
Budget Committee

Date: February 22, 2021
Time: 1:30 PM
Location: Online Video Conference

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| Members | Mayor Bonnie Crombie | Chair |
| | Councillor Stephen Dasko | 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 Dipika Damerla | Ward 7 |
| | Councillor Matt Mahoney | Ward 8 |
| | Councillor Pat Saito | Ward 9 |
| | Councillor Sue McFadden | Ward 10 |
| | Councillor George Carlson | Ward 11 |

Staff Present

Paul Mitcham, City Manager and CAO
Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer
Jeff Jackson, Director of Finance and Treasurer
Geoff Wright, Commissioner of Transportation and Works
Andrew Whittemore, Commissioner of Planning and Building
Shari Lichterman, Commissioner of Community Services
Diana Rusnov, Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk
Sacha Smith, Manager of Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk
Dayna Obaseki, Legislative Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Crombie called the meeting to order at 1:31PM.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (Councillor Ras)

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. DEPUTATIONS**4.1 Brennan Bempong, Resident regarding the Mississauga Budget**

Mr. Bempong spoke on the City of Mississauga's budget in relation to the proposed Parks, Forestry, and Environment allocation. He is requesting to have outdoor fitness equipment at all City of Mississauga's parks to help increase physical activity while adhering to the current health and safety protocols.

Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer noted that a report regarding a grant for outdoor fitness amenities at a number of City parks would be coming forward. Shari Lichterman, Commissioner of Community Services also noted that there are numerous fitness clusters in 31 parks and that every park redevelopment has fitness included. Councillor Saito spoke to use of ward funding to install fitness equipment in all Ward 9 parks that have been strategically placed beside playgrounds and skate parks for older siblings and parents to utilize. Councillor McFadden echoed Mr. Bempong's comments.

RECOMMENDATION BC-0001-2021

Moved By Councillor S. McFadden

That the deputation and associated presentation by Brennan Bempong, Resident regarding the Mississauga Budget be received.

Received

4.2 Brad Butt, Vice President of Government and Stakeholders Relations, Mississauga Board of Trade to speak on the 2021 Budget

Mr. Butt spoke on the City of Mississauga's 2021 Budget and requested no property tax increase as a number of small businesses have greatly been impacted by the pandemic.

Councillor Saito inquired what services are the businesses prepared to see reduced in order to lower the tax. Mr. Butt responded by noting operational costs. Paul Mitcham, City Manager and CAO noted that the provincial programs that provide a rebate and noted that the EDO (Economic Development Office) is assisting with the application process. Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer also noted that the City approved a tax deferral program for residents and business.

Mr. Butt responded by noting that a tax freeze is needed in comparison to a rebate or deferral programs that are being offered.

RECOMMENDATION BC-0002-2021

Moved By Councillor K. Ras

That the deputation by Brad Butt, Vice President of Government and Stakeholders Relations, Mississauga Board of Trade regarding the 2021 Budget be received.

Received

4.3 Jeff Jackson, Director of Finance and Treasurer with respect to the 2021 Budget Update

Mr. Jackson presented and provided an update to the 2021 Budget. He discussed the 2020 year-end position, the 2021 forecast, the GTAA passenger stats and revenue impact, the impact of the adjusted infrastructure levy, the proposed blended tax increase, the stormwater rate and benchmarking with other municipalities.

Members of the Committee spoke to the matter and raised the following questions and concerns regarding the infrastructure levy, the impact of the PILT cap and initiating a Land Transfer Tax. Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer, Jeff Jackson, Director of Finance and Treasurer, Paul Mitcham, City Manager and CAO and Helen Noehammer, Director of Infrastructure Planning and Engineering Services responded to the questions from the Committee.

RECOMMENDATION BC-0003-2021

Moved By Councillor S. McFadden

That the deputation and associated presentation by Jeff Jackson, Director of Finance and Treasurer with respect to the 2021 Budget Update be received.

Received

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit**

Chris Mackie, Resident and MIRANET inquired about the reserves in relation to the Transit Safe Restart, the Councillors' Car Allowance and Churchill Meadows Community Centre indoor pool levy.

