



**Minutes - Final
General Committee**

Monday, February 2, 2015

5:00 PM

Sir Robert Barrie Room

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT

For consideration by the Council of the City of Barrie on February 18, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lehman at 5:03 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

- Present:** 10 - Mayor J. Lehman; Councillor B. Ainsworth; Councillor R. Romita; Councillor D. Shipley; Councillor B. Ward; Councillor P. Silveira; Councillor J. Brassard; Councillor A. Khan; Councillor S. Morales; and Councillor M. McCann
- Absent:** 1 - Councillor M. Prowse

STAFF:

Acting Director of Planning Services, R. Windle
Chief Administrative Officer, C. Ladd
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, D. McAlpine
Deputy City Clerk, W. Cooke
Deputy Treasurer, M. Jerney
Director of Engineering, J. Weston
Director of Environmental Services, J. Thompson
Director of Facilities and Transit, K. Bradley
Director of Roads, Parks and Fleet, D. Friary
Executive Director of Access Barrie, R. James-Reid
Executive Director of Innovate Barrie, R. Bunn
Executive Director of Invest Barrie, Z. Lifshiz
Fire Chief, J. Lynn
General Manager of Community and Corporate Services, P. Elliott-Spencer
General Manager of Infrastructure and Growth Management, R. Forward
Infrastructure Program Engineer, K. Oakley
Performance Analyst, H. Miller.

The General Committee met and reports as follows:**15-G-027 PRESENTATION REGARDING THE 2015 BUSINESS PLAN**

Mayor J. Lehman provided an overview of the 2015 Business Plan process and approval timelines.

Carla Ladd, Chief Administrative Officer and Patti Elliott-Spencer, General Manager of Community and Corporate Services provided a slide presentation concerning the 2015 Business Plan.

Ms. Ladd discussed slides regarding the following topics:

- Key considerations and methodology associated with the development of the Business Plan;
- The directions provided by Council concerning 2015 tax supported services;
- The services provided by the City of Barrie and its service partners and the average cost to taxpayers for the services; and
- Key issues and challenges addressed in the Business Plan.

Ms. Elliott-Spencer discussed slides regarding the following topics:

- The importance of fiscal sustainability;
- The 3 elements of the City Business Plan and Budget, including tax supported programs, user rates and capital;
- The disproportionate share of taxes compared to infrastructure ownership between federal, provincial and municipal governments;
- The calculation associated with the tax supported infrastructure gap;
- The strength of Barrie's diversified economy;
- The City of Barrie's property taxes in comparison with other Ontario municipalities;
- The Made in Barrie performance measurement tool that is based on Results Based Accountability;
- The allocations within the average tax bill associated with services delivered by the City, Boards of Education and Service partners for residential and non-residential property owners;
- Key elements of the 2015 Business Plan and budget;
- The sources of operating revenue, the allocation of budget by services and the drivers of the proposed 2015 tax budget increase;
- A summary of the proposed tax budget changes and recently received changes that reduce the tax impact;
- The major factors associated with the proposed increases associated with maintaining existing service levels and debt and reserve management as well as the proportion of the increase associated with each of the service partner requests;

- The tax levy impacts associated with Scenario A - Alternative Service Levels, Scenario B - Service Partner Adjustments, Scenario C - Parking, Scenario D - Infrastructure Renewal Levy and Scenario E - Suggested service level changes for Council's consideration;
- Water and Waste water user rate supported impacts for 2015;
- The 2015 Capital Plan total budget request by project type, asset class and funding source;
- The 2015-2019 Capital Forecast total budget request by project type, asset class and funding source;
- The projected 2015 to 2024 debt repayment of principal and interest as a percentage of own source revenues, source of debt repayments, and total debt versus outstanding debt;
- The breakdown of the percentage and total dollar impact of the 2015 Business Plan for the average residential property owner;
- The breakdown of the average property tax bill by services delivered; and
- A comparison of the cost of property taxes to other major household expenses such as hydro, heating, cable/internet, gas and insurance.

In closing, Ms. Elliott-Spencer outlined the next steps and key dates in the 2015 Business Plan approval process.

Members of General Committee asked a number of questions regarding the information presented, and received responses.

This matter was recommended to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 18/02/2015.

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

CHAIRMAN