



MINUTES

BUDGET COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

www.mississauga.ca

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2009 – 9:07 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 2nd FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1

PRESENT: Mayor Hazel McCallion (Chair)
Councillor Carmen Corbasson Ward 1
Councillor Pat Mullin Ward 2
Councillor Maja Prentice Ward 3
Councillor Frank Dale Ward 4
Councillor Eve Adams Ward 5
Councillor Carolyn Parrish Ward 6
Councillor Nando Iannicca Ward 7
Councillor Katie Mahoney Ward 8
Councillor Pat Saito Ward 9
Councillor Sue McFadden Ward 10
Councillor George Carlson Ward 11

ABSENT: Nil

STAFF: Janice Baker, City Manager & Chief Administrative Officer
Martin Powell, Commissioner, Transportation and Works
Ed Sajecki Commissioner, Planning and Building
Paul Mitcham, Commissioner, Community Services
Brenda Breault, Commissioner, Corporate Services & Treasurer
Gary Kent, Acting Director of Finance, Corporate Services Department
Crystal Greer, Director, Legislative Services & City Clerk
Karin Ann Brent, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER – 9:07am

DECLARATIONS OF (DIRECT OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST - Nil

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as Presented (Councillor Nando Iannicca)

DEPUTATIONS

A Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism

Director of Recreation and Parks John Lohuis introduced Robert Kowamoto, Regional Director of Sales with Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism who gave a PowerPoint presentation and distributed copies of it to the Members and staff present. Mr. Kowamoto provided background on the partnership established in April 2008 with the City of Mississauga, and reviewed the results of this partnership through which integrated marketing is achieved. Further, Mr. Kowamoto explained the economic benefits to the local tourism industry that can be achieved, and concluded his deputation noting that a new Visitors Guide for Mississauga is being produced this year.

Councillor Maja Prentice initiated discussion questioning the meetings being held with Living Arts Centre staff, to which Mr. Kowamoto advised that there are discussions for future events including a proposal for a school band music festival called ‘Cantando’ to be hosted at the Living Arts Centre in April 2010. Further, Councillor Prentice confirmed that promotion of Mississauga businesses is included within the consumer marketing funding identified in his presentation.

Councillor Pat Saito [also the Chair of the Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism Advisory Committee] thanked Mr. Kowamoto for attending this meeting, noting the millions of dollars of income for Mississauga’s restaurants, hotels and convention centres which results from the \$145,000.00 City funding in the year 2008. Further, Councillor Saito noted that previous marketing efforts had limited success as compared to the results through the current partnership with Toronto Tourism. Mayor Hazel McCallion noted that conventions and sport tournaments also have a viable benefit to small local businesses.

Subsequently Councillor Pat Saito moved receipt of Mr. Kowamoto’s deputation at this meeting, and the related Corporate Report dated June 11, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services, and that further to the deferral of the budget reduction option presented to Budget Committee at its meeting on June 9, 2009, the allocation of \$145,000.00 for the Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism program be included in the formulation of the 2010 operating budget. The motion was voted upon and carried.

Received / Directive (Councillor Pat Saito)

Recommendation BC-0015-2009

FA.19

DEPUTATIONS cont'd...**B** 2010 Preliminary Budget Update
& Status of the Infrastructure Stimulus Funding Program (ISF)

Gary Kent, Acting Director of the Finance Division in the Corporate Services Department gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the results of the Budget Committee directives from the meeting on June 9, 2009. Mr. Kent reviewed the internal and external assumptions and risk factors, and noted that no infrastructure levy has been included in the tax rate calculations. City Manager Janice Baker explained the tax rate calculations included in the communications to the public were done to address the potential confusion regarding the impact on the City's portion of levy versus the total tax bill which includes amounts for the local schools board and regional taxes. Further, Mrs. Baker questioned whether Budget Committee would like to consider other reduction options once the winter maintenance contracts are set, noting the data related to a zero (0%) to three (3%) percent local tax levy increase.

During discussion it was suggested that further cost reductions could be reviewed in the fall months to allow review of the status of the economy after the summer, and that the City should be cautious with adding any new operating expenses such as those that will emanate from the capital projects proposed to be done through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund (ISF).

