



City of Barrie

70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Final General Committee

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

7:00 PM

Council Chamber/Virtual Meeting

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT

For consideration by Barrie City Council on December 6, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor, A. Nuttall at 7:03 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 11 - Mayor, A. Nuttall
Deputy Mayor, R. Thomson
Councillor, C. Riepma
Councillor, C. Nixon
Councillor, A.M. Kungl
Councillor, A. Courser
Councillor, N. Nigussie
Councillor, G. Harvey
Councillor, J. Harris
Councillor, S. Morales
Councillor, B. Hamilton

STUDENT MAYOR(S)

Y. Kirupa, Warnica Public School
M. Carter, St. Joseph's Catholic High School.

STAFF:

Associate Director of Communications and Customer Services, C. Harris
Associate Director of Corporate of Asset Management, K. Oakley
Associate Director of Waste Management and Environmental Sustainability, S. Mack
Chief Administrative Officer, M. Prowse
Chief Financial Officer, C. Millar
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, W. Cooke
Deputy City Clerk, T. McArthur
Director of Corporate Facilities, R. Pews
Director of Development Services, M. Banfield
Director of Economic and Creative Development, S. Schlichter
Director of Human Resources, C. Gianino
Director of Information Technology, R. Nolan
Director of Internal Audit, S. MacGregor

Director of Operations, D. Friary
Director of Recreation and Culture Services, D. Bell
Director of Transit and Parking Strategy, B. Forsyth
Executive Assistant to the Mayor, E. Chappell
Executive Director of Access Barrie, R. James-Reid
Fire Chief, C. Mainprize
General Manager of Community and Corporate Services, D. McAlpine
General Manager of Infrastructure and Growth Management, B. Araniyasundaran
Legislative Coordinator, T. Maynard
Manager of Legal Services, A. Mills
Manager of Parks Planning, K. Rankin
Senior Manager of Operational Development, S. Coulter
Service Desk Generalist, K. Kovacs
Supervisor of Building - Inspections, R. Beam.

The General Committee reports that the following matter(s) were dealt with on the consent portion of the agenda:

SECTION "A"

Councillor, C. Nixon provided an overview on the Affordability Committee meeting held on November 15, 2023.

Councillor, G. Harvey provided an overview on the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee meeting held on November 22, 2023.

23-G-275 REPORT OF THE AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE DATED NOVEMBER 15, 2023

That the Report of the Affordability Committee dated November 15, 2023, be received.

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 12/6/2023.

23-G-276 REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE DATED NOVEMBER 22, 2023

That the Report of the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee dated November 22, 2023, be received.

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 12/6/2023.

The General Committee recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s) which were dealt with on the consent portion of the agenda:

SECTION "B"

**23-G-277 REFERRED BY MOTION 23-G-256 AT GENERAL COMMITTEE ON
NOVEMBER 1, 2023 - CIRCULATION MEMORANDUM CONCERNING
THIS WEEK IN BARRIE/LEGISLATIVE ADS IN BARRIE TODAY**

That the following be deferred to the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee meeting in February 2024:

“Memorandum from C. Harris, Associate Director of Communications and Customer Service, dated October 25, 2023, concerning This Week in Barrie/Legislative Ads in Barrie Today. (A1, Circulation List dated October 25, 2023) (23-G-256)”

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 12/6/2023.

**23-G-278 REFERRED BY MOTION 23-G-269 AT GENERAL COMMITTEE ON
NOVEMBER 15, 2023 - INVESTIGATION - DESIGN AND
RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MAIN PARKING LOT IN PAINSWICK PARK**

That the following be deferred to a future Finance and Responsible Governance Committee meeting:

“That staff in the Development Services Department be directed to investigate the feasibility of designing and reconstructing the main parking lot in Painswick Park to a fully accessible asphalt parking lot and that the project be considered in the ten-year capital budget for completion in 2024 subject to available funding. (23-G-269)”

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 12/6/2023.

