



**Minutes  
General Committee  
March 2, 2015  
Meeting Number 8**

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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**

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

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services  
Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services  
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services  
Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor  
Joel Lustig, Treasurer  
Phoebe Fu, Director of Asset Management  
Catherine Biss, CEO, Markham Public Libraries  
Brett Lucyk, Public Realm Coordinator  
Andrea Tang, Manager, Financial Planning  
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

The General Committee meeting convened at the hour of 9:05 AM with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath in the Chair; Councillor Alex Chiu Chaired Community Services related items; Councillor Valerie Burke Chaired Environment and Sustainability and Councillor Colin Campbell Chaired Building, Parks and Construction related items.

General Committee recessed at 12:09 PM and reconvened at 1:06 PM.

**Disclosure of Interest**

None disclosed.

**1. CANADA POST  
- PRESENTATION TO MARKHAM (13.0)**  
[Presentation](#)

Mr. Andrew Walasek, Manager, Municipal Engagement, Canada Post Corporation delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding Canada Post's five point action plan.

The Committee discussed the following relative to Canada Post:

- Franchise models
- Convenient boxes
- Accessibility accommodations
- Size and location of mail box
- Collectable stamps
- Alternate day delivery
- Clean up of graffiti on the community mailboxes
- Installation of recycling receptacles by the municipality at community mailboxes
- Community engagement process
- Snow clearing around community mailboxes
- Phone numbers listed on each community mailboxes that anyone can call
- Human error being rectified through technology
- Street letter boxes
- Conversion of old community mailboxes to the new ones
- Preferred location for community mailboxes being corner lots
- Canada Post has the legal authority to install the community boxes on any public easement they see fit
- Heritage Designation site - work on aesthetic

The Committee thanked Mr. Chad Schella, Andrew Walasek and staff for all their work relative to the community mailboxes.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton

1. That the presentation by Mr. Chad Schella, Director, Government Affairs, Canada Post Corporation and Mr. Andrew Walasek, Manager, Municipal Engagement, Canada Post Corporation entitled "Canada Post- Presentation to Markham," be received.

Carried

**2. 2014 YEAR END REVIEW OF OPERATIONS (7.4)**  
[Presentation](#)   [Report](#)   [Appendix 1-12](#)

Andrea Tang, Manager, Financial Planning delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the City of Markham 2014 Year End Review of Operations.

The Committee discussed the following with respect to the 2014 Year End Review of Operations:

- Personnel and non-personnel expenditures
- Waterworks reserve balance

Moved by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

- 1) That the presentation by Ms. Andrea Tang, Manager, Financial Planning entitled “City of Markham 2014 Year End Review of Operations,” be received; and,
- 2) That the report entitled “2014 Year End Review of Operations” be received; and,
- 3) That the City’s 2014 net unfavourable variance of (\$1.348M) be funded from the Corporate Rate Stabilization Reserve as per the following breakdown:

a. City’s day-to-day operating surplus	\$3.078M
b. Year end accounting accruals and other adjustments	(\$2.262M)
c. Winter maintenance unfavourable variance	(\$2.330M)
d. Projected Ontario Ice Storm Assistance Program recovery net of 2014 ice storm related expenditures	<u>\$0.166M</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>(\$1.348M)</u></b> ; and further,
- 4) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**3. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23, 2015  
GENERAL COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the minutes of the February 23, 2015 General Committee meeting be confirmed.

Carried

**4. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 26, 2015  
MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the minutes of the January 26, 2015 Markham Public Library Board meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**5. DEVELOPMENT CHARGES REIMBURSEMENT  
APPLICATION – RICE COMMERCIAL GROUP (7.11)**

[Report](#) [Appendix A](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu

Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the report entitled “Development Charges Reimbursement – Rice Commercial Group” be received; and,
- 2) That Council authorize a City Wide Hard Development Charge reimbursement not exceeding \$734,595, to the Rice Commercial Group for the construction and property costs for a 4<sup>th</sup> Lane on Honda Boulevard and the construction of an oversized watermain along the Woodbine By-pass; and,
- 3) That Council authorize a future City Wide Hard Development Charge reimbursement not exceeding \$82,805 to the Rice Commercial Group for the construction of an oversized watermain along Honda Boulevard, provided that the said watermain oversizing is included in the next update of the Development Charges Background Study due by 2018; and,
- 4) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute a Development Charge Reimbursement Agreement, if required, in accordance with the City’s Development Charge Credit and Reimbursement Policy, with the Rice Commercial Group, or their successors in title to the satisfaction of the Treasurer and City Solicitor; and further,
- 5) That staff be directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this report.

