



**Minutes  
General Committee  
December 15, 2014  
Meeting Number 2**

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**Alternate formats are available upon request.**

**Attendance**

Mayor Frank Scarpitti  
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Regional Councillor Jim Jones  
Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Regional Councillor Joe Li  
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  
Bill Snowball, Fire Chief  
Stephen Chait, Director of Economic Development  
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

The General Committee meeting convened at the hour of 9:07 AM in the Council Chamber with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath as Chair. Mayor Frank Scarpitti assumed the Chair at 9:18 AM.

The General Committee recessed at 9:15 AM and reconvened at 9:18 AM. The General Committee recessed at 12:41 PM and reconvened at 12:46 PM.

**Disclosure of Interest**

None disclosed.

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR (16.0)**

Moved by Regional Councillor Jim Jones  
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

That Deputy Mayor Jack Heath begin as the Chair of today's General Committee meeting; and,

That Mayor Frank Scarpitti assume the Chair of the General Committee meeting upon his arrival.

Carried

**2. US AMBASSADOR TO CANADA  
BRUCE HEYMAN (12.2.6)**

Remarks

Mayor Frank Scarpitti welcomed and introduced US Ambassador to Canada, Mr. Bruce Heyman, to General Committee and provided key information about his professional background in various leadership roles.

Ambassador Heyman addressed Committee and provided a brief speech to General Committee.

There was brief discussion relative to the Windsor, Ontario and Detroit bridge; Keystone Pipeline and ecosystem protection.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That the verbal presentation from US Ambassador to Canada, Mr. Bruce Heyman be received.

Carried

**3. LEGISLATION 101 EDUCATION AND TRAINING (16.0)**

(Municipal Act  
Planning Act  
Municipal Conflict of Interest Act  
Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act  
Bill 8)  
Presentation

Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor addressed the Committee and provided some opening remarks with respect to the Legislation 101 Education and Training presentation.

Bruce Engell, Partner, WeirFoulds LLP and Kim Mullin, Partner, WeirFoulds LLP delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding governance and Council responsibilities.

The Committee discussed the following relative to governance and Council responsibilities:

- Municipal by-laws may not override a conflicting Federal or Provincial statute
- The role of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB)
- Potential implications if a Member of Council releases confidential information without the consent of Council
- Ontario's Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) - that all documents including e-mails are considered to be records of the Corporation
- How do you determine a conflict of interest?
- Municipalities have the authority to restrict the placement of election signs

The Committee thanked Mr. Engell and Ms. Mullin for a great presentation and requested that a copy of the presentation be forwarded to all Members of Council.

Moved by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Seconded by Councillor Colin Campbell

- 1) That the presentation provided by Bruce Engell and Kim Mullin of WeirFoulds LLP regarding Legislation 101 Education and Training be received.

Carried

#### **4. THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT (5.7)**

[Attachment](#)

Tammy Morrel-Bellai addressed Committee regarding a proposed environmental rights recommendation based on concepts by the Suzuki Foundation and suggested that Committee consider following the lead of other Canadian cities that have passed a resolution to provide their citizens the right to a healthy environment.

Aaron Korbacher, Markham resident addressed the Committee regarding the right to a healthy environment and spoke in support.

Moved by Councillor Don Hamilton  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

That the proposed "Model Municipal Declaration: The Right to a Healthy Environment" be referred to staff.

Carried

#### **5. ONTARIO BAND ASSOCIATION (7.6)**

Mark Caswell addressed Committee regarding the Ontario Band Association application for financial assistance through Celebrate Markham Grant and requesting their support.

There was discussion regarding the date and location of the event.

Staff provided a brief summary of the Ontario Band Association 2015 Celebrate Markham application.

There was brief discussion regarding any unallocated 2014 Celebrate Markham funds. It was noted that there are \$1,877 remaining in the 2014 Celebrate Markham account. The Committee suggested allocating \$1,877 towards the 2015 Ontario Band Association Celebrate Markham application. The Committee also suggested that representatives of the Ontario Band Association work with certain Members of Council to try and engage corporate sponsorships in future events. The Committee briefly discussed the potential of also seeking funds from other municipalities where schools participate in the event.

