

**FIFTH MEETING OF THE  
2011 BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE  
CANADA ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE  
FEBRUARY 1, 2011**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:**

<p><b>Members Present:</b> 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><b>Councillors Present:</b> Councillor Alex Chiu Councillor Valerie Burke Councillor Carolina Moretti</p>	<p><b>Staff Present:</b> Gary Adamkowski, Director of Asset Management Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services Noeline Chipun, Senior Financial Analyst Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation Services Paul Ingham, General Manager of Operations Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community Services &amp; Fire John Livey, Chief Administrative Officer Peter Loukes, Director of Operations Karen Liu, Senior Business Analyst*** Joel Lustig, Treasurer Raj Raman, Senior Manager of Financial Reporting &amp; Purchasing John Ryerson, Director of Culture Veronica Siu, Senior Business Analyst Bill Snowball, Fire Chief Purchasing Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning Jonathan Tate, Senior Financial Analyst Andy Taylor, Commissioner of Corporate Services Matt Vetere, Financial Analyst Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator</p> <p><b>Guest Present:</b> Marion Matthias Elvis Nurse, Consultant Patrick King</p>
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The Budget Sub-Committee convened at 1:09 p.m. with Regional Councillor Gord Landon presiding as Chair.

**1. 2011 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

**a. CONTINUATION OF THE CAPITAL BUDGET**

Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation Services, presented the Recreation Services Capital Budget Items.

Recreation Services

Item	Description/Discussion	Total
11190	Replacement of Recreation Fitness Equipment	<b>\$105,700</b>
11191	<p>Recreation Tables &amp; Chair Replacement – These funds will be used towards the annual program to replace table and chair at all recreational facilities.</p> <p>A more detailed breakdown of the proposed purchase was provided, which included: approximately (30) card tables; (45) round table, (40) eight foot tables; (20) six foot tables, carts that come with the tables; and chairs (the number chairs was not provided at this time as Staff are searching for the styles).</p>	<b>\$49,100</b>
11192	Recreation Program Equipment	<b>\$73,200</b>
11193	Recreation Aquatic Equipment	<b>\$71,300</b>
11195	<p>Warden House Flooring replacement - The funds will be used to replace the linoleum floor on the main floor, vestibule and washroom.</p> <p>It was reported that approximately 800 square foot of linoleum floor is being replaced.</p>	<b>9,200</b>
11196	Unionville Train Station Exterior fencing and decking	<b>\$5,600</b>
11197	Thornhill C.C. Skylight replacement	<b>\$32,000</b>
11198	Thornhill C.C. Rink board replacement West Arena	<b>\$40,000</b>
11199	Recreation AED program	<b>\$27,500</b>
11201	Rouge River C.C. Painting	<b>\$9,700</b>
11204	<p>Thornhill C.C. Interior painting – These funds will be used towards painting both arena areas and the associated change rooms.</p> <p>Approximately a 30,000 square foot area per rink will be painted.</p>	<b>\$63,000</b>
11205	Thornhill C.C. Hall counter replacement	<b>\$9,200</b>
11206	Angus Glen C.C. Pool change room doors	<b>\$40,000</b>
11208	Centennial C.C. Interior painting	<b>\$10,200</b>
11209	Armada C.C. Washroom partition replacement	<b>\$14,200</b>
11213	Angus Glen C.C. Library carpet replacement	<b>\$65,000</b>
11214	Angus Glen C.C. Rubber flooring replacement	<b>\$212,000</b>
11215	Crosby Arena Condensor replacement	<b>\$65,000</b>
11216	Angus Glen C.C. Arena & Pool painting	<b>\$20,400</b>
11217	Centennial C.C. Vapour barrier replacement	<b>\$47,500</b>
11218	Angus Glen C.C. Acoustical tile replacement	<b>40,000</b>
11220	Recreation Thornlea Pool program Year 3 of 5	<b>\$66,100</b>
11222	<p>Armada C.C. Ceiling tile replacement - These funds will be used to update ceiling tiles in multi-purpose rooms, including the Kitchen. The tiles must meet fire code.</p> <p>It was reported that 244 ceiling tiles need to be replaced.</p>	<b>\$12,200</b>

