

BUDGET COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014 – IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GENERAL COMMITTEE

COUNCIL CHAMBER SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE 300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 3C1

http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/budgetcommittee

MEMBERS PRESENT	Mayor Bonnie Crombie	(CHAIR)
	Councillor Jim Tovey	Ward 1
	Councillor Karen Ras	Ward 2
	Councillor Chris Fonseca	Ward 3
	Councillor Carolyn Parrish	Ward 5
	Councillor Ron Starr	Ward 6
	Councillor Nando Iannicca	Ward 7
	Councillor Matt Mahoney	Ward 8
	Councillor Pat Saito	Ward 9
	Councillor Sue McFadden	Ward 10
	Councillor George Carlson	Ward 11
MEMBERS ABSENT	Councillor Frank Dale	Ward 4
STAFF PRESENT	Janice Baker, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer Gary Kent, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer	
	Ed Sajecki, Commissioner, Planning and Building	
	Martin Powell, Commissioner, Transportation and Works	
	Paul Mitcham, Commissioner, Community Services	
	Craig Millar, Director Finance and Treasurer	
	Crystal Greer, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk	
	Diana Rusnov, Manager, Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk	
	Sacha Smith, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk	

CALL TO ORDER - 9:25 AM

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST – Nil

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

<u>Approved</u> (Councillor McFadden)

DEPUTATIONS

A. Andrew Grantham, Economist, CIBC World Markets with respect to 2015 economic predictions and the economic outlook for Canada, Ontario, and the Greater Toronto Area.

Mr. Grantham spoke to the economic reality for Mississauga, which includes factors such as slower potential growth rate, lower oil prices and a weaker Canadian dollar. He further spoke to interest rate hikes and the downward pressure that is expected on the Canadian dollar.

Councillor Parrish noted that underemployment and the lack of affordable housing was not addressed in the presentation. Mr. Grantham noted that Canadian unemployment is slightly below the U.S. but add 1% to 2% to the unemployment rate for those that need full-time employment instead of part-time. He further noted that he did not have figures on hand to speak to how much building would be necessary to address the waiting list for affordable housing.

In response to a question from Councillor Starr regarding inflation and employment, Mr. Grantham advised that the inflation rate is forecasted to be around 2% depending on the rebound of oil prices. He noted that the unemployment rate locally could fall faster than the national average if manufacturing rates pick up.

Councillor Iannicca spoke to the matter and noted that the economic prospects look good for southern Ontario.

<u>Received (</u>Councillor Iannicca) Recommendation BC-0003-2014

B. Budget Overview – Janice Baker, City Manager & CAO and Craig Millar, Director, Finance and Treasurer

Ms. Baker provided an overview of the 2015 budget and noted the financial condition assessment, diverse economy, the City's challenges, 2015 business plan, budget priorities and efficiencies.

Mr. Millar provided an overview of the proposed operating and capital budgets, the challenges, debt financing, cost to maintain service levels and revenue sources. The service presentations and Budget Committee deliberations are scheduled for dates in January to February 2015.

Sonja Banic, Manager, Corporate Communications and Rob Cummins, Manager, Corporate Marketing spoke to the new budget website and interactive communications tools.

Members of Committee discussed and raised the following issues:

- It was noted that including what the average house in Mississauga pays to each level of government would be good information to include in the budget allocator tool.
- Advertising revenue on MiWay transit buses and shelters.
- Educational session on the implementation of the stormwater charge.
- The use of the Federal Gas Tax for capital programs.
- Possibility of reducing transit fares for seniors in need and that staff review options such as \$1.00 fares during off-peak hours and a free day.
- The current GTAA Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and how it can be changed for the City to receive full benefit from it.
- The Communication Strategy to ensure residents are aware about the new budget tool allocator and to target the youth to get their input.
- The importance of engaging small and medium business owners on the budget process.
- Request for an update on the state of repair for infrastructure, the rollout of projects, timing of projects, efficiencies and the City link into projects at the Region of Peel be included in the service presentations.
- The importance of communication that there is a balance on the disconnection of the downspout and what is happening with the public infrastructure.
- Would like to see some reference that the City is seeking new revenue sources in order to keep the tax increases at a minimum.
- On page 32 of the presentation regarding the total impact on the 2015 tax bill, it was suggested that a note at the bottom of the page indicating that the consumer and construction prices index was considered.
- It was suggested that the budget webpage include a message from the Mayor and Council and simple facts or frequently asked questions would be informative for the residents.

