



**SECOND MEETING OF THE
2016 BUDGET COMMITTEE
CANADA ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE
October 16, 2015**

MINUTES

Attendance:

Members Present:

Mayor Frank Scarpitti (ex-officio)
Deputy Mayor Heath (ex-officio)
Councillor Logan Kanapathi, Chair
Councillor Amanda Collucci, Vice-Chair
Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong
Councillor Alex Chiu
Councillor Don Hamilton
Councillor Karen Rea

Guests:

Regional Councillor Jim Jones
Councillor Valerie Burke

Regrets:

Councillor Alan Ho

Staff Present:

Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services
Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services
Joel Lustig, Treasurer
Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor
Peter Loukes, Director of Environmental Services
Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning
Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator
Moe Hosseini-Ara, Director of Culture
Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation
Biju Karumanchery, Director of Planning
Phoebe Fu, Director of Asset Management
Barbara Rabicki, Director of Operations
Bill Snowball, Fire Chief
Nasir Kenea, Director of ITS
Ronji Borooah, City Architect
Brian Lee, Deputy Director of Engineering
Alain Cachola, Senior Manager, Infrastructure and Capital Works
Laura Gold, Committee Coordinator

The Budget Committee convened at 9:10 a.m. with Councillor Logan Kanapathi presiding as Chair.

1. Review of the Capital Budget

<u>Corporate Services</u>		
<i>ITS</i>		<i>Discussion</i>

16057	Planning - 3D Modelling Program	74,300	
16058	Planning - AutoStore software for MFD	40,700	
16059	Engineering - Bentley Power InRoads Software	18,300	
16060	Building - Electronic Plan Implementation (Phase 3)	396,900	
16061	By-Law Licencing and Enforcement Handheld Units	75,600	
16062	Legislative Services - ACR Replacement/CRM System	1,250,300	
16063	Legislative Services - Records Retrieval System Replacement	108,900	
16064	Theatre Ticketing System Assessment	24,900	<p>The Committee asked why a consultant is being hired to review the Theatre's ticketing process.</p> <p>Staff advised that the current ticketing system has reached the end of its lifecycle. A consultant is required to undertake a full assessment of the Theatre's current and future requirements regarding its box office and ticket handling system prior to purchasing a new system.</p>
16065	Customer payment card scanners (Phase 2 of 2)	40,700	
16066	Library – Symphony to Blue Cloud Migration (Phase 2 of 2)	38,200	
16067	Fire - Second Network Provider to all Stations	52,900	
16068	WW - ArcGIS Licenses	32,600	
16069	WW - BPMS Portal Interface	25,400	
16070	WW - Hansen 8 Upgrade	234,000	
16071	WW - Hansen/EAM and ON1Call Integration	147,600	
16072	WW - Intelix V6 Customization & Module Implementation	16,300	
16073	Core IT Infrastructure	670,300	
16074	Customer Engagement Tech.		

		Implementation - Phase 2 of 2	50,900	
	16075	IT Internal Project Management	109,400	<p>The Committee asked if the budget request was for a staff person.</p> <p>Staff advised that the budget request covers the staff cost associated with ITS capital projects.</p>
<p>Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu</p> <p>That the Budget Committee approve the ITS Capital Budget items.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>				
	<i>Finance</i>			
	16076	Internal Project Management	922,900	
	16077	Investment in Markham District Energy Inc.	4,000,000	
<p>Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci</p> <p>That the Budget Committee approve the Finance Department Capital Budget Items.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>				
<u>Community & Fire Services</u>				
	<i>Culture</i>			
	16078	Culture Public Art Program	395,000	<p>The Committee requested that the Culture Public Art Program be deferred until more information is available on the Benjamin Thorne project.</p> <p>Staff advised that \$45K of the program cost is allocated to the salary of the Public Art Coordinator.</p>
<p>Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton</p>				

That the Budget Committee defer the Culture Capital Budget Item No. 16078 to a future budget meeting.

CARRIED

The Committee discussed the budget process. It agreed to continue its review of the Capital Budget in the order the items are presented in the Capital Budget Binder. The remainder of the Community Service items will be reviewed at a Budget Committee meeting next week.

