



MINUTES
GENERAL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 18, 2013
Meeting No. 24

Finance & Administrative Issues

Chair: Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Vice Chair: Councillor Carolina Moretti

Community Services Issues

Chair: Councillor Alex Chiu
Vice Chair: Councillor Howard Shore

Environment & Sustainability Issues

Chair: Councillor Valerie Burke
Vice Chair: Regional Councillor Joe Li

Building, Parks, & Construction Issues

Chair: Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Vice Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell

Alternate formats are available upon request.

Attendance

Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Jim Jones
Regional Councillor Gord Landon
Regional Councillor Joe Li
Councillor Valerie Burke
Councillor. Howard Shore
Councillor Don Hamilton
Councillor Carolina Moretti
Councillor Colin Campbell
Councillor Alan Ho
Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Councillor Alex Chiu

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer
Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services
Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services
Peter Loukes, Director, Environmental Services
Joel Lustig, Treasurer
Alex Moore, Manager of Purchasing
Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning
Lori Wells, Community Recreation Manager - East
Shawn Hermans, Community Program Coordinator - South East
Robert Muir, Manager of Stormwater
Corinna Ghaznavi, Public Art Coordinator
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

The General Committee convened at the hour of 9:05 a.m. with Councillor Carolina Moretti in the Chair. Mayor Frank Scarpitti assumed the Chair at 10:34 am and Councillor Alex Chiu Chaired Community Services related items.

General Committee recessed at 12:53 p.m. and reconvened at 1:38 p.m.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None disclosed.

1. 2014 PROPOSED WATER/WASTEWATER RATES (7.4)
[Presentation](#)

Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2014 Proposed Water/Wastewater rates.

Peter Loukes, Director, Environmental Services delivered a PowerPoint presentation with respect to the 2013 Waterworks Work Plan.

There was considerable discussion regarding the yearly increasing water rates and the number of services it pays for such as: supply and delivery of water to homes, water treatment facilities, lead testing, sewer use/maintenance and repair work on old infrastructure.

The Committee suggested that staff include charts depicting the following information at the Public Meeting and circulate the information to the Mayor and Members of Council prior to the meeting:

- Markham's water Reserves balances
- How water consumption has varied over the last few years
- Average water bill over the last 10 years
- Regional Reserves
- Non-revenue water
- What percentage of increase is a result of water from Peel and from City of Toronto
- Add Peel's rate to the slide on "2013 Comparative Municipal Water/Wastewater Rates"

There was brief discussion regarding whether the water supply can be efficiently managed without the City's involvement, but rather only have it through a one-tier system being the Regional Municipality of York.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the presentation provided by Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning, entitled "2014 Proposed Water/Wastewater Rates" be received.

CARRIED

**2. 2013 SEPTEMBER YEAR-TO-DATE REVIEW OF
OPERATIONS AND YEAR-END PROJECTION (7.4)**
[Presentation](#)

Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2013 September Year-To-Date review of operations and year-end projections.

There was discussion regarding the unfavourable recreation revenue in the amount of \$1.376 million and steps being considered to improve. Staff advised that they will be reporting on a three year plan for recreation that will also include a pricing strategy. It was suggested that staff investigate ways to promote new facilities such as including a flyer about new Community Centres in the local area tax bill.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the presentation provided by Andrea Tang, Manager of Financial Planning, entitled "2013 September Year-To-Date Review of Operations and Year-End Projection" be received.

CARRIED

3. MARKHAM SPORTS DAY (6.4)
[Presentation](#)

Lori Wells, Community Recreation Manager - East, delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Markham Sports Day.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

- 1) That the presentation provided by Lori Wells, Community Recreation Manager - East, entitled "Markham Sports Day" be received.

CARRIED

**4. AFTER SCHOOL JOBS FOR YOUTH IN
YORK REGION (6.0)**

[Presentation](#)

Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services addressed the Committee and provided some opening remarks relative to the After School Jobs for Youth in York Region program.

Shawn Hermans, Community Program Coordinator - South East delivered a PowerPoint presentation outlining the After School Jobs for Youth in York Region program.

There was brief discussion regarding the 360 Kids' youth employment program.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

- 1) That the presentation provided by Shawn Hermans, Community Program Coordinator - South East, entitled "After School Jobs for Youth in York Region" be received.

CARRIED

5. STORMWATER FUNDING (5.5)

[Presentation](#)

Robert Muir, Manager of Stormwater delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Stormwater Funding.

The Committee discussed the following:

- Life Cycle Reserve fund
- Gas Tax funding
- Is 100 year storm level sufficient
- What will it take to advance other parts of Markham
- City wide charge is the correct approach
- Cost efficiencies being considered to avoid future issues
- Re-development opportunities

Marilyn Ginsburg, Grandview Area Residents Association addressed the Committee regarding the Stormwater Funding and spoke in support. She thanked staff, Councillor Valerie Burke and all involved for their efforts in advancing the Thornhill Flood Control.