Mr. Kent provided a summary of the ISF projects approved for Mississauga, and reviewed the action plan for implementing Mississauga's projects for which ISF funding has been approved, noting that alignment with the Region of Peel projects is pending at this time.

As well, Mr. Kent noted that Minister of Infrastructure Baird has clarified that the municipal projects will not require any additional federal approvals once the federal funding is announced, which will allow municipal projects to move forward quickly. Information provided in an email received from the office of Member of Parliament for Mississauga-Erindale Bob Dechert was referenced by Mr. Kent as the source which indicates that advance ISF payments to municipalities will be done in 2009.

Further in the presentation it was suggested that authority to approve the projects be delegated to the City Manager and Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer to allow the projects to continue over the summer Council recess.

Subsequently, Councillor Nando Iannicca moved receipt of the presentation. The motion was voted upon and carried.

Received for Information (Councillor Nando Iannicca)
FA.19

MATTERS CONSIDERED1. Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism

The Corporate Report dated June 11, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services regarding the services and outputs delivered through funding Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism, in conjunction with the deputation requested out of the Budget Committee meeting on June 9, 2009 was considered.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Corporate Report dated June 11, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to the outputs of the Mississauga/ Toronto West Tourism partnership be received for information.

Received for Information (Councillor Pat Saito)

See Recommendation BC-0015-2009

FA.19

2. Mississauga Fire & Emergency Services Response Times and Truck Staffing

The Corporate Report dated June 10, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services in response to a request received at the Budget Committee meeting on June 9, 2009, for information regarding response times and truck staffing was considered.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Corporate Report dated June 10, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services regarding Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services Response Times and Truck Staffing be received for information.

Councillor Sue McFadden initiated discussion questioning whether the Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services division meets the standards of the Ontario Fire Marshal for manning its trucks attending emergency calls, and whether there is sufficient staff to meet those requirements as the population increases through intensified development of the City. Fire Chief McDougall explained that three (3) firefighters on a truck can only do an assessment of a situation and secure a water supply, but not initiate a fire attack or enter a 'hot zone'.

Fire Chief John McDougall advised that the City of Mississauga's Fire and Emergency Services suppression division is appropriately staffed and that it has the necessary equipment to deal with all emergency calls, of which a majority is for medical needs or motor vehicle collisions. Further, Chief McDougall explained how the trucks and personnel are deployed appropriately in response to the 911 calls received, noting that the Provincial guide line known as "10 in 10" which is ten (10) firefighters on a fire scene in ten (10) minutes.

(2.)

Chief McDougall explained that Mississauga Fire & Emergency Services' policy for responding to emergency calls, recommends that sixteen (16) personnel be deployed to the calls involving fire fighting and rescue. Responding to the questions by Councillor George Carlson about the service model being used, and how other municipalities deploy personnel for medical calls versus fire calls, Fire Chief McDougall explained that each jurisdiction has its own delivery model, and that a review of service delivery will be done as part of the development of the Fire & Emergency Services Master Plan.

Further, Chief McDougall advised that the results of the review of budget needs will be reported to Committee prior to formulation of the 2010 operating budget. Also, Chief McDougall advised that a new computerized system called Automated Vehicle Locator (AVL) is being tested, and explained that this AVL system will deploy the vehicle closest to an emergency call to make the best use of the equipment and personnel that are out on inspections or medical calls. Chief McDougall concluded his comments advising that the Master Plan is targeted for completion in early 2010.

Subsequently, Councillor Carolyn Parrish suggested that home safety visits might be done by senior firefighters and possibly doing this service when less personnel is on vacation time. Councillor Prentice requested that she be provided with data on the number of incidents where a truck with three (3) firefighters attended a call versus the number of calls to which a truck with four (4) firefighters has been deployed. Chief McDougall explained how personnel and trucks are allocated to calls when staff complement is reduced due to illness during a shift.

