Social & Public Health Services Committee
REPORT 05-013
9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, October 25, 2005
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West, Hamilton

Present: Chair B. McHattie, Vice-Chair B. Bratina
Councillors T. Jackson, B. Kelly, S. Merulla, B. Morelli

Also Present: J. Priel, General Manager, E. Richardson, J. Emali,
M. Mathews, Public Health & Community Services
T. Redmond, J. Downey, Planning & Economic Development
I. Sturgeon, City Clerks

THE SOCIAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 05-013 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. The Tenant Helpline (Item 4.1)

Whereas the Tenant Helpline’s mandate is to prevent homelessness through advocacy;

Whereas the continued mandate of this program is essential to prevent homelessness in the future;

Whereas the City of Hamilton is committed to preventing homelessness;

Therefore be it resolved that;

(a) The Tenant Helpline be encouraged to apply for funding from the City of Hamilton and that staff be formally requested to assess the City’s level of participation;

(b) That Council correspond with the Federal Government, strongly recommending that they continue providing funding to the Tenant Helpline Program;

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(c) That Council correspond with the Premier of Ontario and request that Provincial funding be provided to the Tenant’s Helpline Program in order that the program can continue to operate.

2. **Well Woman Clinic (SPH05049) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

   That Council approve the implementation of the Well Woman Clinic model effective January 1, 2006 as an 18 month pilot project.

3. **Implementation of a Vital Services By-law in the City of Hamilton PD05057(a)) (City Wide) – Referred from Social and Public Health Services Committee on February 9, 2005 (Item 8.1)**

   (a) That the Vital Services By-law attached to Report PD05057(a) as Appendix ‘A’ be approved.

   (b) That the City of Hamilton pay for the restoration of vital services throughout the City to a limit of $1,200 per unit in a multiple dwelling building to a maximum of $200,000 per year.

   (c) That a contingency fund, funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve (Account # 110046), be set up for the purposes of costs that may be incurred pursuant to the Vital Services By-law in the amount of $200,000.

   (d) That staff be directed to hire an additional full-time Vital Services Officer/Inspector for an 18-month pilot period at a total cost of $115,000 to undertake the administrative and enforcement responsibilities upon enactment of the Vital Services By-law to be funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve (Account #110046).

   (e) That Council delegate the hearing of the Appeal to confirm the amount of the interim certificate as issued by the City Clerk to the Planning and Economic Development Committee, which Committee shall report its recommendations and findings to Council for a final decision.

   (f) That staff report on the status of the pilot project at one year.

   (g) That the Vital Services By-law item, referred from Social and Public Health Services Committee on February 9, 2005, be identified as completed and removed from the Outstanding Business List.

4. **Opportunity Fund -- Request to Transfer Funds (SPH05045) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

   (a) That the $35,000 originally approved for the Youth Connections Program from the Opportunity Fund be transferred to the Accreditation For Immigrants Program.
(b) That the Hamilton Future Fund Board of Governors be advised of this change.

5. Universal Influenza Immunization Clinics (SPH05050) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)

That report number SPH05050 respecting the Universal Influenza Immunization Clinics be received as information.

6. Appointments to the Tenant Advisory Committee (Item 9.1)

(a) That the following citizens be appointed to the Tenant Advisory Committee for a term to commence immediately and to expire with the current term of Council or until such time as a successor is appointed;

- Robin Burley
- Andrew Cranberry
- Laura Harper-Stubbs
- Madhavi Reddy
- Mary Sinclair

(b) That the number of citizen representatives be confirmed as a minimum of 3 and that the Terms of Reference for the Tenant Advisory Committee be revised to reflect this change.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Clerk advised of three changes to the agenda;

- Approval to waive the Rules of Procedure regarding Mr. Tom Cooper’s Delegation Request (Item 4.1) and allow the presentation this morning
- Added Motion with respect to Appointments to the Tenant Advisory Committee (Added Item 9.1)
- Report Due Date Change Re: Outstanding Business Item (d), Utility Assistance Program Task Force (Item 11.2)

The above changes were approved by Committee.

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

(c) CHAIR

During the course of the meeting, Chair McHattie relinquished the Chair on several occasions to Vice Chair Bratina in order to join in the debate.
(d) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the September October 11, 2005 meeting were approved as presented.

(e) **Mr. Tom Cooper, McQueston Legal & Community Services** (Item 4.1)

Mr. Tom Cooper, Community Development Officer, McQueston Legal & Community Services appeared before Committee to speak about the new Tenant Helpline that has just been launched in Hamilton. He explained that the program was designed to be a clearing house for tenant concerns in Hamilton and to provide an arena to access information.

Ms. Madhavi Reddy, Project Co-ordinator, Tenant Education Project, made a power point presentation to members of Committee. Ms. Reddy advised that resource material would be provided to all members of Council for distribution to their constituents.

A discussion regarding the funding of this program ensued.

On a motion (Merulla/Morelli), Committee approved a recommendation requesting that Council correspond with both the Federal and Provincial levels of government with respect to providing funding for this initiative.

(f) **Well Woman Clinic** (Item 7.1)

Dr. Julie Emili, Associate Medical Officer of Health, made a power point presentation to members of Committee regarding the Well Woman Clinic. She explained that this 18 month pilot project was being developed to provide accessible physician care for woman and will focus on prevention and health promotion. A copy of Dr. Emili’s presentation was circulated to members of Committee.

The Committee approved the staff recommendation.

(g) **Pandemic Influenza Flu – Verbal Update**

Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, provided an overview of the pandemic influenza planning that has taken place since March 2005. She provided a hand-out to members of Committee which outlined activities and accomplishments to date.

Committee raised questions regarding timing, communication with the public, participation with other levels of government and citizen vaccinations.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Richardson for providing an update on this matter.
(h) Motions

i) Tenant Advisory Committee

On a motion, (Bratina/Merulla), Committee approved recommendations of appointments to the Tenant Advisory Committee.

ii) Task Force to Address Negative Adolescent Behavior

(Merulla/Morelli)
Whereas the prevalence of negative adolescent behavior is escalating in our community;

Whereas the social fabric in our community is in question as a result of unruly adolescent behavior interfering with the quality of life of residents of the City of Hamilton;

Whereas the escalation of highly publicized violent gang activities has created anxiety in the City of Hamilton and is not conducive to public safety;

Whereas the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Police Services Board is committed to public safety;

Therefore, be it resolved that staff be directed to investigate the formulation of a Task Force which would initially include the invitation for participation, but not limited to, staff from the Public Health and Community Services Department, the Catholic Children’s Aid Society, the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic School Board, the Ministry of Social Services, the Hamilton Police Services, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and local Youth Service Agencies to develop recommendations and to address the ongoing negative adolescent behavior in a holistic manner.

(i) General Information (Item 11)

(i) Somali Refugees – Outstanding Business Item B (Item 11.1)
(Due Date: October 25, 2005) (No Copy)

On a motion (Jackson/Bratina), Committee agreed to amend the due date to November 8, 2005.
(ii) Utility Assistance Program Task Force – Outstanding Business
Item D (Due Date: October 25, 2005) (No Copy)

On a motion (Bratina/Kelly) Committee agreed to amend the due date to November 29, 2005.

(j) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor B. McHattie,
Chair

I. Sturgeon,
Legislative Assistant
October 25, 2005