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Howard Shore

- 1) That the presentation provided by Rob Muir, Manager of Stormwater, entitled "Stormwater Funding" be received; and,
- 2) That the annual fee revenue target be set at \$6.5 M for the five year project cycle and that the funding requirement be updated every five years to reflect updated project costs estimates, Gas Tax allocation, inflation, growth, administration costs, and revenue collection; and,
- 3) That stormwater fees be charged to all properties with a water account and that staff be authorized to develop the billing system with powerstream, and to negotiate a contract for account management, billing, revenue collection, and customer support; and,
- 4) That stormwater fee revenue be collected by sector in proportion to city-wide runoff contributions of 60% residential and 40% non-residential; and,
- 5) That the fee flat fee for residential and multi-residential properties units be set at \$36 per unit per year for the first 5 years; and,
- 6) That the variable fee for non-residential properties be set based on a rate of \$21/\$100,000 current value assessment; and,
- 7) That staff report back in q1 2014 on an implementation plan and communications strategy for implementation of the city-wide fee; and further,
- 8) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

**6. SOUTH EAST COMMUNITY CENTRE
AND LIBRARY PUBLIC ART (6.6)**
[Presentation](#)

Staff delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding the South East Community Centre and Library Public Art.

There was discussion regarding the cost of the proposed public art.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

- 1) That the presentation provided by Corinna Ghaznavi entitled "South East Community Centre and Library Public Art" be received.

CARRIED

**7. MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2013
GENERAL COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the November 4, 2013 General Committee be confirmed.

CARRIED

**8. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 7, 2013
BOX GROVE COMMUNITY CENTRE BOARD (16.0)**

[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the October 7, 2013 Box Grove Community Centre Board be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**9. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2013
HEINTZMAN HOUSE BOARD MEETING (16.0)**
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the September 26, 2013 Heintzman House Board Meeting be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**10. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 7, 2013
RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (16.0)**
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the October 7, 2013 Race Relations Committee be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**11. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 7, 2013
VARLEY MCKAY ART FOUNDATION OF MARKHAM (16.0)**
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the October 7, 2013 Varley McKay Art Foundation of Markham be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**12. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 12
AND OCTOBER 10, 2013
MARKHAM TRAIN STATION
COMMUNITY CENTRE (16.0)**
[Sept. 12](#) [Oct. 10](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the September 12 and October 10, 2013 Markham Train Station Community Centre be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**13. MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18
AND SEPTEMBER 19, 2013
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
MARKHAM VILLAGE BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT AREA COMMITTEE (16.0)**
[Aug. 18](#) [Sept. 19](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the August 18 and September 19, 2013 Board of Management Markham Village Business Improvement Area Committee be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**14. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2013
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
WASTE DIVERSION SUB-COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the September 9, 2013 Environmental Issues Committee, Waste Diversion Sub-Committee be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**15. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2013
BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the Minutes of the October 28, 2013 Budget Sub-Committee be received for information purposes; and,
- 2) That the following 2014 Celebrate Markham Grants be pre-approved:
 - Tony Roman Hockey Tournament - \$5.4K
 - Chinese New Year Celebration - \$10K
 - Black History Month - \$3K
 - Tamil Heritage/Thai Pongal/Tamil New Year Celebration - \$4K

CARRIED

16. 2014 E3 INITIATIVES (7.0)

[Report](#)

There was discussion regarding the proposed user fee increase at Milne Dam Conservation Park. It was suggested the proposed adult rate be lowered to \$4.00 and senior's rate lowered to \$3.00 for one year and that staff review and report back after the one year period.

Moved by Councillor Carolina Moretti
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

- 1) That the report dated November 18, 2013 entitled “2014 E3 Initiatives” be received; and,
- 2) That the following new user fees as per Appendix A be implemented effective January 1, 2014:
 - Mortgage Account Administrative Fee
 - Property Tax Overdue Notice Fee
 - Noise Exemption Fee
 - Fence Exemption Fee; and,
- 3) That the following new licence fees as per Appendix A be implemented effective May 1, 2014:
 - Wildlife Licence Fee
 - Food Truck Licence Fee; and,
- 4) That the Director of each respective department be authorized to set future increases annually for only those above user and licence fees based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (Toronto All Items September -September) with such increases effective January 1 and rounded to the nearest half dollar; and,
- 5) That the following user fee and licence fee increases as per Appendix B be implemented effective January 1, 2014:
 - Street banner installation
 - Film permits
 - User and licence fees, as per Appendix C, increase by 3.6% in addition to the CPI increase of 1.4% for a total increase of 5%
 - Parking fees at Milne Dam Conservation Park as outlined in Table A **with the adult fee to be lowered to \$4.00 and senior's fee lowered to \$3.00 for one year and that staff report back to General Committee after the one year period**
 - Picnic site permit fees at Milne Dam Conservation Park as outlined in Table B
 - Sportsfield and artificial turf permit fees as outlined in Table C
 - Legal Department fees; and,
- 6) That 75% (\$721k) of the annual operating budget savings of \$961k from the conversion of LED luminaires be transferred to pay back the capital investment and 25% (\$240k) be incorporated as a reduction to the streetlight hydro operating base budget; and,
- 7) That the financial implications from the 2014 E3 initiatives as outlined in the report totaling \$873k be incorporated into the 2014 Operating Budget; and,