Jeff Jackson, Director of Finance and Treasurer and Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer responded noting that Transit Safe Restart funding is currently set aside for the sole purpose relating MiWay Transit costs, however the current deadline to utilize this funding is by March 31, 2021, which the City is lobbying to extend.

Councillor Saito echoed Mr. Mackie's comments regarding the Councillors' Car Allowance and requested to amend the budget recommendation to reduce the car allowance by one-third.

Mr. Kent responded noting that the levy for the indoor pool at the Churchill Meadows Community Centre is already been issued and being financed over the next 10 years.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

No items were approved under the Consent Agenda.

7. MATTERS CONSIDERED

7.1 Malton Hub Project, Ward 5

Councillor Parrish noted her support for the funding transfer.

RECOMMENDATION BC-0005-2021

Moved By Councillor C. Parrish

1. That capital project PN 19425 Malton Community Hub be amended to a gross budget of \$12,600,000 and net budget of \$6,100,000, including \$6,000,000 from the Region of Peel, pending agreement approval, \$500,000 secured donation, \$400,000 from Ward Specific Special Project funding in Federal Gas Tax Reserve Fund (Account 35182) and \$2,700,000 from Tax Capital Reserve Fund (account 33121).
2. That funding of \$2,700,000 be transferred from Capital Reserve Fund (Account 33121) to PN 19425 - Malton Community Hub for the construction of the hub.
3. That all necessary by-laws be enacted.

YES (12): Mayor Crombie, Councillor S. Dasko, Councillor K. Ras, Councillor C. Fonseca, Councillor J. Kovac , Councillor C. Parrish, Councillor R. Starr, Councillor D. Damerla, Councillor M. Mahoney, Councillor P. Saito, Councillor S. McFadden, and Councillor G. Carlson

Carried (12 to 0)

7.2 Deliberations on the 2021 Budget Recommendations

Councillor Saito requested an amendment to #5 to exclude Members of Council from receiving the increased economic adjustment of 1.75% and to reduce the Councillors' Car Allowance by one-third for 2021. Councillor Saito's motion was voted on and was included in the amended recommendation.

Councillor Ras requested an amendment to #3a to reduce the Infrastructure Levy to 1.5%. Councillor Ras's amended motion was voted on and defeated.

Councillor Dasko and Councillor Parrish expressed concerns regarding the last minute decisions and discussions and were supportive of the wage freeze and did not agree with the Car Allowance reduction.

Councillor Ras requested #3a from the Budget Recommendations be voted on separately.

RECOMMENDATION BC-0006-2021

Moved By Councillor S. McFadden

1. That Council approve the 2021 Budget as set out in:
 - a. 2021-2024 Business Plan & 2021 Budget Sections B through S which include the following tables/appendices:
 - i. Section B: Appendix 2D Listing of Projects for Multi-Year Funding, with the exception of changes to the Corporate Asset Management Program
 - ii. Section B: Appendix 3A 2021 Summary of FTE Adjustments by Service Area, with the deferral of 4 FTE positions for the Corporate Asset Management Program to 2022, as outlined in the report to Council dated November 30, 2020 entitled, "Update on 2021 Budget Request for Corporate Asset Management Program"
 - iii. Sections C-R: Proposed Cost Increase Required to Maintain Current Service Levels
 - iv. Sections C-R: Proposed New Initiatives and New Revenues
 - v. Sections C-R: Proposed 2021 Capital Budget Detail, with the exception of changes to the West Credit Avenue Temporary Storage Location recommended and adopted through Resolution 0371-2020 and changes to the Corporate Asset Management Program, (detailed in b)
 - vi. Section S: Appendix 1 Reserves and Reserve Funds Transfers and Appendix 2 Debt-Funded Projects;
 - b. Recommended changes to the Corporate Asset Management Program budget request, as outlined in the report from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer, dated November 30, 2020 and entitled "Update on 2021 Budget Request for Corporate Asset Management Program" as follows
 - i. That the funding requirement in the 2021 Capital Budget for the Corporate Asset Management Program be reduced from \$3,000,000 to \$2,800,000 in capital in 2021.
2. That Council approve any necessary 2021 budget re-allocations of service initiatives to ensure that costs are allocated to the appropriate service area with no net change to the 2021 property tax levy;
4. That the property tax levy be adjusted to reflect growth as calculated on the 2020 assessment roll returned by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation for purposes of 2021 taxation;
5.
 - a. That a 1.75% economic adjustment for eligible non-union employees be implemented effective April 1, 2021 with normal job rate progression.
 - b. Notwithstanding By-law 0551-2002 as amended,
 - i. That the salaries of Members of Council be frozen for 2021; and
 - ii. That the Car Allowance Rate for Members of Council be reduced by one-third in 2021 only

