



## Report of the

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE – 2024 Capital & Operating**

**Monday December 4, 2023 and Tuesday December 5, 2023**

The Town of Halton Hills Council met this 4<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023 in Council Chambers, Halton Hills Town Hall and Via Zoom, commencing at 1:00 p.m., with Mayor A. Lawlor in the Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Mayor A. Lawlor, Councillor C. Somerville, Councillor J. Fogal (EP-Electronic Participation) (departed 6:20 p.m. December 5<sup>th</sup>), Councillor M. Albano, Councillor A. Hilson, Councillor J. Brass (departed 6:20 p.m. December 5<sup>th</sup>), Councillor J. Racinsky (departed 6:20 p.m. December 5<sup>th</sup>), Councillor C. Garneau, Councillor R. Norris, Councillor B. Inglis (EP), Councillor D. Keene

**STAFF PRESENT** (Open Session) C. Mills, Chief Administrative Officer, V. Petryniak, Town Clerk & Director of Legislative Services, D. Szybalski, Commissioner of Business, Environment & Culture, L. Lancaster, Commissioner of Corporate Services, J. Rehill, Commissioner & Chief of Fire Services, J. Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning & Development, B. Andrews, Commissioner of Transportation & Public Works, P. Damaso, Commissioner of Recreation & Parks, M.J. Leighton, Director of Finance & Town Treasurer

**\*Recommendation varies from Staff Recommendation**

#### **1. OPENING OF THE BUDGET MEETING**

Mayor A. Lawlor opened the Budget Committee meeting at 1:07 p.m.

#### **2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Councillor J. Fogal declared a conflict of interest with capital budget item 6200-16-2304, as her street is one being paved.

#### **3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is part of the Treaty lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit.

#### **4. BUDGET DELEGATIONS**

**a. Ansub Shafique - Georgetown BIA**

A. Shafique presented to Budget Committee regarding the 2024 Georgetown BIA Budget.

**b. Matthew Galliford, Acton BIA**

M. Galliford presented to Budget Committee regarding the 2024 Acton BIA Budget.

**c. Rohith Pothneni Ramachandranaidu**

R. Ramachandranaidu presented to Budget Committee to suggest moving money away from the Recreation and Parks budget for municipal parks to building faster infrastructure needed for Vision Georgetown.

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

**a. Moya Leighton, Town Treasurer and Director of Finance**

M. Leighton presented to Budget Committee regarding Proposed 2024 Capital and Operating Budget and Business Plan with Opening Remarks provided by L. Lancaster, Commissioner of Corporate Services.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**b. Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer**

C. Mills, V. Petryniak, A. Fuller and S. Silver presented to Budget Committee regarding Office of the CAO 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**c. Damian Szybalski, Commissioner of Business, Environment and Culture**

D. Szybalski presented to Budget Committee regarding Business, Environment and Culture 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**d. Laura Lancaster, Commissioner of Corporate Services**

L. Lancaster presented to Budget Committee regarding Corporate Services 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**e. Beverley King, Chief Librarian - Library Services**

B. King presented to Budget Committee regarding Library Services 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**Recess – Budget Committee recessed at 3:33 p.m.**

**Reconvene – Budget Committee reconvened at 3:43 p.m.**

**f. Jon Rehill, Commissioner & Fire Chief - Fire Services**

J. Rehill presented to Budget Committee regarding Fire Services 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**g. Bill Andrews, Commissioner of Transportation and Public Works**

B. Andrews presented to Budget Committee regarding Transportation and Public 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**h. John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Development**

J. Linhardt presented to Budget Committee regarding Planning and Development 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**i. Paul Damaso, Commissioner of Recreation and Parks**

P. Damaso presented to Budget Committee regarding Recreation and Parks 2024 Business Plan, Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

(Presentation on file in the Clerk's Office)

**Recess – Budget Committee recessed at 4:58 p.m. until 1pm Tuesday December 5, 2023.**

**Reconvene – Budget Committee reconvened at 1:12 p.m.**

**6. BUDGET REFERRALS**

The following budget amendments were received from Council:

Recommendation No. BU-2023-003 (Capital Budget)

THAT staff use the Public Art Fund current balance of \$40,000 plus an additional \$10,000 from a reserve fund to cover the cost of a \$50,000 project for the Town 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Public Art.

