



## **Budget Committee of the Whole Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**BCW#03-24**

**Tuesday, September 24, 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, September 24, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in Council Chambers via videoconference.

Council Members present in Council Chambers:

Regional and Local Councillor DiPaola (Chair)  
Mayor West (Vice-Chair)  
Regional and Local Councillor Chan  
Councillor Davidson  
Councillor Thompson  
Councillor Liu  
Councillor Cui  
Councillor Cilevitz  
Councillor Shiu

Staff Members present in Council Chambers:

D. Joslin, City Manager  
S. Adams, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services  
G. Galanis, 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  
J. Concepcion, Financial Management Advisor  
H. Leung, Financial Management Advisor  
A. Li, Financial Management Advisor  
R. Ban, Deputy City Clerk  
S. Dumont, 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
- M. Flores, Director, Policy Planning
- D. Giannetta, Director, Development Planning
- A. Iannucci, Chief Transformation Officer
- R. Jones, Director, Information Technology/CIO
- N. Khan, Director, Building Division and Chief Building Official
- M. Fartsalas, Manager, Adjudication and Policy Governance
- K. Ash, Manager, Recreation Programs
- B. Yu, Financial Management Advisor

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

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.24.039 – 2024 Year End Operating Forecast**

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

Gigi Li, Director of Financial Services and Treasurer, explained the usefulness of an Operating Budget forecast, and highlighted the favourable and unfavourable budget variances within the forecast. She outlined the differences between the 2024 Budget and the 2024 Budget Forecast by department, providing explanations for each departmental variance. She advised of the budget reallocation based on the Financial Control By-law and noted that they are anticipating a deficit in the Water

and Wastewater Fund, and that the Stormwater Management Fund was on track with the budget.

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

a) That the presentation by Gigi Li, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer, regarding the 2024 Year End Operating Forecast be received; and

b) That SRCFS.24.039 – 2024 Year End Operating Forecast be received for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

## **5.2 SRCFS.24.038 - Tariff of Fees Update**

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

Gigi Li, Director of Financial Services and Treasurer, outlined the process for the annual Tariff of Fees review, including the considerations and guidelines for updating the fees, as well as the various fee categories. She provided a summary of the Tariff of Fees by category, highlighting the number of fees that increased, decreased, or remained unchanged. G. Li also presented a fee summary for Recreation and Culture and introduced the new fees included in the update. Additionally, she noted that the update allows outstanding fees and charges, including administration fees, to be deemed a debt to the municipality, which can be collected or added to the tax roll in the same manner as taxes.

Moved by: Mayor West

a) That the presentation by Gigi, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer, regarding the Tariff of Fees Update be received;

b) That staff report SRCFS.24.038 regarding the Tariff of Fees Update be received; and

c) That draft By-law 121-24, attached as Appendix 'D' to staff report SRCFS.24.038, be brought forward to the October 9, 2024 Council meeting for consideration and enactment.

Carried Unanimously

## **5.3 SRCFS.24.044 - 2025 Budget Survey Results**

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

Gigi Li, Director of Financial Services and Treasurer, advised that as directed by Council, a 2025 Budget Survey was conducted to engage the public and solicit feedback on the City's budget process. She reviewed the online/virtual initiatives, along with the in-person events hosted by staff to collect resident input. G. Li outlined the method in which residents participated in the survey, and the advertising and promotional campaign used to enhance public participation. She also shared the survey results and discussed plans for future budget engagement initiatives.

Moved by: Councillor Davidson

a) That the presentation by Gigi Li, Director, Financial Services and Treasurer, regarding the 2025 Budget Survey Results be received;

b) That staff report SRCFS.24.044 – 2025 Budget Survey Results be received for information purposes and for consideration in the upcoming staff proposed 2025 Budget; and

c) That any future budget engagements continue with an online survey to solicit feedback, in addition to promoting the budget and its overall process through various digital and social media channels.

Carried Unanimously

## 6. **Adjournment**

Moved: Councillor Cilevitz

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.