6. That modifications to the non-union benefits program as detailed in the 2021 Total Compensation presentation dated November 24, 2020 and February 22, 2021, be implemented effective April 1, 2021;
7. That the 2021 Stormwater Charge for the 2021 budget year be approved at \$110.40 per Stormwater billing unit, effective April 1, 2021;
8. That Council approve the Stormwater Program 2021 Budget as set out in Section V: Stormwater of the 2021-2024 Business Plan & 2021 Budget including:
 - Proposed New Initiatives and New Revenues
 - Proposed 2021 Capital Budget Detail
 - Appendix 1: Listing of Projects for Multi-Year Funding
 - Appendix 2: Summary of Reserve and Reserve Fund Transfers;
9. That the 2021 Stormwater Charge operating budget be approved at \$43,545,710;
10. That following the incorporation of adjustments approved by Budget Committee, the number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions funded by the Stormwater Charge will be 24.1 in 2021;
11. That all necessary by-laws be enacted.

YES (12): Mayor Crombie, Councillor S. Dasko, Councillor K. Ras, Councillor C. Fonseca, Councillor J. Kovac , Councillor C. Parrish, Councillor R. Starr, Councillor D. Damerla, Councillor M. Mahoney, Councillor P. Saito, Councillor S. McFadden, and Councillor G. Carlson

Carried (12 to 0)

RECOMMENDATION BC-0007-2021Moved By

3. That the 2021 property tax levy be approved at \$554,341,008 including:
 - a. Infrastructure and Debt Repayment Levy increase in the amount of \$10,750,798
 - b. Emerald Ash Borer Levy, included in the base budget, in the amount of \$4,600,000;

YES (9): Mayor Crombie, Councillor S. Dasko, Councillor J. Kovac , Councillor C. Parrish, Councillor R. Starr, Councillor D. Damerla, Councillor M. Mahoney, Councillor S. McFadden, and Councillor G. Carlson

NO (3): Councillor K. Ras, Councillor C. Fonseca, and Councillor P. Saito

Carried (9 to 3)

8. CLOSED SESSION

(Pursuant to Subsection 239(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*)

The Budget Committee moved into closed session at 2:51PM.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved By Councillor C. Fonseca

Whereas the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, requires Council to pass a motion prior to closing part of a meeting to the public;

And whereas the Act requires that the motion states the act of the holding of the closed meeting and the general nature of the matter to be considered at the closed meeting;

Now therefore be it resolved that a portion of the Budget Committee meeting to be held on February 22, 2021 shall be closed to the public to deal with the following matter:

(Pursuant to Subsection 239(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*)

i. 2021 Total Compensation Update**Received****8.1 Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations: 2021 Total Compensation Update**

Lori Kelly, Director of Human Resources presented and provided an update on the 2021 Total Compensation. Members of the Committee spoke to the matter and raised questions. Jeff Jackson, Director of Finance and Treasurer responded to questions from Committee with respect to the presentation.

The Committee came out of Closed Session at 3:35PM.

As a result of the Closed Session, the following recommendation was voted on during Open Session:

RECOMMENDATION BC-0004-2021

Moved By Councillor J. Kovac

That the closed session presentation by Lori Kelly, Director of Human Resources regarding the 2021 Total Compensation Update be received.

YES (12): Mayor Crombie, Councillor S. Dasko, Councillor K. Ras, Councillor C. Fonseca, Councillor J. Kovac, Councillor C. Parrish, Councillor R. Starr, Councillor D. Damerla, Councillor M. Mahoney, Councillor P. Saito, Councillor S. McFadden, and Councillor G. Carlson

Carried (12 to 0)

9. ADJOURNMENT

3:40PM (Councillor Starr)