Present: Deputy Mayor J. Partridge
Mayor R. Bratina
Councillors B. Clark, C. Collins, S. Duvall, J. Farr,
L. Ferguson, T. Jackson, B. Johnson, B. McHattie, S. Merulla,
R. Morrow, M. Pearson, R. Pasuta, T. Whitehead

Absent: Councillor R. Powers - AMO

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

The Committee Clerk advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

(Merulla/McHattie)
That the agenda be approved, as presented CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Collins/Pasuta)
That the February 25 and 27 and March 4, 2014 Minutes of the General Issues Committee Budget meetings be approved. CARRIED
4. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Update – 2014 Tax-Supported Operating Budget

Mike Zegarac, General Manager of Finance & Corporate Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation respecting an Update on the 2014 Tax Supported Operating Budget and spoke to the following issues:

- Recommended Budget Amendments
- 2014 Total Preliminary Impact for the Average Residential Tax Bill
- 2014 Average Municipal Tax Impacts
- Council-referred Items
- Requested Enhancements
- Reducing the Tax Impact
- Process; Process Dates
- Proposed Additional Amendments – Motion Required

(Morrow/Pearson)
That the presentation respecting the update of the 2014 Tax-Supported Operating Budget be received.  CARRIED

(Pearson/Collins)
That the following amendments to reduce the operating levy totaling $693,664 be approved:

(a) D1 – Corporate Financials – Deferral of IT Process Audit Improvement (operating impacts from Capital) – ($297,000)
(b) D2 – Corporate Services – Clerk’s Increase in Registration Revenues – ($38,000)
(c) D3 – Public Health Services – Healthy Babies Healthy Children program efficiencies – ($32,700)
(d) D4 – Public Health Services – Various Operating Lines – ($62,300)
(e) D5 – Community and Emergency Services – Ontario Works Caseloads Decrease in Cost per Case ($671,000 gross) – ($76,489)
(f) D6 – Community and Emergency Services – Adjustment to Social Housing Operating Subsidies – ($187,175)
(g) D7 – Public Health Services – Smoking Cessation Clinic Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) ($25,000 gross) - $0

A full copy of the presentation is available on line at www.hamilton.ca or through the Office of the City Clerk.
4.2 2014 Transit Service Enhancement Plan

Don Hull, Director of Transit, provided a PowerPoint presentation in response to concerns expressed by the Committee at previous budget meetings. Mr. Hull spoke to the following:

- Suggested Recommendations with respect to the 2014 Transit Service Enhancement Plan
- Routes, Destinations and Ridership Growth Trip Generators
- Route 44 Rymal – Proposed Service Enhancements
- Route 43 Stone Church – Proposed Service Enhancements
- Route 20 A-Line – Proposed Service Enhancements
- Annualized Summary
- September 2014 Implementation Summary

(McHattie/Pearson)
(a) That the 2014 Transportation Division proposed budget be adjusted to reflect an additional $500,000 in revenues, based on 2013 year-end results;

(b) That staff be directed to implement the Transit Service Enhancements as per the September 2014 Implementation Summary, with a 2014 levy impact of $400,000 and an annualized cost of $1,190,000, which includes the following:

(Jackson/Johnson)
(i) $900,000 enhancement for Route 44 Rymal

(Clark/McHattie)
(ii) $200,000 enhancement for Route 43 Stone Church

(Jackson/Farr)
(iii) $90,000 enhancement for Route 20 A-Line

(c) That staff be directed to implement the above-mentioned service enhancements effective September 2014;

(d) That the approved Transportation Division complement be increased by 15 FTE’s;

(e) That an additional bus, at a cost of $407,000, be approved and funded from the Transit Vehicle Replacement Reserve.

(Pearson/Jackson)
That the presentation respecting the 2014 Transit Service Enhancement Plan be received.
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Tim Horton’s Field Enhancements (PW14016(a)) (City Wide)

(Farr/Jackson)
That Report PW14016(a) respecting “Tim Horton’s Field Enhancements” be received.  **CARRIED**

5.2 Municipal Carparks – Revenue Generation (PED14066) (City Wide)

(Farr/Jackson)
That Report PED14066 respecting “Municipal Carparks – Revenue Generation” be received.  **CARRIED**

(Farr/Jackson)
That the monthly rate in downtown surface carparks, downtown garages and all other carparks be increased by $5 per month  **CARRIED**

(Collins/Johnson)
That Report FCS14005 respecting the 2014 Tax Supported Operating Budget be lifted from the table.  **CARRIED**

5.3 2014 Tax Supported Operating Budget – Recommendations (FCS14005) (City Wide)

A. Council Referred Items

That the following Council-Referred Items be approved:

(McHattie/Duvall)
(aa) A1 – Community and Emergency Services – Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion – Gross/Net Impact of $50,000  **CARRIED**

(Jackson/McHattie)
(bb) A2 – Community and Emergency Services – Adult Day Program User Fee Subsidy – Gross/Net Impact of $65,000  **CARRIED**
B. Requested Program Enhancements

That the following 2014 Requested Program Enhancements be approved:

(Johnson/Pasuta)
(aa) B3 – Community and Emergency Services – Early Years Systems Management – Gross Impact of $98,330 CARRIED

(Clark/Pearson)
(bb) B4 – Community and Emergency Services – Ambulance Staffing – one ambulance 24/7 – Gross Impact of $538,629/Net Impact of $269,314 CARRIED

(Pearson/Whitehead)
(cc) B2 – Planning and Economic Development – Update AMANDA system per the recommendations of the Open for Business Review – Gross/Net Impact of $67,000 CARRIED

(Jackson/Clark)
(dd) B6 – Public Works – Storm Water Facilities Maintenance Program – Gross/Net Impact of $300,000 CARRIED

(Pasuta/Pearson)
(ee) B1 – Planning and Economic Development – Zoning By-law Review for Planning Applications – Gross Impact of $60,054 CARRIED

C. Boards & Agencies

(Collins/Clark)
(i) That the Boards and Agencies operating budget in the amount of $188,596,450 as per Appendix “C” attached hereto, be approved. CARRIED

(Clark/Pearson)
(ii) That the $85,270 allocated for HWCA – Festival of Friends for 2014, exclusive of the amount that has previously been advanced in the amount of $28,423, be withheld pending receipt of audited financial statements for 2012.