Mr. Powell advised that there would be a stormwater charge educational session for Council to ensure the new members of Council have an understanding of the program.

Ms. Baker noted that a report could come back to provide background information on the GTAA PILT.

Ms. Banic explained the communication strategy for the budget tools and noted that the youth could be targeted. She further noted that there is a business planning steering committee and that connecting with small and medium business owners regarding the City budget could be discussed there. Councillor Fonseca requested that members of Council receive information on how these businesses would be engaged.

Mr. Powell noted that the City is in partnership with the Region of Peel on transit affordability and staff can bring information back on how it is going along with an update on the Presto Card.

<u>Received (Councillor Saito)</u> Recommendation BC-0004-2014

C. Tahir Qureshi, Voice of Mississauga Citizens with respect to City infrastructure and debt.

Mr. Qureshi spoke to the City's infrastructure and debt and noted the importance for residents to understand the City's budget documents. He suggested that there be a simple summary that includes the City's revenues and expenses.

Mayor Crombie noted that the City is more transparent with the new budget tool and noted that many of the questions will be answered during the budget discussions in January 2015. Gary Kent, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer noted that there will be reports on the City's finances and noted that the public can participate in the meetings, and all of the meetings will be streamed online and on Rogers TV.

Received (Councillor Tovey) Recommendation BC-0005-2014

D. Item 5 David Huctwith, President, Mississauga Southwest Baseball Association

Mr. Huctwith spoke on behalf of the other affiliated youth baseball associations in Mississauga and noted that the Mississauga youth baseball associations are in favour of staff's recommendation for the sports fields fees and to continue to work with staff to address issues in the long term.

Paul Mitcham, Commissioner, Community Services congratulated the staff on their work with the baseball associations.

Received (Councillor Tovey) Recommendation BC-0006-2014

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. <u>MiWay 2015 Fare Strategy</u>

Corporate Report dated November 27, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to the MiWay 2015 Fare Strategy.

Councillor Saito enquired if Meadowvale Library could become a Presto card loading location during the renovations to the Meadowvale Community Centre, as presently there are no locations in the Northwest area of the City. Geoff Marinoff, Director, Transit advised that he could look into the matter.

Councillor Carlson enquired about the practice of preferred vendors being continued instead of tickets being widely available at as many convenience stores as possible. He also asked about the possibility of vendors coming to the City to purchase the tickets instead of the delivery system. Direction was given to staff to report back on this matter.

Councillor Saito suggested that staff report back to Budget Committee on a review of options for discounted senior's fare and other affordable fare categories.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the proposed transit fare changes outlined in the report to Budget Committee dated November 27, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works be implemented effective April 27, 2015.
- 2. That child and student fare category definitions be changed effective April 27, 2015, to reflect ages 6-12 for child and 13-19 for high school students for consistency and fare harmonization with other transit systems within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.
- 3. That high school student monthly pass be discontinued effective July 1, 2015 following completion of the 2014/2015 academic year.
- 4. That the senior annual pass be discontinued effective January 1, 2016.
- 5. That a By-law be enacted to establish the proposed 2015 MiWay Transit fares and related charges as set out in Appendix 1 of the report to Budget Committee from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works dated November 27, 2014 and the MiWay Fares By-law 218-13 be repealed.
- 6. That staff be directed to review options for seniors and other affordable fare categories and report back to Budget Committee.
- 7. That staff be directed to report back to Budget Committee on the Presto Card.

<u>Amended/Approved</u> (Councillor Parrish) Recommendation BC-0007-2015 2. <u>Pre-approval of Capital Project – Transit Capital Bus Maintenance – Major Component</u> <u>Rehabilitation/Replacement</u>

Corporate Report dated November 25, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to a pre-approval of a capital project for transit bus maintenance.