Carried

**6. SUMMARY OF 2014 REMUNERATION  
& EXPENSES FOR COUNCILLORS AND  
APPOINTEES TO BOARDS (7.0)**

[Report](#) [Appendix A](#) [Appendix B](#)

The Committee inquired about mileage expenses for the members of the Markham Public Library Board members. Edward McDermott, Chair Markham Public Library Board addressed the Committee advising that there was a resolution passed permitting mileage expense for Board members.

Moved by Regional Councillor Jim Jones  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Joe Li

- 1) That the report titled “Summary of 2014 Remuneration & Expenses for Councillors and Appointees to Boards” be received; and,
- 2) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**7. 2015 LIBRARY BUDGET**  
**PRESENTATION: MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD (13.0)**  
[Presentation](#)

Edward McDermott, Chair, Markham Public Library delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2015 Library Budget.

Catherine Biss, CEO, Markham Public Libraries delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding transparency, community consultation, various programs and 2015 Library budget pressures and proposed reductions.

The Committee discussed the following with respect to the Markham Public Libraries:

- Change in technology
- Decrease in revenue from fines
- Programs that are offered for children including ones with disabilities such as autism offered at the libraries
- Current Library hours and do we need to extend hours
- Should the libraries continue to supply CDs, DVDs
- Proposed budget reduction of \$289,521 - can there be a further reduction
- Consider smaller branches in areas that will have high density redevelopment

There was considerable discussion regarding whether libraries should be required to disclose salaries notwithstanding that the provisions of the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act (PSSDA) do not apply to Markham Public Library employees. The Committee suggested that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Finance requesting that the PSSDA be amended to include libraries.

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

- 1) That the presentation by Mr. Edward McDermott, Board Chair and Ms. Catherine Biss, Chief Executive Officer, entitled “2015 Library Budget Presentation: Markham Public Library Board,” be received; and,
- 2) **That the City Solicitor be directed to draft a letter on behalf of the Mayor and Members of Council to the Ministry of Finance requesting that the Public Sector**

**Disclosure Act (PSSDA) be amended to require all Libraries disclose salaries in accordance with the Act; and,**

- 3) That the draft letter be brought back to a future General Committee meeting; and further,**
- 4) That staff be directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.**

Carried

**8. CIVIC CENTRE PEDESTRIAN AND  
PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS  
SCOPE AND TIMING (5.0)**

[Presentation](#)

Phoebe Fu, Director of Asset Management delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Civic Centre pedestrian and parking lot improvements.

The Committee discussed the following with respect to the Civic Centre pedestrian and parking lot improvements:

- Lay-by lanes could they be converted to handicap parking spaces
- Ensure minimal impact on events that take place at the Civic Centre during construction
- Present today's presentation to Markham's Accessibility Committee
- Can the parking lot be completely flat without any elevations
- Can the Metroscape lighting be used throughout the parking lot
- The various options being considered to minimize traffic in front of the Civic Centre building
- When will tree planting begin

There was discussion regarding whether staff should report back on some of the suggestions made at today's meeting. Staff pointed out that this work is purely a Life Cycle replacement and a plan to increase pedestrian safety. Staff indicated that any suggestions to incorporate different designs, layouts, etc should be considered through a Master Plan.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the presentation by Ms. Phoebe Fu, Director, Asset Management entitled "Civic Centre Pedestrian and Parking Lot Scope and Timing," be received; and,
- 2) That Council authorize staff be to proceed with the work outlined in the presentation at the Civic Centre; and further,
- 3) That staff be directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **9. IN-CAMERA MATTERS (16.0 & 16.24)**

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell

That, in accordance with Section 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, General Committee resolve into an in-camera session to discuss the following confidential matters (12:05 PM):

- (1) GENERAL COMMITTEE IN-CAMERA MINUTES  
- February 23, 2015 (16.0)  
[Section 239 (2) (a) (b) (c) (e)]
  
- (2) PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING  
MUNICIPAL OR LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEES (BOARD AND COMMITTEE  
APPOINTMENTS) (16.24)  
[Section 239 (2) (b)]

Carried

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton

Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

That the General Committee rise from the in-camera session 12:07 PM.

Carried

## **Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 2:51PM.

Carried