



Budget Committee of the Whole Meeting
Minutes

BCW#02-24
Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 1:30 p.m.
Council Chambers
225 East Beaver Creek Road
Richmond Hill, Ontario

A Budget Committee of the Whole meeting of the Council of the City of Richmond Hill was held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in Council Chambers via videoconference.

Council Members present in Council Chambers:

Mayor West (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Davidson
Councillor Thompson
Councillor Cui
Councillor Cilevitz
Councillor Shiu

Council Members present via videoconference:

Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola (Chair)
Regional and Local Councillor Chan
Councillor Liu

Staff Members present in Council Chambers:

D. Joslin, City Manager
S. Adams, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services
G. Galanis, Acting Commissioner of Planning and Building Services
P. Masaro, Commissioner of Infrastructure and Engineering Services
T. Steele, Commissioner of Community Services
G. Li, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer
L. Chen, Manager, Fiscal Planning and Strategy
J. Concepcion, Financial Management Advisor
H. Leung, Financial Management Advisor

- A. Li, Financial Management Advisor
- D. Selicean, Financial Management Advisor
- I. Treiger, Financial Management Advisor
- L. Hood, Supervisor, Communications Services
- R. Ban, Deputy City Clerk
- L. Sampogna, Council/Committee Coordinator
- C. Connolly, Legislative Services Assistant

Staff Members present via videoconference:

- A. Dimilta, City Solicitor
- B. Burbidge, Fire Chief
- C. Debi, Director, Strategic Communications
- D. Giannetta, Acting Director, Development Planning
- D. Guy, Director, Community Standards
- D. Hearn, Director, Recreation and Culture
- A. Iannucci, Chief Transformation Officer
- A. Ierullo, Director, Economic Development and Richmond Hill Center
- N. Kalyvas, Director, Facility Management
- N. Khan, Director, Building Division and Chief Building Official
- B. Levesque, Director, Infrastructure Delivery
- B. Yu, Financial Management Advisor

1. Call to Order

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 1:55 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the agenda be adopted as distributed by the Clerk.

Carried Unanimously

3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest by members of Council under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

4. Delegation(s)

There were no delegations.

5. Scheduled Business

5.1 SRCFS.24.025 – 2025 Capital and Operating Budget Strategy

- Presentation by Gigi Li, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer

Gigi Li, Director of Financial Services and Treasurer provided introductory remarks regarding the 2025 Capital and Operating Budget Strategy and advised that in accordance with the Strong Mayor Powers in Part VI.1 of the *Municipal Act 2001*, the Mayor instructed staff to commence the 2025 budget process in Mayoral Decision 11-24. G. Li highlighted the objectives of today's presentation and outlined the 2025 budget schedule. She reviewed factors impacting the budget, 2025 Capital Budget considerations, capital funding sources, tax supported funding, and the rate supported funding for water, wastewater, and stormwater management. G. Li further reviewed tax and rate supported future considerations, growth related funding, 2025 operating outlook and updates, mitigating measures, and highlighted the 2025 budget strategy for water, wastewater and stormwater management.

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

- a) That staff report SRCFS.24.025 regarding the 2025 Capital and Operating Budget Strategy, be received;
- b) That Budget Committee of the Whole recommends the Mayor directs staff to present a 2025 Draft Capital Budget that:
 - i. Continues to manage the City's capital program reflective of the City's Strategic Priorities;
 - ii. Maximizes all funding from external sources, development charges and reserve funding;
 - iii. Proposes funding, including project management and overhead costs not to exceed:
 - a. \$33.3 million from Tax Supported Reserve Funds
 - b. \$23 million from Development Charges Reserve Funds
 - c. \$6 million from Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund
 - d. The principles of the approved 2024 Water and Wastewater Financial Plan

- e. The existing capital contribution levels for Water Quality Protection Reserve Fund
- c) The Budget Committee of the Whole recommends the Mayor directs staff to prepare a 2025 Draft Operating Budget that:
 - i. Supports the City's Strategic Priorities;
 - ii. Utilizes the budget considerations outlined in staff report SRCFS.24.025 as a guideline;
 - iii. Staff identify service level changes to meet the guideline;
 - iv. Proposes a Capital Asset Sustainability Levy in the operating budget equivalent to 1.5% tax rate increase.
- d) The Budget Committee of the Whole recommends the Mayor directs staff to present a 2025 Draft Water & Wastewater Budget that reflects the wholesale rate increase from Region of York and approved factors from the Water/Wastewater Financial Plan;
- e) The Budget Committee of the Whole recommends the Mayor directs staff to present a 2025 Draft Stormwater Management Budget that aligns with long-term requirements;
- f) The Budget Committee of the Whole recommends the Mayor directs staff to proceed with the 2025 Budget process in accordance with the timetable outlined in Appendix "A" and guidelines described in staff report SRCFS.24.025.

Carried Unanimously

5.2 SRCFS.24.023 – 2025 Budget Engagement Plan

- Presentation by Gigi Li, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer

Gigi Li, Director of Financial Services and Treasurer made a presentation regarding the 2025 Budget Engagement Plan. She highlighted staff's plan to enhance the public's understanding of Richmond Hill's budget through public education, engagement and promoting budget information through various channels. G. Li reviewed the process to communicate the budget and timelines, and concluded the presentation by outlining staff's recommendations in the associated staff report.

Moved by: Councillor Shiu

a) That staff report SRCFS.24.023 regarding the 2025 Budget Engagement, be received for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

6. Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Cilevitz

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.