The General Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "C"

23-G-279 EXTENSION TO TEMPORARY USE BY-LAW TO PERMIT AGRICULTURE USE - 15 HARVIE ROAD (BARRIE-BRYNE DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED) (WARD 7)

That motion 23-G-279 concerning the Extension to Temporary Use By-law to Permit Agriculture Use for 15 Harvie Road (Barrie-Bryne Developments Limited, Ward 7), be received. (23-G-194) (File: D30-026-2023)

This matter was recommended (Section "C") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 12/6/2023.

The General Committee met and recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s):

SECTION "D"

23-G-280 SUBMISSION FROM INNOVATIVE PLANNING SOLUTIONS ON BEHALF OF GREENWORLD CONSTRUCTION INC. - REPORT AND MASTER PLAN IN SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND HOUSING ACCELERATOR ORDER - 175 AND 199 ESSA ROAD AND 50 WOOD STREET

Whereas the properties at 175 and 199 Essa Road and 50 Wood Street are in close proximity to Highway 400 making it a prime location for high-density residential development.

Whereas the Simcoe District School Board and Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board have collectively requested approximately 4.8 ha (12 acres) of developable lands for future school development and the developer has identified 2.4 ha (6 acres) in their CHIA submission.

Therefore, be it resolved as follows:

1. That staff in Development Services initiate a Community Infrastructure Housing Accelerator (CIHA) application in accordance with the process outlined in the staff memo dated August 16, 2023, to facilitate the approval for construction of 4054 residential units, school block(s), park(s) and the curling club for the property located

at 175 and 199 Essa Road and 50 Wood Street, and report back to Council in February 2024.

2. That if neither of the school boards do not exercise the option to construct a school in this development that the land be conveyed at no cost to the city for the purposes of a park. (23-G-257)

This matter was recommended (Section "D") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 12/6/2023.

SECTION "E"

23-G-281 2024 BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET - CITY OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FUNDING

Operating Budget Approvals

1. That the 2024 tax-supported base operating budget for City operations and the Infrastructure Investment Fund, with gross expenditures of \$325.5 million and a net property tax levy requirement of \$191.9 million, be approved with the following amendments to reflect changes since the 2024 Business Plan's publication on November 15, 2023:
 - a) That the temporary position of Project Coordinator (CCI) be extended to the end of 2024 with a budget of \$94,828, to be recovered from capital project IT1016 (CMMS Improvement Project - Cityworks), as described in the intake form in Appendix "F" of Report to Finance and Responsible Government Committee dated November 22, 2023;
 - b) That budget reductions totaling \$154,000 for the CAO and Mayor's Division, as outlined in Appendix "E" of Report to Finance and Responsible Governance Committee dated November 22, 2023, be included in the 2024 budget, with an equivalent decrease in the 2024 Tax Levy;
 - c) That budget reductions totaling \$407,742 for the Access Barrie Division, as outlined in Appendix "E" (with the exception of \$44,000 for reducing This Week In Barrie re: Barrie Advance no printed paper) of Report to Finance and Responsible Governance Committee dated November 22, 2023, be included in the 2024 budget, with an equivalent decrease in the 2024 Tax Levy;
 - d) That budget reductions totaling \$430,331 for the Infrastructure and Growth Management Division, as outlined in Appendix "E" of Report to Finance and Responsible Governance Committee dated November 22, 2023 be included in the 2024 budget, with an equivalent decrease in the 2024 Tax Levy;

- e) That budget reductions totaling \$2,348,040 for the Community and Corporate Services Division, as outlined in Appendix “E” of Report to Finance and Responsible Governance Committee dated November 22, 2023 be included in the 2024 budget, with an equivalent decrease in the 2024 Tax Levy;
- f) That the Chief Financial Officer be allowed to adjust the budget reductions in Appendix “E” of Report to Finance and Responsible Governance Committee dated November 22, 2023 as necessary to achieve a 0% tax rate increase on City Operations, excluding the Infrastructure Investment Funding and Service Partners;
- g) That New Investment and Service Recommendation Form 2864 - Carbon Management Software be deferred to 2025, resulting in a reduction to the net tax levy of \$20,000;

A point of order was raised by Councillor, S. Morales.

- h) That New Investment and Service Recommendations Form 2852 - Transportation Engineer (page 189) be deleted, but the new tax levy funding of \$159,542 be maintained and transferred to the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve;
 - i) That the Operations Department Budget be increased by \$76,000 for the purposes of street tree pruning, fertilizing, and watering with an increase to the tax levy of \$76,000; and
 - j) That New Investment and Service Recommendation Form 2858 - Downtown Staff Shift Extension - Sidewalk Winter Maintenance (page 189) be deleted, and the funding that was allocated for this in the amount of \$167,474 be transferred to the Tax Capital Reserve.
2. That \$150,000 be transferred from the Municipal Accommodation Tax Reserve to the Tax Capital Reserve for the 2023 and 2024 budget years.

City Operations and Infrastructure Investment Funding

3. That the 2024 budget request for City Operations, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$191.9 million (for the average assessed residential property this represents a 1.06% tax rate increase for City operations and a 2% increase associated with Infrastructure Investment Funding), be approved with the amendments to reflect changes since the 2024 Business Plan’s publication on November 15, 2023.

4. That the New Investment and Service Recommendations as outlined on page 20 of the 2024 Business Plan with a net cost of \$1.6 million (operating) and \$228 thousand (capital) and a net property tax levy requirement of \$925 thousand with additional funding of \$237 thousand from the water rate, \$28 thousand from the wastewater rate, \$460 thousand from capital projects, offset by \$21 thousand going towards reserves, be approved with the amendments to reflect changes since the 2024 Business Plan's publication on November 15, 2023.
5. That the Water base Operating Budget, with gross expenditures of \$34.0 million and revenues of \$34.0 million, and the proposed 2024 Water Rates as outlined in Schedule "N" of the "Proposed Fee Changes" section of the 2024 Business Plan be approved.
6. That the Wastewater base Operating Budget, with gross expenditures of \$43.6 million and revenues of \$43.6 million, and the proposed 2024 Wastewater Rates as outlined in Schedule "N" of the "Proposed Fee Changes" section of the 2024 Business Plan be approved.
7. That the Parking Operations base budget, with gross expenditures of \$2.4 million and gross revenues of \$2.4 million, and the proposed 2024 Parking Rates as outlined in Schedule "O" of the "Proposed Fee Changes" section of the 2024 Business Plan be approved.
8. That pursuant to Ontario Regulation 284/09, Staff Report EMT005-23 serve as the method for communicating the exclusion of the following estimated expenses from the 2024 Business Plan:
 - a) Amortization expense - \$ 65.5 million;
 - b) Post-employment benefit expenses - \$ 1.8 million; and
 - c) Solid waste landfill closure and post-closure expenses - \$ 200 thousand.

Capital Budget Approvals

9. That, consistent with the Capital Project Control Policy, the 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028 Capital Budget relating to new capital spending requests of \$41.0 million, \$78.3 million, \$71.2 million, \$37.4 million, and \$24.9 million respectively be approved with the following amendments to reflect changes since the 2024 Business Plan's publication on November 15, 2023, and the 2024-2028 Capital Budget items not requiring spending approval, be received as forecast information:
 - a) That the approved funding for IT1056 - Fleet Management System be increased by \$115,000, to be funded from the Fleet Management Reserve;

