



**EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
2011 BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE
CANADA ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE
FEBRUARY 15, 2011**

MINUTES

Attendance:

<p>Members Present: Mayor Frank Scarpitti (ex-officio) Deputy Mayor Heath (ex-officio) Regional Councillor Gord Landon, Chair Regional Councillor Jim Jones Regional Councillor Joe Li Councillor Don Hamilton Councillor Alan Ho Councillor Howard Shore Councillor Colin Campbell Councillor Logan Kanapathi</p> <p>Councillors Present: Councillor Alex Chiu Councillor Valerie Burke Councillor Carolina Moretti</p>	<p>Staff Present: Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services Catherine Biss, Chief Executive Officer, Library Laura Colangelo, Councillor Executive Assistant Paul Ingham, General Manager of Operations Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services John Livey, Chief Administrative Officer Peter Loukes, Director of Operations Joel Lustig, Treasurer Lori Pogue, Director, Administration & Operation Support, Library Raj Raman, Senior Manager of Purchasing & Financial Reporting Veronica Siu, Senior Business Analyst Bill Snowball, Fire Chief Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning Andy Taylor, Commissioner of Corporate Services Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator</p> <p>Guest Present: Marian Matthias David Mordini Elvis Nurse</p>
---	---

The Budget Sub-Committee convened at 9:09 a.m. with Regional Councillor Gord Landon in the Chair.

1. 2011 BUDGET PRESENTATION

A. TOWN'S OPERATING BUDGET (INCLUDING REVIEW OF NEW BUDGET REQUESTS)

It was reported that after further analysis Staff were able to reduce the budget shortfall to \$1,665,000 million dollars and the proposed tax rate increase to 1.55%. It was questioned if the Operating Budget transfer to the Library Development Charge Reserve needed to be extended or if it could be extended at a lower rate.

There was a suggestion to review the new staffing position requests funded by tax dollars by the E3 Taskforce, specifically the Benefits & Specialist Position; Sustainability Coordinator Position; and Events Supervisor Position.

Staff advised the new position requests were thoroughly reviewed and have reduced the list substantially to positions, as listed. According to a staff satisfaction survey recently conducted, workload was a problematic issue. Currently, some staff are working evenings and weekends to complete their work. This creates an issue with respect to paying overtime and providing time in lieu. Some of the new position requests were growth related positions or were required based on need.

A request was made to review the conversion of the Councillor Executive Assistant Position from a part-time to a full-time position. The request was based on increased workload due to population growth in Markham.

Moved by Councillor Carolina Moretti
Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton

That the proposed tax funded full time new position requests, including requests for conversion of part time positions to full time positions, in the 2011 Proposed Operating Budget be deferred until the Mayor, Budget Chief, Deputy Budget Chief, CAO, Commissioners, & Treasurer review the positions; and,

That the discussion include a review the Councillor's Executive Assistant position.

CARRIED.

It was noted that the cost of the new part-time recreation positions were offset by a reduction in other part-time positions and an increase in recreation revenue.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle all operating budget tax funded part time and contract positions.

CARRIED.

Moved Councillor Joe Li
Seconded by Councillor Howard Shore

That the Budget Sub- Committee approve in principle the non tax funded operating budget new staff positions presented.

CARRIED.

**B. OTHER OPERATING BUDGETS
(BUILDING SERVICES, PLANNING & DESIGN, ENGINEERING &
WATERWORKS)**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Seconded by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle the Preliminary Building Services Operating Budget.

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle the 2011 Preliminary Planning & Design and Engineering Operating Budgets.

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Howard Shore

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle the 2011 Preliminary Waterworks Operating Budget.

CARRIED.

**C. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR PROJECT 11416 (APPENDIX A)
(TORONTO 2015 PAN/PARPAN AMERICAN GAMES)**

Staff advised that the additional funds were required for site preparation.

Budget Sub-Committee

February 15, 2011

Page 4 of 8

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
 Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

That the Budget Sub-Committee reconsider Capital Budget Item No. 11416, and,

That the Budget Sub-Committee increase Capital Budget Item No. 11416 Toronto 2115 Pan/Parapan American Games from \$172,000 to \$1,572,000.

CARRIED.

d. CONTINUATION WITH THE REVIEW OF COUNCILLOR'S REQUESTS

#	Councillor's Request	Operating	Capital	Approval
32	<p><u>Park Pathway Lighting</u></p> <p>Staff advised that in order to place lighting in park pathways the Town would have to revisit its policy, as there are a large number of pathways in Markham and a policy is needed to guide decisions. It was suggested that pathway lighting could create a false sense of security and that York Region Police should be consulted on this matter.</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Howard Share Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu</p> <p>That Staff report back to the General Committee on pathway lighting issues, the cost of installing pathway lighting and on the process for revisiting the existing policy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED.</p>			No -Referred to Staff

