General Committee Minutes

Council Chambers, City Hall

January 20, 2025

Present: Councillor Baldwin
Councillor Beamer, Chair
Councillor Bierk
Councillor Crowley
Councillor Duguay
Councillor Haacke
Councillor Lachica
Mayor Leal
Councillor Parnell
Councillor Riel
Councillor Vassiliadis

Staff: Gillian Barnes, Director, Facilities and Property Management
Stacy Dedlow, Committee Support Specialist
Richard Freymond, Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services
Natalie Garnett, Deputy City Clerk
Jennifer Jones, Library CEO and Director, Arts & Culture (Acting)
John Kennedy, City Clerk
Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner, Community Services
Rob McAulay, Director, Recreation Services
Sarah McDougall Perrin, Advisor, Government Relations
Jennifer McFarlane, Director, People and Culture
Blair Nelson, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning & Growth Management
David Potts, Commissioner, Legislative Services, City Solicitor
Jasbir Raina, Chief Administrative Officer
Ilmar Simanovskis, Commissioner, Municipal Operations
Brendan Wedley, Director, Strategic Communications & Service Peterborough

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Peterborough Public Health Update, Report FCSFS25-005

Moved by Councillor Vassiliadis

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report FCSFS25-005, dated January 20, 2025 of the Commissioner, Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

a) That the December 10, 2024 letter from Peterborough Public Health and attached as Appendix A, be received for information; and

b) That the Peterborough Public Health funding levy requirement as originally presented in the draft 2025 budget in the amount of $1,875,270, be approved and held as proxy, pending further information that will be forthcoming at a later date on a merger budget for the new Health Unit entity.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Proposed Options to Reduce 2025 Budget Net Tax Levy Requirement, Report FCSFS25-003

Moved by Councillor Haacke

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report FCSFS25-003, dated January 20, 2025 of the Commissioner of Finance and Corporate Support Services as follows:

a) That Council endorse the transition of stormwater funding from the tax base to a dedicated user fee effective April 1, 2025 using a simplified interim rate structure;

b) That the Stormwater Management Fee By-law attached as Appendix B, be approved;

c) That the 2025 User Fees and Charges By-law be amended:

i. **to include the Stormwater Management Fee as proposed in Chart 2;**

ii. **to increase Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval (CLI-ECA) fees as shown in Chart 3;**

iii. **to increase Recreation and Parks user fees for sport diamond and field rentals as shown in Chart 4;**

iv. **d) That the net tax levy requirement as detailed in the 2025 Draft Operating Budget as presented in the Budget Highlights Book and subsequently amended by Committee, be further reduced as follows:**

    i. **Update of recommended current value assessments found on page 282 of the 2025 Budget Book to incorporate the final assessments received from MPAC for the 2025 taxation year resulting in a reduction of the NTL of $210,000;**

ii. **Adoption of the reduced increase in the 2025 Peterborough Police Services Budget request of 1%, from 8.8% to 7.8%, resulting in a reduced NTL of $350,822;**

iii. **Adoption of the reduced increase in the 2025 Peterborough County City Paramedics Budget request in the amount of $160,291;**

iv. **Reduction in the provision or Insurance premiums in the amount of $115,000.**

v. **Reduction in the provision of:**

i. **People &Culture - Corporate Training - $14,648**

ii. **Municipal Law Enforcement Services – defer the purchase of one vehicle and modifications for a total of $52,000**

iii. **Public Works – reduce operating expense budgets for graffiti management, forestry contractual services, and street cleaning expenses totaling $60,000**

iv. **Transit – reduce operating expense budgets for cleaning supplies and contractual services $75,000.**

v. **Community Grants – The Peterborough Aids Resource Network - $7,645**

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Other Business

Moved by Mayor Leal

That the EC3 motion from the November 18 and 19th meeting be reconsidered.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Duguay

b) That Council opts not to renew funding to EC3 at this time, in anticipation of the completion of a renewed MCP, which would provide further directions for the future of a culture council (includes funding of $100,000 and the funding for the following programs: Poet Laureate Program, Individual Artist Grants, Artsweek)

For (1): Councillor Beamer, Chair

Against (10): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Lost (1 to 10)

Moved by Mayor Leal

a) That $25,000 be taken from the Public Art Maintenance and Project Reserve and be allocated for the administration and execution of Arts Week taking place in May 2025. This will complete the agreement for the two-year funding cycle for Arts Week.