**CARRIED**

**Recess – Budget Committee recessed at 3:00 p.m.**

**Reconvene – Budget Committee reconvened at 3:16 p.m.**

Recommendation No. BU-2023-004 (Operating Budget)

THAT the Business Investment Attraction Coordinator – Contract position be removed from the 2024 budget.

**CARRIED**

Recommendation No. BU-2023-005 (Operating Budget)

THAT a new reserve for a Healthcare Levy be established in an amount of .25% to fund future contribution requests for Healthcare initiatives. The allocation of funds will be subject to future Council authorization and decisions.

**CARRIED**

**Recess – Budget Committee recessed at 4:29 p.m.**

**MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Budget Committee convened into Closed Session at 4:47 p.m. in order to address personal matters about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employees.

Recommendation No. BU-2023-006 (Operating Budget)

THAT staff carry out Council's direction as set out in the Confidential Minutes of the Budget Committee dated December 5, 2023.

**CARRIED**

**Reconvene – Budget Committee reconvened into Open Session at 5:43 p.m.**

**Recess – Budget Committee recessed at 6:20 p.m.**

**Reconvene – Budget Committee reconvened at 6:47 p.m.**

**7. REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS**

**a. REPORT NO. CS-2023-038**

Recommendation No. BU-2023-007

THAT Report No. CS-2023-038 dated December 4, 2023 regarding Ontario Regulation 284/09, 2024 Budget be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Budget Committee approves this report, which meets the requirements of Regulation 284/09 and outlines the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets in a format that is compliant with the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB);

AND FURTHER THAT should any budget changes be approved by Budget Committee, the PSAB compliant 284/09 report will be amended to include those changes, to ensure consistency with the approved budget.

**CARRIED**

**b. REPORT NO. CS-2023-037**

Recommendation No. BU-2023-008

THAT Report No. CS-2023-037 dated November 15, 2023 regarding the 2024 Proposed Budget and Business Plan be received;

\* AND FURTHER THAT the proposed base operating budget levy increase of 8.01% be approved;

AND FURTHER THAT a 0.78% increase to the State-Of-Good Repair special levy be approved;

\* AND FURTHER THAT a 0.25% Healthcare Special Levy be approved;

\* AND FURTHER THAT staff be authorized to establish a discretionary reserve fund for the Healthcare Levy;

\* AND FURTHER THAT a total net levy of \$69,968,495 be approved, which includes an increase net of assessment growth of \$5,798,195 or 9.04% for the Town portion of the 2024 operating budget, noting that this excludes any increases related to provisions for the Acton and Georgetown Business Improvement Associations (BIA), the Region of Halton or Board of Education; A combined overall net levy increase of 6.06% can be anticipated based on the proposed Town rate of 9.04%, preliminary Regional budget directions of 5.1% and a 0% education increase;

AND FURTHER THAT the Acton BIA expenditures included in the 2024 budget be approved in the gross amount of \$151,136.91, with a tax levy of \$112,254.91;

AND FURTHER THAT the Georgetown BIA expenditures included in the 2024 budget be approved in the gross amount of \$313,700.00, with a net tax levy of \$220,500.00;

\* AND FURTHER THAT the 2024 capital budget in the amount of \$26,592,000 be approved;

AND FURTHER THAT the nine year, 2025-2033 capital budget forecast in the amount of \$494,497,000 be approved in principle subject to an annual review;

\* AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Halton Hills 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Public Art capital project (1806-10-2401) be reduced to \$50,000 to be funded from the Public Art Reserve (39,796) and the New Capital reserve (\$10,204);

AND FURTHER THAT once approved by Budget Committee, the Budget be put forward as the Mayor’s Budget for approval by Council;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be authorized to proceed with the capital program, and any acquisitions or approval of awards, subject to the usual Town policies, by-laws, and procedures.

**CARRIED**

**c. MEMORANDUM NO. CS-2023-003**

Recommendation No. BU-2023-009

THAT Memorandum No. CS-2023-003 dated November 17, 2023 regarding 2024 Proposed Budget – Consideration of a 1% Decrease be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**d. MEMORANDUM NO. CS-2023-004**

Recommendation No. BU-2023-010

THAT Memorandum No. CS-2023-004 dated November 21, 2023 regarding Hospital Levy and Healthcare Requests be received for information.

**CARRIED**

8. **CLOSED SESSION (held earlier in the meeting)**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Budget Committee adjourned on Tuesday December 5, 2023 at 6:58 p.m.

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Ann Lawlor, MAYOR

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Valerie Petryniak, TOWN CLERK