



**Minutes  
General Committee  
November 23, 2015  
Meeting Number 31**

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**Finance & Administrative Issues**

Chair: Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Vice Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell

**Community Services Issues**

Chair: Councillor Alan Ho  
Vice Chair: Councillor Alex Chiu

**Environment & Sustainability Issues**

Chair: Councillor Valerie Burke  
Vice Chair: Councillor Karen Rea

**Building, Parks, & Construction Issues**

Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell  
Vice Chair: Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

**Alternate formats are available upon request.**

**Attendance**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Regional Councillor Jim Jones  
Regional Councillor Joe Li  
Councillor Valerie Burke  
Councillor Don Hamilton  
Councillor Karen Rea  
Councillor Colin Campbell  
Councillor Amanda Collucci  
Councillor Logan Kanapathi  
Councillor Alex Chiu

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer  
Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services  
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services  
Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor  
Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk  
Joel Lustig, Treasurer  
Alex Moore, Manager of Purchasing & Accounts Payable  
Christopher Alexander, Acting Manager, By-Law Enforcement  
& Regulatory Services  
Carlie Turpin, Public Services & Records Coordinator  
Peter Loukes, Director Environmental Services  
Andrea Tang, Manager, Financial Planning  
Veronica Siu, Senior Business Analyst  
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

**Regrets**

Mayor Frank Scarpitti  
Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Councillor Alan Ho

The General Committee meeting convened at the hour of 9:11 AM with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath in the Chair.

General Committee recessed at 12:33 PM and reconvened at 1:28 PM.

**Disclosure of Interest**

None disclosed.

## **1. TOOGOOD POND (6.0)**

Mr. Reid McAlpine, on behalf of the Unionville Business Improvement Area, The Unionville Ratepayers Association, The Unionville Villagers Association and The Unionville Historical Society addressed the Committee requesting that the City maintain Toogood Pond as an outdoor skating facility.

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton  
Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell

That the deputation from Mr. Reid McAlpine regarding the request to maintain Toogood Pond as an outdoor skating facility be received; and,

That the request to maintain Toogood Pond as an outdoor skating facility be referred back to staff and report back at the December 7, 2015 General Committee meeting.

Carried

## **2. MUNICIPAL TAX (7.3)**

Shelly Srivastav, Markham resident addressed the Committee regarding the proposed 2016 municipal tax rate. She is requesting that the City consider ways to reduce the proposed increase in tax rate.

It was suggested that Joel Lustig, Treasurer, meet with Ms. Srivastav to discuss her concerns relative to the proposed municipal tax rate for 2016.

## **3. MARKHAM'S TAXI INDUSTRY (2.23)** [Presentation](#)

Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk, Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-Law Enforcement & Regulatory Services, and Carlie Turpin, Public Services & Records Coordinator delivered a PowerPoint presentation with respect to Markham's Taxi Industry.

The Committee discussed the following with respect to Markham's Taxi Industry:

- Number of "bandit" cabs and how do these get addressed?
- Limousine Industry – what service can they provide?
- Is the Uber service cheaper than licensed taxi cabs?
- The need for additional By-law officers to control the unlicensed service providers
- Tariff rate for Markham taxis
- Requirement of GTTA plate to pick up from Toronto Pearson International airport
- What should the role of municipalities be relative to the taxi industry
- The importance of redefining the regulatory definitions in the City's By-law to include services that are being provided by Uber

- The importance of consistent province-wide rules/legislation to regulate share ride services
- Should taxi cabs be regulated by municipalities?
- Forward report to Markham MPP's
- Ensure that insurance companies have a good idea of who is operating as Uber
- Can Uber vehicles have a sign on their vehicle
- Staff to report back on how much money these unregulated services are costing the municipality
- That the City Clerk forward a letter to Tim Hudak, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), Niagara West, Glanbrook to put a hold on the proposed bill to legalize Uber

The Committee suggested that staff provide a memo to the Budget Committee regarding hiring additional By-law enforcement officers.

Arie Leitman addressed the Committee regarding Markham's Taxi Industry and stated concerns with the increasing licensing fees. He is requesting that the City update the By-law that regulates taxi services.

Spiros Bastas addressed the Committee with respect to Markham's Taxi Industry and stated concerns with Uber service. He believes that uber drivers should be licensed through the municipality the same as taxi cabs.

Shahzad Ahmed addressed the Committee regarding Markham's Taxi Industry and is requesting that the City update the By-law regulating taxi services to ensure that uber has no legal ability to continue their service.

Yohuda Shahaf addressed the Committee with respect to Markham's Taxi Industry and suggesting that uber services should have a sign on their vehicles stating that it is an uber service. He believes that the municipalities should ensure uber services are licensed the same as taxi cabs.

Mansoor Iobal addressed the Committee regarding Markham's Taxi Industry and stated concerns with the increasing fees to operate a taxi cab. He is requesting that the By-law be updated immediately.

Souhad Abdull addressed the Committee with respect to Markham's Taxi Industry and stated concern with uberX services. He is suggesting that the taxi license fees be lowered.