The Committee requested that staff report back to General Committee in January 2015 regarding the 2015 Celebrate Markham application for Ontario Band Association.

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath**  
**Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea**

**That the deputation from Mark Caswell on behalf of the Ontario Band Association application for financial assistance through Celebrate Markham Grant 2015, be received; and,**

**That \$1,877.00 be approved toward the 2015 Ontario Band Association Celebrate Markham application.**

**Carried**

**6. MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2014  
GENERAL COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the minutes of the November 17, 2014 General Committee meeting be confirmed.  
**Carried**

**7. MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 8, 2014  
SPECIAL GENERAL COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the minutes of the December 8, 2014 Special General Committee meeting be confirmed.  
**Carried**

**8. MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19, 2014 &  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2014  
MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[June 19](#)      [September 16](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the minutes of the June 19, 2014 and September 16, 2014 Markham Environmental Advisory Committee meeting be received for information purposes.  

Carried

**9. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2014  
MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the minutes of the October 28, 2014 Markham Public Library Board meeting be received for information purposes.  

Carried

**10. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2014 & NOVEMBER 18, 2014  
SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[October 14](#)      [November 18](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the minutes of the October 14, 2014 and November 18, 2014 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be received for information purposes.  

Carried

**11. MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 24, 2014  
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTRE  
AND LIBRARY SUB-COMMITTEE (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the minutes of the November 24, 2014 Southeast Community Centre and Library Sub-Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**12. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2014  
FLATO MARKHAM THEATRE ADVISORY BOARD (16.0)**  
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the minutes of the October 20, 2014 Flato Markham Theatre Advisory Board meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**13. APPROVAL OF FIRST QUARTER  
2015 CELEBRATE MARKHAM GRANTS (7.6)**  
[Report](#)

A. Tang, extension 2433

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the report entitled “Approval of First Quarter 2015 Celebrate Markham Grants” be received; and,
- 2) That the following Celebrate Markham events: Chinese New Year Celebration (\$10,000), Black History Month (\$3,000), and the Tamil New Year Celebration (\$4,000) be approved at the 2014 funding level; and,
- 3) That Staff to bring forward the remaining 2015 Celebrate Markham Grant requests at a future Budget Sub Committee meeting; and,
- 4) That Staff will bring forward a report to General Committee in January 2015 outlining a proposed approach for administration of the Celebrate Markham Grant process with implementation commencing in 2016; and further,
- 5) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**14. PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET SCHEDULE (7.0)**  
[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the report dated December 8, 2014 entitled “Proposed 2015 Budget Schedule” be received; and,
- 2) That the Budget Sub-Committee meetings to review the proposed 2015 Budget be approved for the dates and times below (subject to change pending appointment of the Chair of the Budget Sub-Committee):

***Meeting #1*** – Friday, January 23, 2015 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Canada Room)

***Meeting #2*** – Wednesday, February 4, 2015 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Canada Room)

***Meeting #3*** – Monday, February 9, 2015 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Canada Room)

***Meeting #4*** – Tuesday, February 10, 2015 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Canada Room)

***Meeting #5*** – Wednesday, February 18, 2015 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Council Chamber)

***Meeting #6*** – Monday, March 9, 2015 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Council Chamber);  
and,

- 3) That the draft presentation on the proposed 2015 Budget (based on the budget status following the February 18th Budget Sub-Committee meeting) for the public meeting be presented at the February 23rd General Committee meeting; and,
- 4) That a public meeting be held at the Civic Centre in the Council Chamber on Wednesday, March 4th, 2015 at 7:00pm to receive public feedback on the 2015 Budget; and,
- 5) That feedback on the public meeting and recommendation of the 2015 Budget be presented at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> General Committee meeting; and further,
- 6) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**15. STAFF AWARDED CONTRACTS FOR  
THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2014 (7.12)**

[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the report entitled “Staff Awarded Contracts for the Month of November 2014” be received; and,
- 2) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**16. DEVELOPMENT CHARGES INDEXING –  
JANUARY 1, 2015 (7.11)**

[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That the report titled “Development Charges Indexing – January 1, 2015” be received; and,
- 2) That Council approve an increase in development charges of 0.9%, effective January 1, 2015; and further,
- 3) That staff be directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this report.