- 8) That By-law 2002-276, a by-law to impose fees and charges for services or activities provided or done by the City of Markham, be amended to reflect the increase in rates; and,
- 9) That By-law 2002-284, a by-law to impose fees and charges for licences provided by the City of Markham, be amended to reflect the increase in rates; and further,
- 10) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

**17. STAFF AWARDED CONTRACTS FOR
THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2013 (7.12)**
[Report](#)

The Committee discussed the following:

- 232-T-13 Replacement of the Roof Fire Station #95 and Craft Guild Canopy
- 236-T-13 Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Wood Waste Removal Program
- 176-T-13 Rehabilitation of Storm Water System Maintenance - Trenchless & Open Cut Repairs

It was suggested that staff investigate metal roofs for future roof replacements on City buildings.

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the report entitled “Staff Awarded Contracts for the Month of October 2013” be received; and,
- 2) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

**18. INTERIM SPENDING AUTHORITY
PENDING APPROVAL OF THE 2014
UNIONVILLE AND MARKHAM VILLAGE
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREAS (B.I.A.) BUDGETS (7.4)**
[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the report dated November 18, 2013, entitled “Interim Spending Authority Pending Approval of the 2014 Unionville and Markham Village Business Improvement Areas (B.I.A.) Budgets” be received; and,
- 2) That Council approve 50% of the 2013 Operating Budget equivalent to the amounts of \$118,008 and \$152,104 for the Unionville B.I.A. (UBIA) and Markham Village B.I.A. (MBIA) respectively as pre-budget approval for the 2014 operating expenditures; and further,
- 3) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

19. TEMPORARY BORROWING BY-LAW 2014 (7.0)
[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the report “Temporary Borrowing By-law 2014” be received; and,
- 2) That a by-law be brought forward for council approval to authorize the temporary borrowing, if required, of an amount not to exceed \$147,242,732 from January 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014 and \$73,621,366 from October 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 to meet the expenditures of the municipality until taxes are collected and other revenues are received; and,

- 3) That the Treasurer report to council in advance of borrowing, if temporary borrowing is required; and further,
- 4) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

**20. INTERIM SPENDING AUTHORITY
PENDING APPROVAL OF 2014 BUDGET (7.0)**
[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the report “Interim Spending Authority pending approval of 2014 Budget”, be received; and,
- 2) That Council approve 50% of the 2013 Operating, Waterworks, Planning & Design, Building Standards and Engineering budgets equal to \$147,242,732 as a pre-budget approval for 2014 operating expenditures; and further,
- 3) Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

**21. WORKPLACE SAFETY AND INSURANCE BOARD
EXCESS WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE (7.0)**
[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the report “Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) Excess Workers Compensation Insurance” be received; and,

- 2) That the City discontinue the purchase of WSIB Excess Workers Compensation Insurance as of January 1, 2014; and,
- 3) That a new WSIB Excess Compensation Reserve Fund be created to fund potential WSIB benefits and administration costs arising out of a single WSIB incident in excess of \$1 million; and,
- 4) That the WSIB Excess Workers Compensation Insurance budget of \$185,000 (2014 proposed budget), included in the Corporate Insurance Premium Account, be annually transferred into the WSIB Excess Compensation Reserve Fund and a 8.1% inflation escalation be added annually to the transfer; and further,
- 5) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

**22. CONTRACT INCREASE 247-R-11
WEST THORNHILL FLOOD CONTROL
IMPLEMENTATION TO INCLUDE
THE WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT DESIGN (7.12)
[Report](#)**

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the report “Contract Increase 247-R-11 West Thornhill Flood Control Implementation to include the Watermain Replacement Design” be received; and,
- 2) That the contract for the preliminary and detailed watermain replacement design for the Bayview Glen area (“Phase 1 - North”) and the preliminary watermain replacement design for the Grandview area (Phase 2) and Canadiana Drive (“Phase 1 - South”) be awarded to R.V. Anderson Associates Ltd. in the amount of \$169,267.58 inclusive of HST; and,
- 3) That a new 2013 Waterworks capital project be established for the West Thornhill Flood Control Implementation Watermain Replacement Design Phase 1 and Phase 2 and be funded in the amount of \$169,267.58 from the Waterworks Stabilization/Capital Reserve; and,

- 4) That the tender process be waived in accordance with Purchasing By-Law 2004-341, Part II, Section 7 Non Competitive Procurement, item 1 (c), which states “When the extension of an existing contract would prove more cost-effective and beneficial”; and further,
- 5) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

**23. 2014 STANDING COMMITTEE/ COUNCIL
MEETING SCHEDULE (16.0)**
[Calendar](#)

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the 2014 Standing Committee/Council Meeting Schedule be approved.