Item	Description/Discussion	Total
11225	Angus Glen C.C. Youth Centre flooring replacement	<b>\$10,000</b>
11228	Pingle House Painting	<b>\$8,600</b>
11229	Rouge River C.C. Window replacement – These funds will be used towards placing four windows and frames. Units are rotting and thermal resistance to the outside conditions is failing.  It is reported that these are four very large windows (3X5) being replaced. The cost includes frames and installation.	<b>\$22,400</b>
11230	R.J. Clatworthy Arena Lift replacement	<b>\$9,200</b>
11231	Mount Joy C.C. Washroom counter replacement	<b>\$6,100</b>
11233	Milliken Mills C.C. Condensor tank replacement	<b>\$25,400</b>
11234	Milliken Mills C.C. Arena beam painting	<b>\$18,300</b>
11236	Markham Village C.C. Dressing room door replacement	<b>\$11,200</b>
11237	Milliken Mills Dome Hot water tank replacement	<b>\$18,800</b>
11238	Markham Village C.C. Roof accessories	<b>\$10,200</b>
11239	Markham Village C.C. Exterior caulking	<b>\$6,100</b>

Moved by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the Budget Sub Committee approve in principle the Recreational Services Capital Budget Items presented.

CARRIED.

#### Operations

Mr. Paul Ingham, General Manager , Operations presented the Operations Capital Budget Items.

#### Operations - Roads

Item	Description/Discussion	Total
11276	Heritage Bench (Unionville) Upgrade Program	<b>\$20,400</b>
11280	Retaining Walls Program	<b>\$74,300</b>
11281	Railway Crossing Improvements Program	<b>\$54,100</b>
11282	Upgraded Guiderail Installation Program	<b>\$85,700</b>
11283	Traffic Signals Upgrades Program	<b>\$74,700</b>
11284	Boulevard Repairs Program – These funds are used to repair boulevards throughout the Town, including interlock brick pavers, asphalt/or concrete boulevard section.  It was clarified that concrete pads are laid underneath the interlock on roadways, noting this approach is not usually taken for interlock on boulevards.	<b>\$54,100</b>
11287	Secondary Roadworks- Program – These funds will be used toward pavement preservation of roads throughout the Town.	<b>\$250,000</b>

Item	Description/Discussion	Total
	It was questioned if we are repaving roads too frequently. The lifecycle of a road was estimated to be approximately 8 to 12 years. Staff explained that they would be adjusting the road preservation strategy based on a study currently being conducted by the University of Waterloo.	
11288	<p>Don Mills Storm Channel – These funds will be used towards the removal of overgrowth vegetation and debris from storm channels to ensure proper storm water conveyance.</p> <p>This was explained to be costly due to the labour intensity of the task.</p>	<b>\$40,700</b>
11289	<p>Parking Lots Program – Ongoing maintenance of municipal parking lots throughout the Town. Includes repairs to concrete and asphalt infrastructure, maintenance hole and catchbasin adjustments and asphalt resurfacing.</p> <p>There was an inquiry why asphalt is still being used to pave parking lots. Asphalt was recommended in parking lots used for loading of heavy equipment. Storm sewers are located in the parking lots to help with drainage and to reduce the environmental impact.</p> <p>Staff advised that investigation be done to consider other materials to be used to pave parking lots as part of the University of Waterloo Study. The parking lot at Bishop's Cross could be placed on hold to review more environmental pavement options.</p>	<b>\$230,800</b>
11292	<p>Storm Sewer Inspection Program – Contracted video inspection &amp; condition reporting of storm sewers.</p> <p>It was explained that the inspection program is used to prioritize work and to decide new sewage flow.</p>	<b>\$103,800</b>
11293	<p>Localized Repairs Curb &amp; Sidewalk Program – These funds will be used towards the maintenance repairs to sidewalks, curbs and catch basins throughout the Town. Reduces trip and fall incidents and associated liability to the Town.</p> <p>There was an inquiry regarding using different materials that have a longer lifespan for new and replacement sidewalks. Rubber sidewalks were said to perform better when located near a tree. Markham currently does not have any rubberized sidewalks. Staff were requested to conduct a cost comparison with respect to using rubber sidewalks over concrete sidewalks.</p> <p>The sidewalk policy was explained. Lane streets and major roads have sidewalks on both sides of the street. Most other streets have sidewalks on one side of road. It was noted that the installation of sidewalks on some major Regional roads has been delayed due to road widening.</p>	<b>\$541,200</b>
11294	Entrance Feature Rehabilitation- Program - These funds will maintain and repair all	<b>\$32,500</b>

