/Peason)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.

1:40 p.m. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:
- New boat launches
- Lakeside Pavillion expansions
- Expanded Beach facilities
- 2010 Fiscal Overview and Challenges
- Challenges/mitigation efforts
- Funding Sources

(Ferguson/Jackson)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.
2:00 p.m.  Hamilton Conservation Authority

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- Core Services
- Watershed Management
- Budget Breakdown
- Levy/Funding Summary

(Collins/Ferguson)
That the presentation be received.  CARRIED.

2:30 p.m.  Hamilton Public Library

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- Freedom to discover – 2009
- Circulation through the roof (6 million in 2009)
- Technological pioneer
- Helping people in tough times
- Finding efficiencies
- Committed to making Hamilton better
- Downtown renewal partner
- Internationally recognized
- Turner Park – an instant success
- MyHamilton.ca website
- New book mobiles
- 2009/10 Renovations

(Pearson/Ferguson)
That the presentation be received.  CARRIED.

2:50 p.m.  HECFI

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- Capital Improvements at Copps Coliseum
- Compass Group – Food Management
- Capital Improvements at Hamilton Place
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- Capital Improvements at Hamilton Place
- Entertainment Highlights
- Other Accomplishments
- Hospitality Highlights
- Budget Highlights

Staff will provide assessment for actual costs respecting utilities

(Whitehead/Jackson)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.

3:10 p.m. Hamilton Police Services

The delegation addressed Committee and provided highlights of the following:

- Challenges
- Strategies
- Performance
- Commitments
- Budget Proposal

Police Chief Glenn DeCaire was requested to provide what the mandated requirements are for Police Services? (i.e. Police Services Act)

(Merulla/Pearson)
That the presentation be received. CARRIED.

5. DISCUSSION AGENDA

5.1 2010 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Boards & Agencies (FCS09120i) (City Wide)

(Merulla/Pearson)
(a) That the 2010 net operating levy for Hamilton Police Services be approved at $123,258,550;

(b) That the 2010 net operating levy for the Hamilton Public Library be approved at $27,162,494;

(c) That the 2010 net operating levy for Other Boards and Agencies be approved at $15,756,729;
(Collins/Pearson)
That subsection (c) be amended:
That the 2010 budget for MPAC be increased from the draft amount of $5,753,270 representing a 2% increase, to $5,798,128 to reflect the 2.9% increase levied through MPAC.

Amendment CARRIED

(Ferguson/Clark)
That subsection (a) be tabled to allow the police services to advise what 2% would look like in the terms of service reductions including impacts to the reductions.

Motion DEFEATED on a Standing Recorded Vote:
Yea: Clark, Ferguson, Mitchell
Total: 3
Nay: Eisenberger, Collins, Duvall, Jackson, Merulla, Morelli, Pasuta, Pearson, Powers, Whitehead
Total: 10
Absent: Bratina, McCarthy, McHattie
Total: 3

(Clarke/Whitehead)
That the Hamilton Police Services be directed to advise what 2% would look like in the terms of service reductions including impacts to the reductions.

CARRIED.

Councillors Ferguson, Clark, Mitchell, Duvall opposed to budget approvals of Grand River and Halton

Main Motion as AMENDED, CARRIED

(Merulla/Jackson )
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger

M. Gallagher, Co-ordinator
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