



City of Barrie

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

Final - Final General Committee

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

7:00 PM

Council Chamber

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT

For Consideration by Barrie City Council on January 29, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor, R. Thomson at 7:00 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 9 - Deputy Mayor, R. Thomson
Councillor, C. Riepma
Councillor, C. Nixon
Councillor, AM. Kungl
Councillor, A. Courser
Councillor, N. Nigussie
Councillor, G. Harvey
Councillor, J. Harris
Councillor, S. Morales

Absent: 2 - Mayor, A. Nuttall
Councillor, B. Hamilton

STAFF:

Acting Chief Financial Officer, C. Smith
City Clerk/Director of Legislative and Court Services, W. Cooke
Deputy City Clerk, T. Macdonald
Director of Corporate Facilities, R. Pews
Director of Information Technology, R. Nolan
Director of Recreation and Culture Services, K. Datema
Director of Transit and Parking Strategy, B. Forsyth
Executive Director of Development Services, M. Banfield
General Manager of Infrastructure and Growth Management, B. Araniyasundaran
Legislative Coordinator, D. Glenn
Senior Manager of Corporate Finance and Investment, C. Gillespie
Senior Policy Advisor and Special Projects Coordinator, E. Chappell
Service Desk Specialist, K. Kovacs.

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

SECTION "A"

25-G-009 REPORT OF THE AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE DATED JANUARY 8, 2025

The Report of the Affordability Committee dated January 8, 2025, was received.

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

25-G-010 REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE DATED JANUARY 15, 2025.

The Report of the Community Safety Committee dated January 15, 2025, was received.

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

25-G-011 REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE DATED JANUARY 15, 2025

The Report of the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee dated January 15, 2025, was received.

This matter was recommended (Section "A") to City Council for consideration of receipt at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

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

SECTION "B"

25-G-012 SEA CADETS - USE OF GENERAL JOHN HAYTER SOUTHSHORE COMMUNITY CENTRE

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute an interim agreement with the Sea Cadets for the use of office space at the General John Hayter Southshore Community Centre at no charge, with the agreement also including provisions for rental rates and parking for the use of the General John Hayter Southshore Community Centre that are in alignment with other user groups such as the Barrie Rotary Club, in a form acceptable to the Directors of Legal Services, Corporate Facilities and Recreation and Culture Services. (Item for Discussion 8.1, January 15, 2025) (Sponsor: Mayor, A. Nuttall)

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

25-G-013 AMENDMENT TO PROCEDURAL BY-LAW 2019-100

That Procedural By-law 2019-100 as amended, be further amended to add a provision that consultants, developers, etc. must provide any Council and Committee Presentations in person, unless authorized by the City Clerk in consultation with the Mayor/Chair. (Item for Discussion 8.2, January 15, 2025) (Sponsor: Mayor, A. Nuttall)

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

25-G-014 COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. That the following changes be made to the Advisory Committees:
 - Upon her request, remove Councillor, AM. Kungl from the Active Transportation and Sustainability Committee and replace her with Councillor S. Morales; and
 - Upon her request, remove Councillor B. Hamilton from the County of Simcoe, Human Services Committee; and
 - Add Councillor, C. Nixon to the Town and Gown Committee; and
 - Remove Councillor, C. Riepma as Chair of Heritage Barrie and replace him with Councillor AM. Kungl.

2. That the City Clerk review the membership and mandate of the Seniors and Accessibility Advisory Committee to ensure that the provisions of the AODA continue to be met and report back to Finance and Responsible Governance Committee, if changes are required.

3.
 - a) That a Parking Advisory Ad-Hoc Committee be struck to review on street parking standards in the City of Barrie, including provisions for new developments, current practices and potential modernization and report back to the Community Safety Committee by the end of Q2 in 2026 with their findings.

 - b) That the Parking Advisory Ad-Hoc Committee composition be as follows:
 - Deputy Mayor Thomson
 - Councillor, C. Riepma
 - 3 citizen members
 - 1 to 2 representatives from the Development Community.

(Item for Discussion 8.3, January 15, 2025) (Sponsor: Mayor, A. Nuttall)

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

25-G-015

2025 BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET - SERVICE PARTNERS

Strong Mayor Budget

1. This report is being presented on behalf of Mayor Alex Nuttall in accordance with *Section 284.16 of the Municipal Act and Section 7 of Ontario Regulation 530/22*.

Service Partner Budget Approvals

2. That the 2025 budget request from the Barrie Police Services Board presented on page 301 of the 2025 Business Plan, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$72.2 million, be approved.

3. That the 2025 budget request from the Barrie Public Library Board presented on page 301 of the 2025 Business Plan, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$9.7 million and \$164.9 thousand of Development Charges funding, be approved.

4. That the 2025 budget request from the County of Simcoe, including contributions to the County of Simcoe Capital Reserve,

presented on page 301 of the 2025 Business Plan, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$32.9 million, be approved.

5. That the 2025 budget request from the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority presented on page 301 of the 2025 Business Plan, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$376.5 thousand, and \$1.1 million of water rate funding, be approved.
6. That the 2025 budget request from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority presented on page 301 of the 2025 Business Plan, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$475.4 thousand, and \$83.9 thousand of water rate funding, be approved.
7. That the 2025 budget request from the Barrie Area Physician Recruitment presented on page 301 of the 2025 Business Plan, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$60 thousand, be approved.
8. That the 2025 budget estimate for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit presented on page 301 of the 2025 Business Plan, with a net tax supported municipal funding requirement of \$2.3 million, be approved.
9. That Capital Project 001416: EMS Campus - Solar PV installation Capital Project be amended to reduce Tax Capital Reserve funding of \$125K in 2025 and \$400K in 2026 and replace with partner funding from the County of Simcoe for their portion.