Youseff Assoud addressed the Committee regarding Markham's Taxi Industry and stated concerns with the unlicensed services taking away from licensed taxi cabs.

Vasilios Sakorafas addressed the Committee with respect to Markham's Taxi Industry and stated concerns with the unlicensed taxi services such as Uber.

Tahir Sultan addressed the Committee regarding Markham's Taxi Industry and stated concerns with the unlicensed taxi services.

Moved by Councillor Amanda Collucci  
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

- 1) That the presentation by Ms. Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk, Mr. Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-Law Enforcement & Regulatory Services, and Ms. Carlie Turpin, Public Services & Records Coordinator entitled “Markham’s Taxi Industry” be received; and,
- 2) That staff report back to the General Committee on January 18, 2016 meeting with amendments to By-law 2012-92 to:
  - a) Revise the current definitions for taxicabs, owners, taxicab brokers & limousine service companies;
  - b) Add additional wording to prohibit the dispatching of unlicensed taxicabs & limousines; and,
- 3) That staff report back to General Committee in January, 2016 on the establishment of a Taxicab & Limousine Advisory Committee (TLAC) to assist the City in consulting with industry stakeholders; and,
- 4) That staff report back to General Committee meeting in February, 2016, on the following:
  - a) Fare rates;
  - b) A review of the City of Markham’s driver training requirements;
  - c) **other regulations that affect the taxi industry;** and,
- 5) **That the deputations from Spiros Bastas, Arie Leitman, Shahzad Ahmed, Yohuda Shahaf, Mansoor Iobal, Souhad Abdull, Youseff Massoud, Vasilios Sakorafas and Tahir Sultan be received; and,**
- 6) That staff continue to monitor the status of the Provincial Bill and collaborate with other Ontario municipalities on a unified policy approach to address Uber and report back to General Committee in the Spring, 2016; and,
- 7) That Markham’s Taxicab & Limousine Industry be encouraged to review & adopt customer service enhancements including:
  - Online payment options
  - Real time GPS tracking
  - Direct customer feedback mechanism, and further,
- 8) **That MPP’s work collaboratively with City of Markham and that this report be forwarded to all Markham MPP’s, The Ministry of Government and Consumer Services, and Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario**

Carried

**4. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF  
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PREVIOUS  
AUDITOR GENERAL (11.0)**

[Presentation](#)   [Appendix A](#)

**General Committee consented to defer this item to the December 7, 2015 General Committee meeting.**

- 1) That the presentation by Ms. Trinela Cane, Commissioner, Corporate Services entitled “Status of Implementation of Recommendations from Previous Auditor General”, be received.

**5. 2016 PROPOSED WATER/WASTEWATER RATES (7.4)**

[Presentation](#)   [Report](#)

Peter Loukes, Director, Environmental Services and Veronica Siu, Senior Business Analyst delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2016 Proposed Water/Wastewater rates.

There was brief discussion regarding the Carlton Road pumping station.

The Committee suggested that staff investigate the possibility of charging a homeowner for the water used by the Fire Fighter to put out a house fire.

There was discussion with respect to non-revenue water and how it is being better managed.

The Committee discussed the need for alternative ways to promote Markham’s drinking water as a preferred option rather than plastic bottled water.

There was discussion regarding potential ways to retrofit water fountains in older parks to ensure that they meet the water quality standards. It was noted that the retrofit options can be very expensive.

The Committee discussed synergies and efficiencies being done within the City’s waterworks department.

The Committee suggested that staff consider including the increase in hydro rates and property tax rates when the chart is presented at the Public Meeting.

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu

Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton

- 1) That the presentation by Mr. Peter Loukes, Director, Environmental Services and Ms. Veronica Siu, Senior Business Analyst, entitled “2016 Proposed Water/Wastewater Rates”, be received; and,

- 2) That the report entitled “Proposed 2016 Water/Wastewater Rate Increase” be received; and,
- 3) That Staff be authorized to hold a public meeting on December 7, 2015 at 7:00p.m. in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre to gather resident feedback on the proposed 2016 water/wastewater rate increase of \$0.2597/m<sup>3</sup> from \$3.3154/m<sup>3</sup> to \$3.5751/m<sup>3</sup>; and,
- 4) That feedback received at the public meeting along with the proposed 2016 water/wastewater rate be tabled for consideration at the December 15th Special General Committee meeting scheduled for 6:00pm; and,
- 5) That the recommendation from the Special General Committee meeting be tabled for adoption by Council at the December 15th Council meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m.; and further,
- 6) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**6. MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2015  
AND NOVEMBER 11, 2015  
GENERAL COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[November 9](#) [November 11](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the November 9, 2015 and November 11, 2015 General Committee meeting be confirmed.