Councillor Pat Saito spoke to the information about how staff and trucks are deployed to calls and questioned if additional firefighter positions are required to address personnel issues being experienced. Chief McDougall noted that gapping the hires to replace retirees creates some of the staff issues mentioned. Commissioner of Community Services advised that he will report back regarding staff complement needs which are being reviewed as part of the Master Plan process.

Mayor Hazel McCallion suggested that absenteeism and the efficiency of the new twenty-four (24) hour shifts should be included in the Master Plan review, noting the public opinion that questions the value of that length of shift. City Manager Janice Baker advised that the twenty-four (24) hour shift pilot project is implemented through the current Collective Agreement; and further, five (5) staff is Mississauga's approved per truck complement, and that hire gapping and attrition creates less staffing from time to time.

Councillor Katie Mahoney spoke to revenue generation through fees for false alarms and questioned if this is viable when alarm companies and building owners disagree on the matter. Chief McDougall opined that the fees are worthwhile and explained that staff works with the building owners and alarm companies to resolve the issues involved with false alarms toward making buildings safe.

(2.)

Subsequently, Councillor Carolyn Parrish moved receipt of the Corporate Report dated June 10, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services regarding Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services Response Times and Truck Staffing. The motion was voted upon and carried.

Received for Information (Councillor Carolyn Parrish)

Recommendation BC-0016-2009

FA.19 (CS.13)

3. 2010 Budget: Economic Adjustment Provisions for Non-Union Staff

The Corporate Report dated June 9, 2009 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer titled “2010 Budget: Economic Adjustment Provisions for Non-union Staff” was considered.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Budget Committee provide direction on the economic adjustment option for non-union staff as outlined in the Corporate Report dated June 9, 2009 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer.

Discussion clarified that the salary bands were established by review of responsibility and were compared against the salary ranges in other municipalities, noting many of those municipalities operate with front line and technical staff in union positions.

Various perspectives on what would be an appropriate cost of living increases for the various salary ranges and levels of responsibility and technical expertise were presented and discussed in regard to fairness and possible negative outcomes in the future.

The issue of enacting a province-wide wage freeze for public sector employees was raised by Councillor Iannicca. During his comments about his position on this issue, he advised his intention to present a Notice of Motion for Council’s consideration of approaching the Provincial government to enact the suggested wage freeze until the current economy improves.

Councillor Nando Iannicca moved that the Corporate Report dated June 9, 2009 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer titled “2010 Budget: Economic Adjustment Provisions for Non-union Staff” be received for information, and that consideration of the economic adjustment provisions for non-union staff be deferred. The motion was voted upon and carried.

(3.)

Subsequent to discussion suggesting that the Members of Council and Leadership Team should lead by example in regard to fiscal restraint, Councillor Pat Mullin moved that an economic adjustment for the Members of Council and the Leadership Team of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga, be withheld for the year 2010. The motion was voted upon and carried.

Deferred / Directive (Councillor Nando Iannicca / Councillor Pat Mullin)

Recommendation BC-0017-2009

FA.19

CLOSED SESSION - Nil

ADJOURNMENT – 12:20pm

REPORT 4-2009

TO: THE MAYOR & MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Budget Committee presents its fourth report for 2009 and recommends:

BC-0015-2009

1. That the deputation to Budget Committee at its meeting on June 16, 2009 by Robert Kowamoto, Regional Director of Sales with Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism, and the Corporate Report dated June 11, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to the outputs of the Mississauga/ Toronto West Tourism partnership, be received as information.
2. That, further to deferral of the budget reduction option presented to Budget Committee at its meeting on June 9, 2009, the allocation of \$145,000.00 for the Mississauga / Toronto West Tourism program be included in the formulation of the 2010 operating budget.

FA.19

BC-0016-2009

That the Corporate Report dated June 10, 2009 from the Commissioner of Community Services regarding Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services Response Times and Truck Staffing, be received for information.

FA.19 (CS.13)

BC-0017-2009

1. That the Corporate Report dated June 9, 2009 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer titled "2010 Budget: Economic Adjustment Provisions for Non-union Staff", be received for information, and that consideration of the economic adjustment provisions for non-union staff be deferred.
2. That an economic adjustment for the Members of Council and the Leadership Team of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga, be withheld for the year 2010.

FA.19