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## **Budget Committee**

### **Date**

2016/06/15

### **Time**

1:03PM

### **Location**

Civic Centre, Council Chamber,  
300 City Centre Drive,  
Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1

### **Members Present**

Mayor Bonnie Crombie	(Chair)
Councillor Jim Tovey	Ward 1
Councillor Karen Ras	Ward 2
Councillor Chris Fonseca	Ward 3
Councillor John Kovac	Ward 4
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**

Nil

### **Staff Present**

Janice Baker, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer  
Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer  
Paul Mitcham, Commissioner of Community Services  
Geoff Wright, Commissioner of Transportation and Works  
Ed Sajecki, Commissioner of Planning and Building  
Crystal Greer, Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk  
Diana Rusnov, Manager of Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk  
Sacha Smith, Legislative Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER – 1:03 PM
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST – Nil
4. DEPUTATIONS
  - 4.1. Jeff Jackson, Director, Finance with respect to Mississauga's Long Range Financial Plan (LRFP).

Mr. Jackson provided an overview of Mississauga's Long Range Financial Plan. He noted the key challenges, the LRFP model results, the assumptions with respect to long range financial planning, debt charge repayment forecast and next steps.

Members of Committee spoke to the matter and raised the following concerns:

- The City should communicate more on the spending rates to be more transparent as an organization.
- In the future there may be changes in the services that are provided by the Region and the City. The challenges going forward with respect to support from senior levels of government, more downloading from senior levels of government and significant new infrastructure projects.

In response to a question from Mayor Crombie, Mr. Jackson advised that he would look into the debt load of neighbouring municipalities.

Mr. Jackson provided an overview of the reserves and reserve fund management. During the detailed review process of the reserves it was found that there are too many reserves, the Reserve By-law needs to be updated and that many of the reserves are not required anymore. Mr. Jackson explained the reserve fund reorganization and the three (3) larger reserves: General Contingency Reserve, Tax Capital Reserve and Employee Benefits Reserve Funds. He further spoke to strategies for funding reserve gaps and the next steps.

In response to questions from Councillor Starr regarding storm water funding, Mr. Jackson and Janice Baker, City Manager and CAO spoke to the Storm Water Management Program.

In response to a question from Councillor Ras with respect to the tax capital reserve fund and the Rattray Marsh, Mr. Jackson explained that the widening gap would account for the costs of the aging infrastructure. He advised that he would look into the funds collected for the Rattray Marsh.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation by Jeff Jackson, Director, Finance with respect to Mississauga's Long Range Financial Plan, the reserve and reserve fund management, be received.

Received (Councillor Ras)

Recommendation BC-0001-2016

#### 4.2. Jeff Jackson, Director, Finance with respect to the 2017-2020 Business Plan and 2017 Budget Outlook.

Mr. Jackson provided an overview of the 2017-2020 Business Plan and the 2017 budget outlook. He spoke to the economic outlook, federal/provincial initiatives, advancing the City's strategic plan, 2017 highlights, efficiencies, cost savings and the proposed 2017-2020 operating budget. Laurel Schut, Manager, Corporate Communications spoke to the budget engagement and noted the success with the tools that were used in 2016.

Members of Committee spoke to the matter and noted the following:

- Concerns were expressed with respect to the proposed tax increase of 2.2%. It was suggested that an increase under 2% should be considered and what it would take to achieve it.
- It was suggested that for the budget engagement, the budget request highlights should allow residents to rank them and provide comments on the new initiatives.
- Concern that it may be premature to request a tax increase under 2% and it was noted that it depends on what happens at the Region of Peel.

Mr. Jackson and Ms. Baker responded to questions from Committee with respect to property tax rates, the cost of fuel, budget cost drivers, non-labour costs and WSIB claims. Direction was given to the City Manager to prepare a list of items for Budget Committee to review and make a decision on whether it should be included or removed from the budget.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation by Jeff Jackson, Director, Finance with respect to the 2017-2020 Business Plan and 2017 Budget Outlook, be received.

Received (Councillor Ras)

Recommendation BC-0002-20106

5. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit

(Persons who wish to address the Budget Committee about a matter on the Agenda. Persons addressing the Budget Committee with a question should limit preamble to a maximum of two statements sufficient to establish the context for the question. Leave must be granted by the Committee to deal with any matter not on the Agenda.)

Chris Mackie, MIRANET noted that it appears that the Region of Peel is more successful in containing the rate of growth in the tax budget than Mississauga and asked why. Mayor Crombie and Mr. Jackson explained that some of the cost pressures at the Region have been uploaded to the Province. Ms. Baker noted that Mississauga has made significant investments in transit.

In response to further questions from Mr. Mackie, Gary Kent, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer explained the Enersource dividend and the return on City investments in 2015. Ms. Baker spoke to employee salaries, more specifically labour contracts that were settled. Mr. Kent further responded to Mr. Mackie and explained the surpluses, assessment growth and labour gapping.

6. MATTERS CONSIDERED6.1. Long Range Financial PlanRECOMMENDATION

That the report dated May 27, 2016 entitled "Long Range Financial Plan" from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer be received, for information.

Received (Councillor Fonseca)

Recommendation BC-0003-2016

6.2. Reserve & Reserve Fund Management

In response to a question from Councillor Saito, Jeff Jackson, Director, Finance confirmed that the infrastructure account for Ward 9 was not changed.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report dated May 31, 2016 entitled "Reserve and Reserve Fund Management" from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer be received.
2. That all transfers of balances and closing of reserves or reserve funds, as set out in Appendix 1, "Consolidation and Closing of Reserves and Reserve Funds" be approved, and the necessary by-law be enacted.

Approved (Councillor Saito)

Recommendation BC-0004-2016

6.3. City of Mississauga 311 Citizen Contact Centre December Holiday Closure

Councillor Mahoney spoke to the matter and suggested a pilot project. Direction was given to staff to implement a one year pilot project to open the 311 Call Centre during the December holiday period. Councillors McFadden and Parrish spoke in support of the matter.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer dated May 27, 2016 entitled City of Mississauga 311 Citizen Contact Centre December Holiday Closure be received for information.

Received (Councillor Mahoney)

Recommendation BC-0005-2016

7. CLOSED SESSION - Nil

8. ADJOURNMENT – 3:02 PM