Budget Sub-Committee

February 15, 2011

Page 5 of 8

#	Councillor's Request	Operating	Capital	Approval
33	<p><u>Establish Organic Children's Learning Gardens</u></p> <p>Members suggested that a grant application should be completed through the Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund (MESF) for this item.</p> <p>The appeal to this project was that the park is shared by both a Catholic and public school. It was noted that when providing funds through the MESF it is preferred that the project is located on school grounds to ensure that it is sustained.</p> <p>It was requested that an update on projects that have previously received funds through the MESF be reported to the General Committee, with the objective of measuring the success of the program.</p>			A grant application was requested to be completed through the MESF
34	<p><u>Temporary Satellite Library in front of the current Community Centre site</u></p> <p>The cost of the temporary satellite library was discussed. Staff advised that the cost included the cost of the lease, staff, furniture, and technology. Staff were requested to review the cost of the lease.</p> <p>A temporary satellite library for South East Markham was an option that should be considered to coincide with capital projects. Staff were requested to prepare a report investigating the cost of the facility; a location for the facility that is central for both Wards 7 and 8; the hours of operation; and the use of the space. A suggestion was made to have space for seniors at the temporary facility.</p>	\$679,800	\$520,000	NO – Referred to Staff
35	<p><u>Physical Traffic Calming Initiatives</u></p> <p>The Procedure is to conduct speed volume count to identify issues followed by education & enforcement. Also implement radar boards to address some speeding issues.</p> <p>Staff were requested to come back with traffic calming solutions in 2011.</p>			No – Referred to Staff

Budget Sub-Committee

February 15, 2011

Page 6 of 8

#	Councillor's Request	Operating	Capital	Approval
36	Improvement of Intersection of Markham Road and 14th Avenue			No
37	Johnsview Park Basketball Court		35,600	No
38	<p>Artificial Turf Field - Brother Andre Catholic High School (Total costs of \$600K, tax funded capital \$420K, Development Charges \$180K)</p> <p>Finance Staff were requested to revisit the ratio of the cost to be covered by Development Charges based on recent population growth in the area and investigate other funding sources. Currently, the project would be 70% tax funded and 30% Development Charge funded. It was noted that the east part of Markham is deficient in its number of soccer fields and that this project is part of the Integrated Leisure Plan.</p> <p>Staff noted that the field location for the artificial turf had yet to be confirmed. There was a discussion about the servicing cost for the artificial turf, noting the cost of servicing different types of turfs is currently being reviewed by staff.</p> <p>Staff to confirm Development Charge and non Development Charge allocation as well as identification of the funding sources.</p>		420,000	N/A- Referred to Staff
39	Elson Park Volleyball Court 2012		63,800	No
40	Highgate Park Basketball Court Expansion 2012		22,400	No

E. CELEBRATE MARKHAM GRANTS

There was a discussion regarding the approval of the Celebrate Markham Grants at the 2010 approved funding level. Some Members felt the grants should be reviewed and approved based on merit, noting new and returning applicants should be reviewed following the same guidelines. The intent of the Celebrate Markham Grant was discussed, as groups were expected to find other funding sources as their events/projects evolved overtime, but rather groups are requesting additional funds each year. It was recommended that the Markham Business Improvement Area Events be notified that they will not receive the full grant amount requested.

Budget Sub-Committee

February 15, 2011

Page 7 of 8

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Seconded by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve the following Celebrate Markham Grants at the level of funding provided in 2010:

South Asian Heritage Celebration - \$3,000

Canada Day Celebrations - \$50,000

Markham Arts Council - \$19,000

That the Unionville Festival - \$10,000

That the Markham Village Music Festival - \$10,000

CARRIED.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

Seconded by Councillor Carolina Moretti

That the 2011 Celebrate Markham Grant budget be maintained at the 2010 budget level of \$249,250.

CARRIED.

Seniors Grants

There was a request that the cap per seniors group be increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Heath

Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the Budget Sub-Committee increase the funds allocated to Seniors Grants from \$18,000 to \$25,000.

CARRIED.

There was a discussion with respect to approving the Milliken Mills Children's Festival at its 2010 level of \$12,000. It was decided this grant will be dealt with through the Grants Sub-Committee, as the event will be held in September and there is no immediate need for the funds. A Grants Sub-Committee meeting was requested to be organized in a few weeks time to review the remainder of the Celebrate Markham Grants. The Chair requested the meeting be called after March 20, 2011.

Budget Sub-Committee
February 15, 2011
Page 8 of 8

F. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The words 'At Your Service' was requested to be removed from the name of the Windrow Plowing Services Taskforce.

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That the Budget Sub Committee approve the Terms of References presented in appendix C-G as amended.

G. NEXT STEPS

There was a request to hold an E3 Taskforce meeting to review the purchasing policy.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded by Councillor Carolina Moretti

That the time of the Budget Public Meeting being held on February 28, 2011 be changed from 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That the Budget Sub-Committee Adjourn at 12:52 p.m.