Carried

**17. MUNICIPAL ENERGY PLAN UPDATE (5.7)**

[Report](#)      [Appendices](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

- 1) That Council receives the report titled “Municipal Energy Plan Update” for informational purposes; and,
- 2) That Staff report back on Markham’s Municipal Energy Plan stage two in 2015 and stage three in 2016, prior to their completion; and further,



- 3) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**18. MASTER FIRE PLAN UPDATE (5.0)**  
[Presentation](#)

Bill Snowball, Fire Chief delivered a PowerPoint presentation providing an update of the Master Fire Plan.

The Committee discussed the following relative to the Master Fire Plan:

- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards
- Locations of fire stations and rationale behind their locations
- Should amalgamation of Fire Services across York Region be studied?
- Would consolidating fire and paramedic services be financially, operationally advantageous while improving operational performance?
- Imperfections within the current dispatch system and the need for a new protocol that will embrace the superior capabilities of fire services
- Proposed changes that will continue to increase the fire department budgets and how will municipalities sustain this in future

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Joe Li

- 1) That the presentation provided by Bill Snowball, Fire Chief entitled “Master Fire Plan Update” be received.

Carried

**19. ALTERATION OF MUNICIPAL BOULEVARD -  
10 ECKARDT AVENUE, UNIONVILLE (2.0)**

[Presentation](#)

Moved by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the presentation provided by Bob Nicholson, Acting Director of Operations, entitled “Alteration of Municipal Boulevard – 10 Eckardt Avenue, Unionville” be **deferred to the January 26, 2015 General Committee meeting.**

Carried

**20. MASTER FIRE PLAN UPDATE (5.0)**  
[Report](#)

The Committee suggested that a half day work session be scheduled in mid to late January 2015 to further discuss the Fire Master Plan.

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu  
Seconded by Regional Councillor Joe Li

- 1) That the report entitled “Master Fire Plan Update” be **deferred to a Special General Committee Workshop in mid to late January 2015**; and,
- 2) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**21. ALTERATION OF MUNICIPAL BOULEVARD -  
10 ECKARDT AVENUE, UNIONVILLE (2.0)**  
[Report](#)      [Attachment](#)

Moved by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

**That the following recommendations be deferred to the January 26, 2015 General Committee meeting:**

- 1) That the report and presentation entitled “Alteration of Municipal Boulevard - 10 Eckardt Avenue, Unionville” be received; and,
- 2) That an exemption to municipal By-law 2013-136 (Road Occupancy) not be granted to the property Owner of 10 Eckardt Avenue; and further,
- 3) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**22. AMENDMENT TO SMOKE-FREE ONTARIO ACT -  
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015  
PROHIBITING SMOKING ON AND AROUND  
MUNICIPALLY- OPERATED SPORTS FIELDS,  
SPORT SPECTATOR AND PLAYGROUND AREAS (6.0)**  
[Memo](#)

There was brief discussion regarding signage.

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

- 1) That the memorandum entitled “Amendment To Smoke-Free Ontario Act - Effective January 1, 2015 Prohibiting Smoking On And Around Municipally-Operated Sports Fields, Sport Spectator And Playground Areas” be received.

Carried

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **IN-CAMERA MATTERS**

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea  
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 (3:09 PM):

### **23. GENERAL COMMITTEE IN-CAMERA MINUTES – NOVEMBER 17, 2014 (16.0)**

[Section 239 (2) (c) (b) (e)]

### **24. PERSONAL MATTERS ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL OR LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEES (BOARD APPOINTMENTS) (16.24)**

[Section 239 (2) (b)]

### **25. A PROPOSED OR PENDING ACQUISITION OR DISPOSITION OF LAND BY THE MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL BOARD (WARD 8) (13.7)**

[Section 239 (2) (c)]

Carried

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

That the General Committee rise from the in-camera session 3:31 PM.

Carried

## **Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Alan Ho  
Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 3:31 PM.

Carried