Carried

**7. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2015  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the September 16, 2015 Advisory Committee on Accessibility meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**8. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2015  
ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the September 16, 2015 Animal Care Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**9. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2014,  
OCTOBER 15, 2014, NOVEMBER 19, 2014,  
MARCH 3, 2015, APRIL 15, 2015 AND  
MAY 27, 2015 BOARD OF MANAGEMENT  
UNIONVILLE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA (16.0)**  
[September](#) [October](#) [November](#) [March](#) [April](#) [May](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the September 17, 2014, October 15, 2014, November 19, 2014, March 3, 2015, April 15, 2015, May 27, 2015 Board of Management Unionville Business Improvement Area Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**10. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2015,  
OCTOBER 23, 2015 AND OCTOBER 27, 2015  
BUDGET COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[October 20](#) [October 23](#) [October 27](#) [November 3](#) [November 10](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the October 20, 2015, October 23, 2015, October 27, 2015, November 3, 2015 and November 10, 2015 Budget Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**11. MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 10, 2015  
DEVELOPMENT CHARGES PUBLIC MEETING (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the November 10, 2015 Development Charges Public meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**12. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2015  
AND OCTOBER 7, 2015 FRIENDS OF THE  
MARKHAM MUSEUM FOUNDATION BOARD (16.0)**  
[September](#) [October](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the September 9, 2015 and October 7, 2015 Friends of the Markham Museum Foundation Board meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**13. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 22, 2015  
MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the October 22, 2015 Markham Environmental Advisory Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**14. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2015  
RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the September 14, 2015 Race Relations Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried



**15. MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, 2015  
RBC MARKHAM MILLIKEN MILLS  
CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the minutes of the August 12, 2015 RBC Markham Milliken Mills Children's Festival Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**16. STAFF AWARDED CONTRACTS  
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2015 (7.12)**  
[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the report entitled "Staff Awarded Contracts for the Month of October 2015" be received; and,
- 2) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution

Carried

**17. STATUS OF CAPITAL PROJECTS  
AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 (7.5)**  
[Report](#) [Exhibits A-C](#)

The Committee discussed the following projects:

- Project 10543 South Unionville Avenue
- Project 13585 Real Property from Estate of Trevor Watson
- 13484 Phoslock Application Swanlake

The Committee suggested that a recommendation was already passed directing that Project 12371 - Milne Dam Conservation Area Master Plan remain active and not close the project. It was suggested that staff look into this and report back at the Council meeting.

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton  
Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell

- 1) That the report dated November 12, 2015 entitled "Status of Capital Projects as of September 30, 2015" be received; and,
- 2) That the amount of \$5,504,458 from the closure of capital projects be transferred to the sources of funding as listed on Exhibit A; and,
- 3) That the closure of projects as outlined in Exhibit B and C be approved; and,
- 4) That the Non-Development Charge Capital Contingency Project be topped up from the Life-Cycle Replacement and Capital Reserve Fund by \$304,711 to the approved amount of \$250,000; and,
- 5) That the Engineering Capital Contingency Project be topped up, from the City-Wide Hard Development Charges Reserve, by \$86,631 to the approved amount of \$100,000; and,
- 6) That the Design Capital Contingency Project be topped up, from the Development Charges Reserve, by \$63, 318 to the approved amount of \$100,000; and,
- 7) That the Waterworks Capital Contingency Project be topped up, from the Waterworks Stabilization/Capital Reserve, by \$19, 144 to the approved amount of \$100,000; and further,
- 8) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

## **18. DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES (7.0)**

Councillor Valerie Burke addressed the Committee and advised that she has become aware Council Members can no longer purchase tickets to City events/functions that they are invited to and pay for those tickets through their discretionary account. The Committee suggested that staff report back with a memo at the December 7, 2015 General Committee meeting outlining when this change took place. It was suggested that staff provide a report in the first quarter of 2016 outlining what expenses the discretionary account can be used for.

## **19. CAROLYN PANNELL (12.2.6)**

Councillor Don Hamilton advised the Committee that Carolyn Pannell passed away suddenly on November 14, 2015.

**20. ROUGE PARK CHARRETTE (6.3)**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath advised the Committee that there is a Public Information meeting regarding Rouge National Urban Park Gateway in Cornell and Charrettes being held on November 23, 24 and 25, 2015 and encouraged Members of Council to participate if they are available.

**21. IN-CAMERA MATTERS( 16.0, 16.0, 16.24 & 7.3)**

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton  
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

**That the following confidential matters be referred directly to the November 24, 2015 General Committee meeting:**

- (1) GENERAL COMMITTEE IN-CAMERA MINUTES  
- November 9, 2015 (16.0)  
[Section 239 (2) (a) (b) (d) (e) (f)]
- (2) 2016 BUDGET COMMITTEE IN-CAMERA MINUTES  
- October 20, 2015 (16.0)  
[Section 239 (2) (e)]
- (3) PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL OR LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEES (BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS) (16.24)  
[Section 239 (2) (b)]
- (4) PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL OR LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEES (PROPERTIES FOR TAX SALE REGISTRATION) (7.3)  
[Section 239 (2) (b)]

Carried

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 3:15 PM.

Carried