

**NINTH MEETING OF THE  
2017 BUDGET COMMITTEE  
CANADA ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE  
November 23, 2016  
10:00 am**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

<p><b>Members Present:</b> Councillor Logan Kanapathi, Chair Councillor Amanda Collucci, Vice-Chair Deputy Mayor Heath (ex-officio) Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong Councillor Don Hamilton Councillor Karen Rea</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Councillor Valerie Burke</p> <p><b>Regrets:</b> Regional Councillor Jim Jones Councillor Alex Chiu Councillor Alan Ho</p>	<p><b>Staff Present:</b> Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community &amp; Fire Services Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor Joel Lustig, Treasurer Stephen Chait, Director of Economics &amp; Culture Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation David Plant, Manager of Operations Andrea Tang, Senior Manager of Financial Planning Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator</p>
--	---

The Budget Committee convened at 1:07 p.m. with Councillor Logan Kanapathi presiding as Chair.

**1. Continuation of the Review of 2017 Councillor Requests**

The Committee continued its review of the 2017 Councillor Requests.

<b>Councillor Requests</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Decision</b>
42 – Initiate a Milne Master Plan	Deputy Mayor Heath circulated a memo regarding partnering with the Toronto Region Conservation Area (TRCA) on the development of a Milne Dame Conservation Park Master Plan. The plan will be developed over multiple years. The City will match the TRCA's contribution of \$15K in 2017. The funds will be taken from an existing funding source that was put aside for the park several years ago.  Moved Deputy Mayor Heath	<a href="#"><u>Staff recommendation approved</u></a>

Councillor Requests	Discussion	Decision
	<p>Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea</p> <p>That the City partner with the Toronto Region and Conservation Authority to develop the Milne Dame Conservation Park Master Plan, which will be developed over multiple years.</p> <p>Carried</p>	
43-Introduce Internet Video Streaming		<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
44-An outdoor Ice Rink at Wismer Park	<p>Staff advised that they will ensure a water source is set up at the park and that an area is cleared for a natural ice rink, which can be created in the fall of 2017. The residents will be responsible for creating the ice rink.</p> <p>A Committee Member asked if the park's pathway will be cleared during the winter months. Staff advised that the park pathways will not be cleared during the winter months based on the recent decision at the General Committee to retain current service levels for the clearing of pathways.</p>	<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
45 – Adult Exercise at the Wismer Park and Berczy Park North		<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
46 – Traffic Lights should be Installed at the North end of Stonebridge	A Committee Member asked that staff follow up with York Region on their response to this request.	<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
47- At the South End of Stonebridge at 16 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, the lane markets are not efficient and don't make sense		<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
48 – the timing of		<a href="#">Staff recommendation</a>

Councillor Requests	Discussion	Decision
the advance green at Stonebridge at 16 <sup>th</sup> Avenue		<a href="#"><u>approved</u></a>
49 – Splash Pad		<a href="#"><u>Staff recommendation approved</u></a>
50- Leitchcroft Community Park – request to add washroom, swings, and a slide.		<a href="#"><u>Staff recommendation approved</u></a>
51 – Bell for Box Grove Community Centre		<a href="#"><u>Staff recommendation approved</u></a>
52 – Street lights for 9 <sup>th</sup> Line North of Steeles Avenue East		<a href="#"><u>Staff recommendation approved</u></a>
53 – Road Rehabilitation on Carolwood Cres and Palatin Court	<p>The road will be rehabilitated in either 2017 or 2018. The work needs to be coordinated with the hook up of sanitary sewer.</p> <p>Councillor Kanapathi advised that the residents do not want to pay for the hook up to the sanitary sewer. Staff suggested that Councillor Kanapathi work with the Engineering Department on the timing of the project.</p>	<a href="#"><u>Staff recommendation approved</u></a>

Councillor Requests	Discussion	Decision
54- Innovate Solution for Traffic Calming	<p>A Committee Member asked if two “Ped Zone” devices per ward can be purchased rather than one per ward.</p> <p>Staff advised that they will monitor the success of the “Ped Zone” devices in 2017, noting a metre that tracks vehicle speed is being installed in the devices. If the devices are successful, staff will look at purchasing more devices in 2017.</p> <p>A Committee Member requested that staff speak with York Region Police regarding where they should be placed.</p> <p>Staff noted that public education is the most effective measure to calm traffic.</p>	<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
55- Splash Pad	<p>A Committee Member asked when the study on the project will be completed.</p> <p>Staff advised that the study on the placement of water play areas is anticipated to be completed in the fall of the 2017.</p>	<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
56 – Funds for the Animal Care Committee	A Committee Member suggested there should be a budget for Advisory Committees of Council.	<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
57 – Historical Unionville Community Vision Committee – washrooms	<p>The Committee discussed the need to finalize the location for the washrooms on Main Street Unionville and make a decision whether to proceed with the project. Every time the location of the washrooms changes the project gets more expensive. Since 2008 twelve locations for washrooms have been accessed.</p> <p>Councillor Hamilton requested a meeting with Phoebe Fu, and Wes Rowe to discuss the washroom location. He noted that the washrooms would be for the store patrons rather than for the residents.</p>	<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>
58 – Historical Unionville Community Vision	A Committee Member asked if the parking behind the stores on Main Street Unionville is public parking or private parking.	<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>

Councillor Requests	Discussion	Decision
Committee - parking	Staff advised that some of the parking is public and some of the parking is private.	
59 – Historical Unionville Community Vision Committee – Streetscape Improvement Plan		<a href="#">Staff recommendation approved</a>

Moved by Councillor Amanda Collucci  
Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea

That the Budget Committee approved the staff recommendation for Councillor Requests Nos. 42 to 59.

CARRIED

## **2. Responses to Questions from Previous Budget Committee Meetings**

### Public Art Program

Stephen Chait, Director of Economic Development & Culture was in attendance to address the Committee's questions on the City's Public Art Program. He advised the Committee of the following:

#### *Public Art Coordinator*

The Public Art Coordinator is a contract position. The position costs \$45K per annum. The Coordinator manages the City's Public Art Program and has unique expertise that other staff do not have.

#### *Use of \$150 Allocated to the Public Art Program*

The Public Art Program funding source has varied from year to year. The amount of funds allocated to the program has decreased in recent years due to developers donating more funds to the program. The proposed \$150 to be allocated to the program in 2017 will be funded with section 37 funds. The funds will be used to support the following types of activities:

- Running public art competitions
- Undertaking engineering studies or obtaining a second opinion in regards to a public art work
- Partnering with York University to organize a public art conference
- Installing signs marking public art works recently installed
- Fulfilling existing commitments to design and commissioning of public art works

The Committee suggested that the \$150K be put on hold until staff report back on the usage of section 37 funds.

Moved by Councillor Rea

Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton

That the Budget Committee approve \$45K for the Public Art Coordinator Position; and,

That the \$150 allocated to the public art program be put on hold until staff report back on a policy for the usage of section 37 funds.

CARRIED

### Turtle Fence

Staff agreed to hire a biologist to look at options for protecting the turtles . When staff report back on the study, Council can decide whether it will allocate the \$70K remaining from the All Members of Council Budget request placeholder to the project.

A Committee Member suggested that the City also look at stopping the turtles from being caught. Staff advised that they will look at the matter holistically as part of its wildlife strategy.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

That staff report back on options to protect the turtles prior to the turtles laying their eggs in 2017.

CARRIED

## **5. Approval of the Operating Budget**

The Committee approved the 2017 tax rate increase of 3.46% including a 0.5% infrastructure investment. The major impacts on the 2017 Budget were growth related costs, increased utility costs, and collective agreements. The Committee discussed how growth does not pay for growth.

A Committee Member asked for more regular updates on the City's E3 program.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci

That the Budget Committee approve the 2017 Budget and a tax rate increase of 3.46% including a 0.5% infrastructure investment.

**CARRIED**

## **6. Adjournment**

The Budget Committee adjourned at 12:05 pm.