RECOMMENDATION

That a new project (PN15-203) Transit Capital Bus Maintenance – Major Component Rehabilitation/Replacement project be established with a gross and net budget of \$3.2 million to be funded from the Federal Gas Tax during the 2015 budget.

<u>Approved</u> (Councillor Starr) Recommendation BC-0008-2015

3. <u>Amendments to the *Planning Act* Processing Fees and Charges By-law 254-13, as amended</u>

Corporate Report dated December 2, 2014 from the Commissioner of Planning and Building with respect to amendments to the *Planning Act* Processing Fees and Charges By-law 254-13, as amended.

Members of Committee expressed concern with the Minor Variances – residential applications fee and noted that it is the same fee for multiple residential applications. It was suggested that there should be a different fee structure for minor changes.

Councillor Ras requested a breakdown of what goes to Committee of Adjustment. She further noted that there are several applications that consistently are deferred and maybe there is an opportunity to look at increasing the costs as the number of deferrals increase.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the *Planning Act* processing fees and charges, as listed in Appendix 1 attached to the Corporate Report dated December 10, 2014 from the Commissioner of Planning and Building titled "Amendments to the Planning Act Processing Fees and Charges By-law 254-13, as amended" be approved.
- 2. That the 2015 proposed fee for Minor Variance Residential Applications as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the Corporate Report dated December 10, 2014 from the Commissioner of Planning and Building be deferred and that staff be directed to review options for the Minor Variance Residential Application Fee and report back to Budget Committee.

3. That a by-law, effective January 1, 2015, be enacted to revise existing fees and charges for the Planning and Building Department, Corporate Services Department, and Transportation and Works Department as outlined in the Corporate Report dated December 10, 2014 from the Commissioner of Planning and Building titled, "Amendments to the *Planning Act* Processing Fees and Charges By-law 254-13, as amended".

<u>Amended/Approved</u> (Councillor Saito) Recommendation BC-0009-2015

4. <u>Recreation Program Fees and Rental Rates</u>

Corporate Report dated November 17, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to Recreation Program Fees and Rental Rates.

In response to a question from Councillor Parrish, Howie Dayton, Director, Recreation spoke to the rental rates for Holcim Waterfront Estate.

Councillor Saito requested that the chart be clarified to include if the rental rates are hourly or daily.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That a by-law be enacted incorporating new, revised and existing charges for Arenas and the Hershey SportsZone Dome and Fieldhouse, from May 1, 2015 through to April 30, 2016 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the Corporate Report dated November 17, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled "Recreation Program Fees and Rental Rates."
- That a by-law be enacted incorporating new, revised and existing charges for meeting rooms, Garry W. Morden Centre, pools, Civic Centre, Central Library, sundries and minor centres, from January 1, 2015 through to December 31, 2015 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the Corporate Report dated November 17, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled Recreation Program Fees and Rental Rates.
- 3. That a by-law be enacted incorporating new, revised and existing charges for Recreation program fees from the start of the Spring session 2015 through to the end of the Winter session of 2016 as outlined in Appendix 2 attached to the Corporate Report dated November 17, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled "Recreation Program Fees and Rental Rates".

<u>Approved</u> (Councillor Saito) Recommendation BC-0010-2015

5. <u>Parks and Forestry Fees and Charges</u>

Corporate Report dated October 30, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to Parks and Forestry Fees and Charges.

RECOMMENDATION

That a By-law be enacted incorporating new, revised and existing fees and charges for park permits and additional fees for the period of September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, and marinas, forestry, sports fields, cemeteries and other parks fees for the period of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the Corporate Report dated October 30, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled "Parks and Forestry Fees and Charges".

<u>Approved</u> (Councillor Iannicca) Recommendation BC-0011-2015

6. <u>By-law Fees Review of Fees and Charges By-laws related to Fire & Emergency Services</u>

Corporate Report dated October 30, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to a review of Fees and Charges By-laws related to Fire & Emergency Services.