<u>Development Services</u>				
	<i>Planning</i>			
	16001	Consolidated Zoning By-law Program - Phase 3 of 4	882,500	
	16002	Consultant Studies	100,000	Staff explained how the consultant studies are broken down under the Capital Budget Request.
	16003	Designated Heritage Property Grant Program	30,000	<p>The Committee asked if the Designated Heritage Grant Property Program has been a successful program and whether enough funds are being allocated to it.</p> <p>Staff advised the program is a success and that it has grown in popularity in recent years. A report on the program will be brought forward to the Development Services Committee at the end of its 3 year cycle. Recommendations on whether the funding for the program should be increased will be made at that time.</p>
	16004	Future Urban Areas - Phase 4 of 5	310,000	Staff explained that the budget item is for two dedicated staff to lead the Future Urban Areas Project. The project involves a comprehensive engineering, and planning study on the future urban areas. The study is needed to address additional land to Markham's current urban area.
	16005	Growth Monitoring Program & Data Collection	20,000	
	16006	Heritage Façade Improvements/Sign Replacement	25,000	<p>Staff advised that the number of requests for grants under the Heritage Façade Improvements/Sign Replacement program has decreased in recent years. Consequently, fewer funds are being allocated to the program for 2016.</p> <p>Last year Council approved the transfer of \$18 K</p>

				<p>from this program to fund the shortfall in the Designated Heritage Property Grant Program.</p> <p>A report with recommendations on the program will be brought forward to the Development Services Committee at the end of its three year cycle.</p>
	16007	OMB Official Plan & Growth Related Hearings	500,000	<p>The Committee asked how staff budget for OMB hearing related to the Official Plan or growth related matters. Staff advised that the funding for the OMB hearings is based on historical costs.</p> <p>It was noted that Markham has not had any major development issues dealt with at an OMB hearing.</p>
	16008	Parks/Open Space Acquisition, Design & Improvement Plan	110,800	<p>The Committee advised that it would like to have input into the Parks/Open Space Acquisition, Design & Improvement Plan, and asked if a consultant would be hired to create the plan.</p> <p>Staff confirmed that a consultant would be hired to create the plan. The plan would be a City wide policy that would include guidelines for modernizing existing Markham parks. Work relating to the plan is scheduled to start in 2016.</p> <p>The Committee asked that the Rouge National Park be included in the plan.</p> <p>It was noted that 2016 is the second year of the expedited Parks program. A 2016 budget request has been submitted for more funds to be allocated to the Park Renaissance Program.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion on <i>Bill 73</i>. The proposed legislation would require municipalities to have a plan for its parklands. Staff advised that a possible threat of the legislation is that the Province is thinking of reducing the parkland requirement for urban centres.</p> <p>The Committee discussed that this item should be pre-approved to accelerate the start of the project. It also requested that a workshop on the project be</p>

				held at the Development Services Committee meeting this fall.
	16009	Population and Employment Forecasting	100,000	

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

That the Budget Committee pre-approve Capital Budget Item No. 16008, Parks/Open Space Acquisition, Design & Improvement Plan.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Amanda Collucci
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

That the Budget Committee approve the Planning Capital Budget Items.

CARRIED

Staff advised that the City is trying to advance the progress of its Parks Renaissance Program. As well, in order for the construction of the parks to commence in the spring of 2016, the park designs were pre-approved by Council in September 2015.

The Committee asked why the park to be located in Markham Centre near the Times Group Condominiums is not included in the 2016 budget. Staff advised the park is not included in the 2016 budget, as the design of the park is still being negotiated with the Times Group.

The Committee asked if there are any plans for the landscaping at the Pan Am Centre. It was advised that the landscaping features at the Pan Am Centre were completed. There are minor deficiencies which will be addressed through warranty. It was noted that the water feature is not included in the capital budget.

	<i>Design</i>			
	16010	Berczy Beckett East Parkette - Construction	392,000	
	16014	Berczy Beckett Neighborhood Park - Construction	735,000	
	16017	Berczy Beckett NW Parkette - Construction	245,000	
	16019	Box Grove Hill S. E. Park - Construction	911,400	
	16021	Box Grove Rizal Avenue Neighbourhood Park -	1,371,900	The Committee asked when the park would be completed.

		Construction		Staff advised that the design for the park has been pre-approved. The construction of the park will commence in April or May of 2016, and will be completed by the spring of 2017.
	16022	Carlton Park Master Plan	48,100	<p>The Committee inquired if the funds are for a consultant, and if residents will be consulted on the Carlton Park Master Plan.</p> <p>Staff confirmed that residents will be consulted on the plans for the park, and that the funds are to hire a consultant to undertake the study.</p>
	16023	Cornell Madison Rouge / Riverlands - Construction	352,800	It was noted that the Deputy Mayor and the Ward Councillor should be consulted on the Cornell Community Park design, as the park will need to connect to the Rouge National Park.
	16024	Cornell Madison Rouge Blvd. Park North - Construction	392,000	
	16026	Cornell Madison Rouge Blvd. Park South - Construction	392,000	
	16028	Design Internal Project Management	1,151,500	<p>The Committee asked if the budget request was for new staff, or to cover the cost of existing staff. Staff advised that the budget request is to fund the cost of existing design staff.</p> <p>A Committee Member asked for an update on the status of Morgan Park. Staff advised that the design is still being finalized, and the construction of the park will not be included in the budget until the design is approved by Council.</p>
	16029	Greensborough Williamson Road Neighbourhood Park – Design	125,400	
	16030	Leitchcroft Community Park Phase 2 of 2 - Construction	1,469,900	
	16035	Upper Greensborough		