- b) That the approved funding for EN1346 - Brownfield Redevelopment Readiness (Contaminated Lands Management Framework), be increased by \$130,000 to be funded from the Canada Community Building Reserve (formerly Federal Gas Tax);
- c) That the budget of project EN1097 - Mapleview Drive East Improvements, be reduced by \$120,000 funded from Development Charge Reserves (\$96,061.18), Wastewater Capital Reserve (\$14,226.90), Tax Capital Reserve (\$5,859.45), Local Improvements Revenue (\$3,799.34) and Water Capital Reserve (\$53.12), and the budget of project EN1467 - Lovers Creek Mapleview LSRCA Compensation be increased by \$120,000 funded from Development Charge Reserves (\$54,000) and Tax Capital Reserve (\$66,000);
- d) That a new capital project called "Waterfront 1000 Tree Planting Program" be added to the 2024 Capital Plan with a budget request of \$50,000 for 2024 and forecasts of \$50,000 per year for the next 9 years to be funded from the Ecological Offsetting Reserve;
- e) That Projects F1028 - Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Program (\$955,836) (page 218) and F11026 - Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Runway Expansion (\$91,373) (page 219) be deleted;

General Committee recessed at 9:20 p.m. and resumed at 9:33 p.m.

- f) That Project FC1312 - EMS Campus - Solar Panel PV Installation (\$1,275,000) (page 85) be changed to a forecast and deferred to 2025;
- g) That the Heritage Park Capital Project (001126) (page 53) be reduced from \$11.6 million funded from the tax capital reserve to \$2.6 million, allocated each year as follows 2024 \$0, 2025 \$866,666, 2026 \$866,666 and 2027 \$866,666, with the additional \$9 million being allocated as forecasted funding for 2028 and beyond;
- h) That Capital Project FC1085 - Hewitt's Community Centre (page 90) land acquisition/design be reduced by \$600,000 in 2024 funded from Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland with the \$600,000 being added to existing Capital Project EN1182 Painswick Park Rehabilitation in 2024 to be funded from Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland for the reconstruction of Painswick Parking Lot; and
- i) That Capital Project 000474 Facilities Forecasted Needs (page 86), 2024 budget requested reduced from \$3,557,288 to \$1,000,000 funded from the Tax Capital Reserve, and that staff provide more details in the 2025 budget process to explain the \$42 million forecast over the next ten years.

10. That any Industrial Development Charge Discounts in 2024 be funded by any year-end surplus, with any remaining balance funded from the appropriate capital reserve.

By-law updates and forecasts received for information

11. That effective May 1, 2024, By-law 2022-013, as amended, be repealed, and replaced with a by-law incorporating the fees and charges presented in the 2024 Business Plan.
12. That operating forecast information for 2025, 2026, and 2027 presented in the 2024 Business Plan be received for information.

Council and Staff authorization requests

13. That the Executive Management Team (EMT) be authorized to add temporary non-complement positions to the end of the budget year utilizing existing approved funds to deal with any unforeseen circumstances that impact the delivery of City operations.
14. That the Executive Management Team (EMT) be authorized to implement the economic adjustment for the Non-Union Group (NUG) of employees (including full time, part time and students), effective January 1, 2024.
15. That staff be authorized to submit applications for grants that would reduce expenditures associated with projects, programs and services approved as part of the Operating and Capital Budget.
16. That two of the following officers; either the Mayor, Clerk, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer or their designates, be authorized to execute any agreements that may be required to accept grant funding from other levels of government or other partners, to reduce expenditures associated with programs, services, and/or capital projects.
17. That staff be authorized to submit applications for grants that would reduce future capital expenditures, fund service enhancements, or enable capital projects to be advanced, and a report or memo be presented, as appropriate, prior to the execution of any agreement associated with the acceptance of such grant.
18. That the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be authorized to make the necessary alterations to the transfer to and/or from reserves to reflect changes since the 2024 Business Plan's publication on November 15, 2023.
19. That the City Clerk be authorized to prepare all necessary by-laws to implement the above recommendations.

This matter was recommended (Section "E") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 2023-12-06.

ENQUIRIES

Members of General Committee did not address any enquires to City staff.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of General Committee provided announcements concerning a number of matters.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

CHAIRMAN