In response to questions from Councillors McFadden and Saito with respect to chargeback fees for damaged equipment, Tim Beckett, Fire Chief advised that the purpose of the charge is for cost recovery much like other City departments. He explained that identifying this in the Fees & Charges By-law gives the option to file a claim with an insurance company. He further noted that it would be for extraordinary situations and not normal wear and tear.

Mr. Beckett spoke to the Fireworks Display Permits and explained that the proposed fees reflect market value.

Councillor Parrish spoke to the non-resident motor vehicle accident fee and requested to see what the numbers are as to when Fire Services attended an accident and was not required.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That a by-law be enacted to establish fees and charges for Mississauga Fire & Emergency Services in accordance with the report to Budget Committee from the Commissioner of Community Services dated October 30, 2014 and that the said by-law be effective as of January 1, 2015.

2. That staff be directed to report back to Budget Committee on motor vehicle accidents where Fire & Emergency Services attended, however their services were not required.

Amended/Approved (Councillor McFadden) Recommendation BC-0012-2015

7. <u>Culture Program Fees and Rental Rates: 2015</u>

Corporate Report dated October 27, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services with respect to 2015 Culture Program Fees and Rental Rates.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That a by-law be enacted incorporating new, revised and existing Pre-Registered Culture Program Fees from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Corporate Report dated October 27, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled "Culture Program Fees and Rental Rates: 2015".
- 2. That a by-law be enacted incorporating new, revised and existing Drop-in Culture Program and Rental Rates from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Corporate Report dated October 27, 2014 from the Commissioner of Community Services entitled "Culture Program Fees and Rental Rates: 2015".

<u>Approved</u> (Councillor Saito) Recommendation BC-0013-2015

8. <u>Transportation and Works Fees and Charges By-law</u>

Corporate Report dated November 7, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to the Transportation and Works Fees and Charges By-law.

Councillor Starr expressed concern with the proposed inflationary increases to the fees. Martin Powell, Commissioner, Transportation and Works spoke to the matter and noted that each area is different and noted he could meet with Councillor Starr to explain further.

Councillor Saito enquired about a report to Budget Committee regarding the change to animal licensing fees. Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement confirmed that staff would bring a report forward in Spring 2015. Councillor Saito suggested that it should be noted in the Transportation & Works presentation in January that a change to fees would be coming forward.

In response to a question from Councillor Tovey regarding animal adoption fees, Mr. Frost advised that the change is to simplify the fee structure.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Transportation and Works Department fees and charges, as listed in Appendix 1 attached to the Corporate Report dated November 7, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled "Transportation and Works Fees and Charges By-law" be approved.
- 2. That a by-law, effective January 1, 2015, be enacted to establish new, revised, and existing fees and charges for the Transportation and Works Department as outlined in the Corporate Report dated November 7, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled, "Transportation and Works Fees and Charges By-law" and that By-law 250-13 be repealed.

<u>Approved</u> (Councillor Saito) Recommendation BC-0014-2015

9. <u>2015 General Fees and Charges By-law Amendments</u>

Corporate Report dated November 20, 2014 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer with respect to the 2015 General Fees and Charges By-law.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the new and revised fees outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the Corporate Report dated November 20, 2014 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer entitled "2015 General Fees and Charges By-law Amendments" be approved.
- 2. That a by-law be enacted, effective January 1, 2015, to establish and require payment of various fees and charges under the authority of the *Municipal Act* that incorporates all existing general fees and charges, and the recommended revisions as outlined in Appendix 1 and attached to the Corporate Report dated November 20, 2014 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer entitled "2015 General Fees and Charges By-law Amendments" and that By-law 0249-13, as amended be repealed.

<u>Approved</u> (Councillor Carlson) Recommendation BC-0015-2015 Councillor Starr enquired if there would be evening town hall meetings. Janice Baker, City Manager advised that they were not well attended, but if Committee wishes to have it scheduled staff could look into it. She further noted that the Budget meetings would be televised and streamed online.

<u>CLOSED SESSION</u> - Nil (Pursuant to Subsection 239 (2) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001)

ADJOURNMENT - 12:24 PM