Council and Staff authorization requests

10. That the City Clerk be authorized to prepare all necessary by-laws to implement the above recommendations. (EMT001-25).

This matter was recommended (Section "B") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

SECTION "C"**25-G-016** **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

1. a) That staff be directed to forward the list of selected organizations to receive funding through the Bright Futures Grant as identified in the Confidential Community Safety Meeting of January 15, 2025, to the Community Safety and Well Being Committee for consultation; and

 b) That once reviewed with the Community Safety and Well Being Committee staff contact the successful applicants.

2. That \$68,299.00 of funding be allocated, \$25,000 from the Council Strategic Priorities Account and \$43,299 from the Reinvestment Reserve to be distributed as follows:
 - a) \$24k of funding be allocated to the City of Barrie Nature Parks Play Program

 - b) \$35k of funding be allocated for day camp programs for high risk communities

 - c) \$9,299 of funding be allocated to top up the Bright Futures Grant Funding to ensure the selected organizations receive full funding of their request

3. That any funds allocated to an organization through the Bright Futures Barrie Grant not utilized by the organization be reallocated to reduce the City's funding towards the City of Barrie Nature Parks Program and day camp programs for high risk communities.

4. That once funding is confirmed and accepted by the successful applicants, staff in the Recreation and Culture Department provide a memorandum to the Community Safety Committee detailing the successful applicants.

Councillor, J. Harris declared a potential pecuniary interest in the foregoing matter as he is affiliated with one of the organizations. He backed away from the Council table during voting on this matter.

This matter was recommended (Section "C") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

The General Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "D"

25-G-017 **SUPPORT OF COUNTY FUNDING**

Whereas the City of Barrie believes it has a responsibility to its residents to enforce its by-laws to ensure safe and accessible public spaces for the community at large;

And Whereas in paragraph 76 of the Ontario Superior Court Decision Heegsma vs Hamilton of December 23, 2024 cites "that the life and security of the applicants (the park occupants) are not put at risk by enforcement of the by-law. They are put at risk by homelessness with encampments contributing to this risk. They are lawless, dangerous and unsanitary";

And Whereas past Ontario Superior Court decisions including the Regional Municipality of Waterloo of January 27, 2023 vs Persons Unknown and City of Kingston vs Doe of November 24, 2023 have established that evicting individuals from encampments without providing adequate shelter options violates their rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, consequently, the City of Barrie is unable to enforce by-laws that prohibit camping in public spaces if doing so would be unconstitutional;

And Whereas there are approximately 12 known encampments in the City of Barrie with over 100 occupants;

And Whereas in the City of Barrie there is shortage of affordable housing, social housing supports and temporary shelters beds for those living in encampments;

And Whereas the County of Simcoe has submitted a funding application to the Province of Ontario for funding under the Encampment Response Initiative to support an increase shelter capacity, restoration of public lands at key encampments and to provision of wraparound support with their partnering organizations;

And Whereas to be considered for this funding from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing a written pledge from the County was required noting that funding received would be put towards ending encampments by providing housing options for those experiencing homelessness;

And Whereas as a result of signing the pledge by Warden Clarke, the County of Simcoe is also eligible to receive top-up funding from the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit to support transition individuals from shelter programs into longer-term housing to free up space to address immediate shelter needs of individuals in encampments;

And Whereas if the County is successful in this funding application, the City of Barrie would benefit from additional shelter spaces and possible funding for restoration of public spaces

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

1. That the Council of the City of Barrie endorse and support the County of Simcoe's application to the Province of Ontario for funding under the Encampment Response Initiative; and
2. That Mayor Nuttall on behalf of City Council send correspondence to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and housing advising of Council's support of this important funding application.

Sponsor: Mayor, A. Nuttall

This matter was recommended (Section "D") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

SECTION "E"

25-G-018

LICENSING OF WATERSPORTS

1. That the past Council decision related to not allowing operators to provide motorized activities on Barrie's waterfront be rescinded.
2. That staff prepare a licensing protocol for the licensing of businesses operating motorized activities along the waterfront, including a limit on the vehicles permitted, fees and safety measures for their operation and report back to General Committee. (Item for Discussion 8.4, January 15, 2025) (Sponsor: Councillor, B. Hamilton)

This matter was recommended (Section "E") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

SECTION "F"

25-G-019 CONSERVATION OF BUILT HERITAGE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

That Staff Report DEV003-25 concerning the Conservation of Built Heritage Community Improvement Plan be referred to the Finance and Responsible Governance meeting to be held on March 26, 2025.

This matter was recommended (Section "F") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

SECTION "G"

25-G-020 CIHA/MZO UPDATE FOR 175 AND 199 ESSA ROAD AND 50 WOOD STREET

That Staff Memorandum from Michelle Banfield, RPP, Executive Director of Development Services dated January 22, 2025, regarding the CIHA/MZO update for 175 and 199 Essa Road and 50 Wood Street be referred to the Affordability Committee meeting scheduled to be held on March 19, 2025.

This matter was recommended (Section "G") to City Council for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 1/29/2025.

ENQUIRIES

Members of General Committee addressed enquires to City staff and received responses.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

CHAIRMAN