Subsection (C)(ii) CARRIED on the following Standing Recorded Vote:

Yeas: McHattie, Farr, Morrow, Collins, Jackson, Partridge, Pasuta, Pearson, Clark
Total Yeas: 9
Nays: Duvall, Whitehead
Total Nays: 2
Absent: Bratina, Merulla, Powers, Ferguson, Johnson
Total Absent: 5

D. Planning & Economic Development Department

(Pearson/Clark)
(i) That the Planning & Economic Development operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-1”, page 6, $24,808,240 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved. CARRIED

E. Public Health Services Department

(Pearson/McHattie)
(i) That the Public Health Services operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-2”, page 39, $10,684,290 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved; CARRIED

(ii) That the Medical Officer of Health be authorized and directed to execute all 2014 Federal and Provincial Program Service Level Funding Agreements and any ancillary agreements required to give effect thereto and Contracts for Public Health Services as provided for in Appendix “2-2” to report FCS14005. This also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly/year end reporting. CARRIED

F. Community & Emergency Services Department

(Jackson/Farr)
(i) That the Community & Emergency Services operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-3”, page 71, $226,667,916 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved;

(ii) That the General Manager of Community & Emergency Services be authorized and directed to execute all 2014 Federal and Provincial Program Service Level Funding Agreements and any ancillary agreements required to give effect thereto and Contracts for Community Services as provided for in Appendix “2-3” to report FCS14005. This also includes the authority to authorize the submission of budgets and quarterly/year end reporting. CARRIED
G. Public Works Department

(Jackson/Pasuta)
(i) That the Public Works operating budget, (Book 2), Appendix “2-4”, page 124, $202,800,400 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.  CARRIED

H. Legislative

(Pearson/Pasuta)
(i) That the Legislative operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 206, $4,217,780 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.  CARRIED

I. City Manager Department

(Pasuta/Pearson)
(i) That the City Manager operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-5”, page 151, $10,232,510 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.  CARRIED

J. Corporate Services Department

(Jackson/Collins)
(i) That the Corporate Services operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-6”, page 174, $21,034,120 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.  CARRIED

K. Hamilton Entertainment Facilities

(Collins/Farr)
(i) That the Hamilton Entertainment Facilities operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 214, $1,788,300 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.  CARRIED

L. Corporate Financials/Non Program Revenues

(Pasuta/Clark)
(i) That the Corporate Financials operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 208, $11,285,870 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved;

(ii) That the Non Program Revenues operating budget (Book 2), Appendix “2-7”, page 226, -$44,557,340 inclusive of amendments as per Appendix “D” attached hereto, be approved.  CARRIED
M. Capital Financing

(McHattie/Collins)

(i) That the following 2014 Police Capital projects referred to the 2014 Operating Budget process for discussion at the time the HPS presents their 2014 budget be approved:

- Bomb Truck Replacement $180,000
- Crime Mapping Tools $250,000
  $430,000

(ii) That the Bomb Truck Replacement and Crime Mapping Tools Capital Projects be removed from the 2014 Capital Budget “Parked” projects list;

(iii) That the Capital Financing operating budget $90,177,000 be approved. CARRIED

N. 2014 Tax Levy

(i) That the City Solicitor & Corporate Counsel be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy.

(Collins/Pearson)
That sub-section N(i), which reads as follows, be tabled to Council:

(i) That the City Solicitor & Corporate Counsel be authorized and directed to prepare all necessary by-laws, for Council approval, for the purposes of establishing the tax levy. CARRIED

6. MOTIONS

Correspondence from Theatre Aquarius respecting Opera Hamilton

(Collins/Farr)
That the correspondence from Theatre Aquarius regarding Opera Hamilton be forwarded to staff for consideration and that staff report back to the General Issues Committee with a recommendation and response. CARRIED

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor C. Collins introduced the following Notice of Motion:
Correspondence from Theatre Aquarius respecting Opera Hamilton

That the correspondence from Theatre Aquarius regarding Opera Hamilton be forwarded to staff for consideration and that staff report back to the General Issues Committee with a recommendation and response.

(Collins/Whitehead)
That the rules of order be waived in order to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting correspondence from Theatre Aquarius regarding Opera Hamilton. CARRIED

See Item 6 for the disposition of this item.

8. GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS

9. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

9.1 Closed Session Minutes – March 4, 2014

(Collins/Farr)
(a) That the closed session minutes from the March 4, 2014 meeting of the General Issues Committee be approved as presented;

(bb) That these Minutes remain confidential and restricted from public disclosure. CARRIED

10. ADJOURNMENT

(Collins/Pasuta)
That, there being no further business, the General Issues Committee be adjourned at 2:06 p.m. CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Partridge
Deputy Mayor
General Issues Committee

Carolyn Biggs
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk