

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE
2017 BUDGET COMMITTEE
COUNCIL CHAMBER, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE
OCTOBER 21, 2016**

MINUTES

Attendance:

Members Present: Councillor Logan Kanapathi, Chair Councillor Amanda Collucci, Vice-Chair Mayor Frank Scarpitti (ex-officio) Deputy Mayor Heath (ex-officio) Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong (2:18 pm) Regional Councillor Jim Jones Councillor Alex Chiu Councillor Don Hamilton (2:18 pm) Councillor Karen Rea Regrets: Councillor Alan Ho	Staff Present: Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor Joel Lustig, Treasurer Andrea Tang, Senior Manager of Financial Planning Barb Rabicki, Director of Operations Phoebe Fu, Director of Asset Management Peter Loukes, Director of Environmental Services Adam Grant, Deputy Fire Chief Phil Alexander, Deputy Fire Chief Laurie Canning, Manager of Fleet and Supplies Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator
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The Budget Committee convened at 2:11 p.m. with Councillor Logan Kanapathi presiding as Chair.

1. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci

That the minutes of the October 11, 2016, Budget Committee be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2. Review of the Capital Budget

The Budget Committee continued the review of the Capital Budget.

Operations – Parks

Barb Rabicki, Director of Operations was in attendance to address questions on the 2017 Operations-Parks capital budget requests.

No.	Item.	Cost	Discussion
17145	Bill Crothers Turf Replacement	1,653,600 35,000	<p>Staff advised that the amount being requested under the capital budget request will be reduced from \$1,653,600 to \$35,000. The request is now for funds to hire a consultant to provide expert advice on the scope of the work and assessment. The study will cost \$35,000.</p> <p>The field is scheduled for life cycle renewal in 2019. The need for the work has been accelerated as a result of the field being flooded in the past.</p>
17146	Bleachers (Metal) Replacement - Annual Program	35,800	A Committee Member asked is the bleachers at Morgan Pak are included in the 2017 capital budget request. Staff indicated that the life cycle replacement is scheduled to take place in 2019. Staff was requested to take a look at the bleachers to make sure that they are in good condition.
17147	City Park Furniture / Amenities-Annual Program	142,200	<p>A Committee Member suggested that big bellies should be removed from the parks.</p> <p>Staff advised that big bellies are successful when placed in the right locations. Big bellies located in the wrong locations are being re-deployed to more appropriate locations, like Community Centres.</p>

No.	Item.	Cost	Discussion
17148	Court Resurfacing/Reconstruction- Annual Program	43,600	
17149	Electrical & Cabling-Annual Program	37,000	
17150	Fence (Backstop and Outfield) Replacemt.-Annual Program	171,500	
17151	Floodlights, Poles, Cross Arms Replacemt.-Annual Program	645,200	
17152	Goal Posts Replacement- Annual Program	19,100	
17153	John Daniels Park-Fountain, Gazebo & Trellis Replacement	382,500	
17154	Markham Trees for Tomorrow	120,000	<p>The Committee asked staff to explain the changes to the Markham Trees for Tomorrow Program.</p> <p>Staff advised that the program has been revamped to encourage private homeowners to replace ash trees that have been removed from their properties. The program will fund the planting of 2,000 trees on private homeowner's property. A seasonal staff will be hired to administer the program and plant the trees.</p> <p>A Committee Member asked if there is a program to help residents remove dead trees from their properties, and whether trees will still be planted in parks through this program.</p> <p>Staff advised that it would be too expensive to</p>

No.	Item.	Cost	Discussion
			<p>provide a tree removal program to residents and that no other municipality provides this service.</p> <p>It was also advised that from the \$120,000 allocated to planting trees, \$20,000 is being allocated to planting trees in parks.</p>
17155	Parks Signage Implementation - Phase 2 of 3	193,200	A Committee Member noted that the new park signs are very effective.
17156	Pathways Resurfacing -Annual Program	118,600	
17157	Play Structure and Rubberized Surface Replacement - Annual	1,201,600	<p>A Committee Member asked if a rubberized playground surface could be replaced with sand.</p> <p>Staff advised that park amenities would need to be reviewed prior to making a decision on the matter, noting rubberized play surfaces are typically placed in parks with a splash pad. Sand is used for playground surfaces when possible, as it is low maintenance, very durable and has a high play value.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the impact from shifts in demographics on park usage. It was suggested that staff look at the usage of Markham's parks as the information could be used to identify funding allocations to parks.</p> <p>A Committee Member suggested reaching out to children and youth to see what type of amenities they would like in a park. It was noted that residents are also submitting requests for naturalized spaces.</p>

No.	Item.	Cost	Discussion
17158	Public Realm-Markham's Shared Places Our Spaces	35,000	
17159	Replacement/New Boulevard/Park Trees-Annual Program	191,800	
17160	Sportsfield Maintenance & Reconstruction-Annual Program	129,500	

Moved by Deputy Mayor Heath
Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea

That Parks-Operations Capital Budget items be approved as amended (capital budget item 17145 was reduced to \$35K).

Carried

Operations – Traffic

Barb Rabicki, Director of Operations was in attendance to address questions on the 2017 Operations-Traffic capital budget requests.

No.	Item.	Cost	Discussion
17161	Traffic Assets Replacement- Annual Program	69,600	
17162	Traffic Operational Improvements- Annual Program	30,500	

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea
Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci

That the Operations-Traffic Capital Budget Items be approved as presented.

Carried

Operations – Fleet

Laurie Canning, Manager of Fleet and Supplies was in attendance to address questions on the 2017 Operations-Fleet capital budget requests.

No.	Item	Cost	Discussion
17163	Corporate Fleet Refurbishing-Annual Program	36,300	
17164	Corporate Fleet Replacement - Non-Fire - Annual Program	403,000	
17165	New Fleet – Fire	60,000	
17166	New Fleet – Parks	166,900	
17167	New Fleet – Roads	134,300	
17168	New Fleet – Waterworks	83,400	
17169	Waterworks Fleet Replacement - Annual Program	34,300	

Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services advised that in an effort to reduce the pressure on the lifecycle reserve fund, the lifecycle of the City's fleet are being extended by repairing vehicles rather than replacing them. The model is being tested and the risks of extending the life of the vehicles are being managed.

Moved by Regional Councillor Armstrong

Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

That the Operations-Fleet Capital Budget Items be approved as presented.

Carried

Asset Management - Facility Assets

Phoebe Fu, Director of Asset Management was in attendance to address questions on the 2017 Asset Management –Facility Assets capital budget requests.

No.	Item	Cost	Discussion
17170	8100 Warden Facility Improvements	47,700	
17171	Accessibility Retrofit Program	56,600	<p>The Committee asked what type of accessibility retrofits the City is currently undertaking and if most of the City's facilities have been retrofitted.</p> <p>Staff advised that through infrastructure grant, the major city facilities have been retrofitted, but that there are still minor improvements to be made to smaller facilities. For example improving the way finding of City facilities.</p>
17172	Asbestos Management Plan	123,100	<p>The Committee asked why an Asbestos Management Plan is required.</p> <p>Staff advised that the City is legislated to have a management plan for its facilities with designated substances. The management plan will address how the City will manage the designated material if a renovation is being undertaken.</p> <p>The Committee asked staff to report back on the results of the plan once</p>

No.	Item	Cost	Discussion
			completed.
17173	Asset Management Plan	81,400	
17174	Bird Safe Film	51,000	
17175	Building Condition Audit – FTE	138,300	
17177	Civic Centre Improvements	276,200	<p>The Committee asked what types of improvements are being made at the Civic Centre and if the cost of the program is the same each year.</p> <p>Staff advised that the Civic Centre Improvements Program is an annual program. The cost of the program varies from year-to-year, as the list of improvements is based on the results of the Civic Centre condition assessment.</p> <p>Some of the improvements to be made in 2017 include: flooring replacement, fire alarm replacement, repairs, and lifecycle replacements.</p>
17178	Corporate Accommodations	101,800	
17179	Corporate Security Operations & System Upgrades	370,500	
17180	Crosby Public Address System Booth	19,000	<p>The Committee asked why the Baseball Association was not undertaking the work on the Crosby Public Address System Booth.</p> <p>Staff advised that the City will be undertaking the work on the booth and that the Baseball Association will</p>

No.	Item	Cost	Discussion
			re-pay the City for the work. The work will not be undertaken until the lease agreement has been signed.
17181	Fire Facility Improvements	79,400	
17182	Library Facility Improvements	114,300	
17183	Municipal Building Backflow Prevention Testing	15,000	
17185	Operations Facilities Improvements	318,100	<p>The Committee asked why these improvements are being made in relation to the need for a new the works yard.</p> <p>Staff explained that these improvements are required due to health and safety concerns, as the new work yard facility is still 3 to 5 years out.</p>
17186	Other Facility Improvements	43,700	<p>The Committee asked if both the Elson Miles heritage house and the main house on the property are being rented out and if the rent covers the maintenance of the property.</p> <p>Staff advised that both properties are being rented out at market value, and the rent helps cover the maintenance of the property.</p> <p>A Staff member suggested that the City look at demolishing the main house on the property and transition the tenant out.</p> <p>Staff will look at the option for future</p>

No.	Item	Cost	Discussion
			consideration.
17187	Parking Lot Lighting Inspection	10,200	<p>A Committee Member asked if the lighting on the laneway behind Main Street Unionville will be inspected as part of the capital budget request.</p> <p>Staff advised that the lighting will be reviewed as part of the LED decorative conversion program.</p>
17188	Recycling Depot Improvements	39,000	
17189	Roofing Maintenance and Repair	61,200	
17190	Roofing Replacement Projects	608,800	<p>A Committee Member asked if the roof could be replaced with a metal roof rather than a cedar shingle roof. Also if alternative roofs can be considered within the Heritage District that is more economical.</p> <p>Staff agreed to conduct an evaluation of different type of roofs based on total cost of ownership and review opportunities to change the type of roof in the Heritage District and report back.</p> <p>A Committee Member suggested that the city should install breathable membrane for Cedar shingle roofs as it will elongate the life of the roof.</p>
17191	Satellite Community Centre Improvements	126,700	

No.	Item	Cost	Discussion
17192	Tennis Clubhouse Improvements	11,700	<p>The Committee asked if the Tennis club will pay for the cost of the deck.</p> <p>Staff explained that Armadale Tennis club will pay 100% of the cost of the deck as per the City's Policy.</p> <p>A Committee Member requested that the policy also be considered for the Rugby club house.</p>
17193	Works Yard - Emergency Power Backup Generator	372,400	<p>The Committee asked if the new generator should be purchased for the works yard if the City is looking for a new site for the yard.</p> <p>Staff advised that a moveable generator is being purchased. The generator is being purchased based on a recommendation from the ice storm, as the generator is required for staff to work in an emergency.</p> <p>The Committee requested that staff look at Combine Heat & Power option.</p>

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton

That the Asset Management-Facility Capital Budget Items be approved; and,

That staff report back with a cost benefit analysis of the different roofing options for capital budget item No. 17190.

Carried

The Budget Committee adjourned at 4:22 pm.