b) That $85,000 be provided for EC3's operating costs in 2025 (funding from the tax base).

c) That in order for EC3 to receive this funding, a Service Agreement will be established outlining the terms and conditions. This Service Agreement must be signed within 30 days of receipt or funding will not be issued. The terms of this service agreement will include:

1. **All funding is subject to Council budgetary approval**
2. **EC3 is required to work from a publicly accessible office space at least 3 days per week (hold regular office hours)**
3. **EC3 will provide the City with a list of current board members**
4. **EC3 will provide the City with required reporting documents before funding will be released**
5. **EC3 will be located and conduct the majority of its activities within the geographic boundaries of the City of Peterborough**
6. **EC3 will work with their city staff liaison as their primary contact with the City**

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Beamer, Chair, and Councillor Haacke

Carried (9 to 2)

Moved by Councillor Bierk

That the recommendations be amended as follows:
That a) be increased from $25,000 to $50,000 funded from the Public Art Maintenance Reserve.

For (6): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Lachica, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (5): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, and Councillor Parnell

Carried (6 to 5)

Moved by Councillor Bierk

b) be increased from $85,000 to $100,000, funded from the tax base

For (6): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, and Councillor Riel

Against (5): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (6 to 5)

Moved by Mayor Leal

Upon the main motion, as amended, the motion carried.

Carried

Second Licenced Paralegal Position

Moved by Councillor Crowley

That the motion from the November 18 and 19, 2024 meeting (paralegal) be reconsidered.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Haacke, and Councillor Riel

Carried (9 to 2)

Moved by Councillor Crowley

That a second licensed paralegal position at a cost, including benefits, of $141,692 be included in the 2025 budget as proposed and for the reasons outlined on page 300 of the Draft 2025 Budget Book presented on November 4, 2024.

For (9): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (2): Councillor Beamer, Chair, and Councillor Lachica

Carried (9 to 2)

Moved by Councillor Lachica

That the salary and benefits for the position be amended to $109,000.

For (3): Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, and Councillor Lachica

Against (8): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Lost (3 to 8)

Upon the main motion of Councillor Crowley, the motion carried.

Transit Operator Positions

Moved by Councillor Riel

That the four Transit Operator positions on page 307 of Budget Highlights Book (Below the Line) at an approximate cost of $347,000 be approved.

For (3): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Lachica, and Councillor Riel

Against (8): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Lost (3 to 8)

Amending Parking Fees – Housekeeping

Moved by Councillor Baldwin

That the motion regarding parking penalty increases on page 7 from the November 18 and 19, 2024 meeting be reconsidered.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Baldwin

WHEREAS on November 18, 2024, General Committee unanimously approved the recommendation in Report LSMLES24-006 to amend Parking By-law 09-136 in the form of amending by-law comprising Appendix A to the said Report to effect increases to certain administrative monetary penalties for parking contraventions;
AND WHEREAS the Report contained a typo that would change a parking penalty that is proposed to remain the same
NOW THEREFORE be it resolved
That Parking By-law 09-136 be amended as approved by General Committee on November 18, 2024 in response to the recommendation in Report LSMLES24-006 except that Item 13 of Schedule X in Appendix A to the proposed amending by-law, "Stopped so as to interfere with snow clearing", be amended by deleting the penalty amount set out therein and by substituting the penalty, "$80".

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Moved by Councillor Baldwin

That the User Fee for Parking at the Memorial Centre, identified on page 370 of the Budget Highlights Book be amended from $5.25 to $7.00 effective September 1, 2025; and

That the User Fee for "Parking Lot Buyout" at the Memorial Centre, identified on page 370 of the Budget Highlights Book be amended from $2,275 to $2,500, effective September 1, 2025.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

Committee recessed at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

Liftlock Canal Operations

Moved by Councillor Bierk

That the motion from the November 18 and 19, 2024 meeting related to maintaining the canal for skating be reconsidered.

For (4): Councillor Bierk, Councillor Lachica, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Against (7): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Mayor Leal, and Councillor Parnell

Lost (4 to 7)

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Duguay

That this meeting be adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

For (11): Councillor Baldwin, Councillor Beamer, Chair, Councillor Bierk, Councillor Crowley, Councillor Duguay, Councillor Haacke, Councillor Lachica, Mayor Leal, Councillor Parnell, Councillor Riel, and Councillor Vassiliadis

Carried (11 to 0)

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John Kennedy

City Clerk

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Councillor Beamer

Chair