Item	Description/Discussion	Total
	<p>entrance features. Repairs will be evaluated and prioritized.</p> <p>This program is being dealt with under the Public Realm. There is a need to investigate the extent of repairs/ replacements the Town should make. A formal strategy will be brought to Council to address issues regarding private property. These repairs include the entrance/gateways to subdivisions.</p>	
11295	<p>Civic Centre Parking Lot Rehabilitation – These funds will be used to repair sidewalks, curbs, base repair, catch basin adjustment, line marking and accessibility audit compliance.</p> <p>There was an inquiry regarding a previous request to have speed bumps placed on the roadways surrounding Civic Centre. This matter was said to have been deferred. Traffic Control Staff were requested to investigate the possible implementation of the speed bumps previously requested.</p> <p>An inquiry was made to use more environmental materials to pave the parking lot at civic centre. Staff thought this may be appropriate for the parking lot area, but recommended asphalt be used on the main roadway which is used to transport heavy loads. Members suggested a standard policy for paving parking lots be created, which outlines when it is appropriate to use more environmental materials. Staff will investigate this matter further once the research from the University of Waterloo has been completed, which includes research on pavement option. Adjustments to the pavement strategy may be applied to 2012 budget requests.</p>	<b>\$254,000</b>
11296	<p>CN Railcrossing Safety Compliance Langstaff Road – These funds will be used towards warning signal upgrades to Langstaff Road Crossing. It is clarified that Towns portion of this cost is \$178,000.</p> <p>There was an inquiry if CN Rail pays taxes to the Town of Markham. Finance Staff were requested to investigate this matter. It was questioned why it is the Town's responsibility to pay for the railroad crossing. It was noted that the matter has been referred to the Town's Legal Department. Legislation was said to dictate the payment of the road crossing, as in theory the railroad was there before the roads.</p>	<b>\$280,400</b>
11297	Emergency Repairs Program	<b>\$108,200</b>
11298	Town Owned Fence Replacement Program	<b>\$115,600</b>
11299	<p>Asphalt Resurfacing Program – These funds will be used to resurface roads throughout the Town utilizing a pavement management program to select rehabilitation candidates.</p> <p>Members requested Staff to provide a list of roads that have been included for rehabilitation in 2011.</p>	<b>\$5,181,600</b>

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton  
 Seconded by Councillor Howard Shore

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle the Operations-Roads Capital Budget Items.

CARRIED.

Operations - Parks

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description/Discussion</b>	<b>Total</b>
11255	Replacement/New of Boulevard/Park Trees Program	<b>\$156,100</b>
11256	Dog Off Leash Area Program	<b>\$40,000</b>
11257	Court Resurfacing/Reconstruction Program – These funds will be used towards the repair and resurfacing of basketball, and public and private club tennis courts.  It was clarified that a 50% cost sharing agreement exists with the tennis clubs to resurface the courts.	<b>\$260,100</b>
11258	Markham Trees for Tomorrow	<b>\$105,600</b>
11259	TRCA 50/50 Community Projects	<b>\$40,000</b>
11261	Volunteer Ice Rink Program – These funds are provided on a first requested, first received basis for installation of new winterized water services in parks where volunteer groups install the ice, but where no winterized service are currently available. Volunteer groups are also reimbursed 50% of the costs of materials for the ice rinks with a maximum of \$500 per group per year or \$1,000 every two years.  It was clarified that this is a community service provided and that the Town does not seek reimbursement.	<b>\$25,000</b>
11262	Town Park Furniture / Amenities Program	<b>\$129,800</b>
11266	Play structure & Safety Resurfacing Program – These funds will be used towards the installation of safety surfaces and playground equipment at various park locations, as required to maintain the safety standard. The remainder of the funds will be used to enhance some of the playground structures.  A Member inquired if funds would be available to upgrade the playground equipment in the Royal Orchard Area. Staff replied that funds would be available to complete this task.	<b>\$216,400</b>
11268	Crosby Park Removal & Replacement of Outfield Fence	<b>\$12,000</b>
11270	Sportsfield Maintenance & Reconstruction Program	<b>\$119,000</b>
11271	Enhanced Cultural Practices Year 5 of 5	<b>\$100,000</b>

Item	Description/Discussion	Total
11272	<p>Electrical &amp; Cabling Program – These funds are used towards an independent audit of electoral services in municipal parks and sportsfields, which identifies locations for repair/maintenance of electrical components that have exceeded their life expectancy and are potentially dangerous.</p> <p>There was request to install an electrical meter at Carlton Park so that the charge is by usage. The request was made to resolve a billing issue. It was suggested that solar energy be considered to light sportsfields and pathways. There was request to angle the lights appropriately, to minimize light pollution.</p>	<b>\$84,900</b>
11273	Paving Pathways & Facilities Program	<b>\$108,200</b>
11275	Ashton Meadows Park Ball Diamond Upgrade	<b>\$15,000</b>

Moved by Councillor Alan Ho  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle the Operations-Parks Capital Budget Items presented.

CARRIED.