		Fimco Cres. Park - Design & Construction	489,600	
	16036	Upper Greensborough Parkway Park - Design	86,500	
	16037	Park Signage Implementation Program - Phase 1 of 3	113,800	<p>There was a discussion on installing signs at Markham parks that currently do not have signs, and the need for consistent/uniform signs at Markham parks. Staff advised that they are working with suppliers to reduce the cost of installing signs at parks. Planning and Engineering staff are working together to move the project forward. A report on the matter will be brought forward to the Development Services Committee.</p> <p>Staff will present options in terms of the materials to be used and the corresponding costs. Staff are still looking into whether it will produce the signs in-house or externally.</p>
	16038	Box Grove Community Park East (Phase 1) - Construction	2,472,800	

Moved by Councillor Amanda Collucci
Seconded by Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

That the Budget Committee approve the Design Capital Budget items.

CARRIED

	Engineering			
	16039	Cycling Awareness Program	128,700	
	16042	Highway 7 Streetscaping	2,946,800	
	16043	Illumination	1,637,400	<p>The Committee asked for more information on the project, and identify the 10 locations as noted on the request form.</p> <p>Staff advised that the annual project is to add illumination (street lights) to existing regional arterial roads that have either no lighting or inadequate lighting. The cost covers both the purchase and installation of the illumination. It does not cover the operational costs associated with the</p>

				<p>new illumination.</p> <p>The Committee asked if York Region will be sharing the operational cost of illumination. Staff advised that it is currently Markham's responsibility to cover the cost of the illumination on regional roads, as the City is responsible for the boulevard maintenance of regional roads. The Region is currently reviewing the jurisdiction of boulevard with the area municipalities.</p> <p>The Committee asked who installs the illumination. Staff advised that the City contracts out the installation through a tender process. The tender is issued annually due to the high expense of the project.</p> <p>The Committee requested a comprehensive list of the illumination being added.</p>
	16044	Intersection Improvements	479,000	<p>The Committee asked for more information on the project. Staff advised that the funds are used to improve the safety of intersections.</p> <p>The Committee requested the following: 1) That the amount of funds allocated to the item be increased significantly, as improving the safety of intersections was one of the main recommendations of the Transportation Master Plan; and 2) Provide a list of the intersections in Markham that need to be improved.</p>
	16046	Miller Avenue - Warden to Birchmount - Phase 1 (Property)	1,857,400	
	16047	Miller Avenue - Woodbine Ave. to Rodick (Construction)	8,630,700	
	16048	Multi-Use Pathways (Phase 3 of 4)	3,241,700	Staff were requested to report back on the final costs of phases 1 and 2 of the Multi-Use Pathways Project, and total program costs.
	16049	Sidewalk Program	1,645,900	There was a brief discussion on where some of the sidewalks will be located.
	16050	Smart-Commute Markham		

		- Richmond Hill	87,600	
	16051	Special Projects Engineering Salary Recovery	315,000	Staff confirmed that the budget request is for the dedicated staff resources working on a number of special projects.
	16052	Verclair Crossing at Rouge River (Construction)	9,545,900	The Committee asked if the City would receive the permits to proceed with the bridge soon. Staff were confident that that City would obtain its permits from the Toronto & Region Conservation Authority, and the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry in time to start the construction of the bridge in 2016.
	16053	Anti-Whistling - Stouffville GO Line	800,000	<p>The Committee asked for a status update on the negotiations with Metrolinx on the Stouffville GO Line, specifically in regards to anti-whistling measures. Staff advised that they are currently working on the project timelines, but will be meeting with Metrolinx to discuss the financing of the project, and other project details. Metrolinx has put the Snider Drive project on hold to review it more holistically. Staff will provide an update on the project as it progresses.</p> <p>A Member asked that wildlife be considered in Metrolinx's plans for the Stouffville GO Line.</p> <p>Councillor Rea asked about funding allocation to retrofit the driveway of 70 & 72 Main Street, Markham. Staff will provide an update at the next Budget Committee meeting.</p>
<p>Moved by Deputy Mayor Heath Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea</p> <p>That the Budget Committee approve the Engineering Capital Budget Items (excluding item 16043, 16044, 1648, and 16049).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>				

Adjournment

The Budget Committee adjourned at 11:45 p.m.