CARRIED

**24. PROPOSED 2014 WATER/WASTEWATER
RATE INCREASE AND 2014 WATERWORKS
OPERATING BUDGET (7.4)**
[Report](#)

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

- 1) That the report dated November 18, 2013 entitled “Proposed 2014 Water/Wastewater Rate Increase and 2014 Waterworks Operating Budget” be received; and,
- 2) That Staff be authorized to hold a public meeting on the proposed 2014 water/wastewater rate increase on November 26, 2013 at 6:00p.m. at the Civic Centre in the Council Chamber; and,
- 3) That the 2014 City of Markham’s (“City”) water/wastewater rate increase be equivalent to the Region of York’s (“Region”) monetary increase of \$0.1799 per cubic metre (m³) based on the Region’s approved increase of 10%; and,

- 4) That in addition to the Region's increase, the 2014 water/wastewater rate increase include a surcharge of \$0.0474/m³; and,
- 5) That effective April 1, 2014, the 2014 water/wastewater rate will be \$3.0649/m³, an increase of \$0.2273/m³, equivalent to a 8.0% increase compared to prior year; and,
- 6) That Council approve the 2014 Waterworks budget that totals \$96,505,681, (excluding the 2013 surplus/deficit), the principal components of which are detailed in Appendix 1; and further,
- 7) That Staff be authorized and directed to do things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

****NOTE**** At the November 26, 2013 Council meeting Council deleted clause (2) above and referred clauses 1, 3 to 7 to the December 2, 2013 General Committee meeting.

**25. SEPTEMBER 2013 YEAR-TO-DATE
REVIEW OF OPERATIONS AND
YEAR-END PROJECTION (7.4)**

[Report](#)

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Seconded by Councillor Alex Chiu

- 1) That the report dated November 18, 2013 entitled "2013 September Year-To-Date Review of Operations and Year End Projection" be received.

CARRIED

**26. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2013
PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[Minutes](#)

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

- 1) That the Minutes of the October 2, 2013 Public Art Advisory Committee be received for information purposes; and,
- 2) That Council endorse the following recommendation passed at the October 2, 2013 Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting:

"That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee recommend to Markham Council that the art work proposal entitled "Top Garden" for the Markham Southeast Community Centre be accepted as proposed; and,

That the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee recommend to Markham Council that public art for the Pan Am Centre be reviewed by the Markham Public Art Advisory Committee."

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

27. 26 ALBERT STREET (16.11)

Councillor Colin Campbell advised the Committee that the owner of 26 Albert Street has sold the James Campbell House and the purchaser will be relocating the building to Markham Heritage Estates. He is requesting that staff report back on the refund of the \$18,200 deposited to secure compliance with the agreement, including, once the sale is finalized, the refund of \$10,000 of that deposit that secured the relocation of the structure to a new foundation.

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That staff report back with a memo to General Committee once the James Campbell House has been successfully sold and relocated to Markham Heritage Estates whether the financial security of \$18,200.00 directed by Council at the April 30, 2013 Council meeting be refunded to the owner of 26 Albert Street.

CARRIED

28. MAIN STREET MARKHAM ROAD CLOSURE (5.10)

Councillor Carolina Moretti addressed the Committee to advise that Main Street Markham (Bullock Drive to Highway 7) will be closed on November 19 & 20, 2013 for paving. She indicated that the information has been posted to the City's website.

29. IN-CAMERA MATTERS

Moved by Councillor Carolina Moretti
Seconded by Councillor Alan Ho

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 (2:41 p.m.):

- (1) GENERAL COMMITTEE IN-CAMERA MINUTES
- NOVEMBER 4, 2013 (16.0)
[Section 239 (2) (e) (a) (b) (e) (c) (b) (b) (b) (c)]
- (2) A PROPOSED OR PENDING ACQUISITION OR DISPOSITION OF LAND BY THE
MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL BOARD (WARD 7) (8.6)
[Section 239 (2) (c)]

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Alan Ho
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the General Committee rise from the in-camera session.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Carolina Moretti
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 2:45 p.m.

CARRIED