Operations - Traffic

Item	Description/Discussion	Total
11305	<p>Traffic Operational Improvements Program – These funds are used to accommodate “ad hoc” initiatives and requests that arise throughout the year from staff, residents, or Council to improve traffic operation on the streets.</p> <p>Staff was requested to look at specific intersections where pedestrian safety is an issue.</p>	<b>\$60,000</b>
11307	<p>Traffic Control Signal Design &amp; Construction – These funds will be used towards the design and installation of traffic signals at Town Centre and Wallis Way.</p> <p>It was clarified that the pedestrian signals will be placed on vertical polls, which are included in the cost.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding synchronizing traffic lights. It was reported that the Region is currently doing a study on retiming the street lights to minimize traffic congestions and on improving the synchronization of the traffic lights. Staff were requested to investigate the possibility of improving the synchronization of Markham traffic lights at key intersections. Council requested that they be provided with a 20-30 minute workshop on traffic control. York Region was requested to be invited to the workshop. It was noted that Metrolinx has been invited to provide a presentation at the March 1</p>	<b>\$379,400</b>

	Development Services Committee Meeting.	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Description/Discussion</b>	<b>Total</b>
	A request was made to investigate traffic calming options for Delmark Avenue (other than the installation of speed bumps).	
11308	Pedestrian Accessibility Improvements at Traffic Signals	<b>\$356,200</b>

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton

Seconded by Regional Councillor Joe Li

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle the Operations-Traffic Capital Budget Items presented.

CARRIED.

Operations - Fleet

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description/Discussion</b>	<b>Total</b>
11245	Corporate Fleet Replacement Program	<b>\$2,615,200</b>
11246	New Fleet Waterworks	<b>\$8,200</b>
11247	Corporate Fleet Refurbishing Program – equipment and vehicles need periodic refurbishing and corrosion protection to meet the Ministry of Transportation requirements and to ensure lifecycle requirements are met.  It was questioned why a 5 year old vehicle that only has 53,000 km is being replaced. Replacement is decided by Fleet Management Staff and decisions are based on the condition of the vehicle.	<b>\$39,400</b>
11248	New Fleet Operations Growth	<b>\$163,000</b>
11249	New Equipment Shop Hoist	<b>\$10,200</b>
11250	Waterworks Fleet Replacement Program	<b>\$159,900</b>
11251	New Fleet Waste Management	<b>\$21,400</b>
11252	New Equipment- Enhanced Cultural Practices Year 5 of 5	<b>\$61,100</b>
11254	Winter Maintenance Vehicles Purchased by Contractors	<b>\$200,000</b>

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the Budget Sub-Committee approve in principle the Operations –Fleet Capital Budget Items presented.

CARRIED.

**b. REVIEW OF 2011 COUNCILLOR'S REQUEST**

This item was deferred to the next Budget Sub-Committee meeting.



### **Deputations**

Dr. Elvis Nurse acknowledged the excellent work completed to date by Staff and Members of the Budget Sub-Committee. The following observations/considerations were presented to the Committee: a request that consideration be given to phasing in some of proposed projects; a request that projects be prioritized especially in these challenging economic times; a request for prudent use of funds (e.g. postponing landscaping or nonessential items); concern regarding subsidizing Markham Theatre's Operations; and that consideration be given to Markham's demographics, which present significant needs for youth and seniors especially in the area of social services.

Ms. Marion Matthias advised she would wait until the next meeting to make her deputation, as she felt it would be more appropriate to make her deputation when the Councillor requests are dealt with.

### **c. STATUS OF OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Joel Lustig, Treasurer, presented the status of the operating budget, which included the 2011 base operating budget assumptions and a summary of the 2011 preliminary operating budget summary. It was reported that the preliminary operating budget has a net shortfall of 3.09 million dollars, which would require a 2.88 % tax rate increase to fund the shortfall.

Members questioned what the impact of delaying projects would be on the 4 year projections. It was noted that most projects are well underway and that it would be costly to delay the projects. The tax rate increase was discussed. It was agreed that the rate of increase needs to be lower and that a leaner solution is required. Some Members felt the rate of inflation would be a fair tax rate increase.

### **d. NEXT STEPS**

The Terms of Reference for all Budget Sub-Committee Taskforces will be brought back to the Committee in two weeks. The Treasurer was requested to schedule another Budget Sub-Committee meeting.

The next meeting of the Budget Sub-Committee will be held on Monday, February 7 at 2:30 p.m.

Moved by Regional Councillor Jim Jones  
Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell

That the Budget Sub-Committee meeting adjourn at 4:34 p.m.

**CARRIED.**