



Minutes

Budget Committee

The Corporation of the City of Brampton

Monday, February 27, 2023

Members Present: Mayor P. Brown - Chair
Regional Councillor P. Vicente - Vice Chair
Regional Councillor R. Santos
Regional Councillor N. Kaur Brar
Regional Councillor M. Palleschi
Regional Councillor D. Keenan
Regional Councillor M. Medeiros
Regional Councillor P. Fortini
City Councillor R. Power
Deputy Mayor H. Singh
Regional Councillor G. Toor

Staff Present: Marlon Kallideen, Chief Administrative Officer, and Acting
Commissioner, Public Works and Engineering
Steve Ganesh, Commissioner, Planning, Building and Growth
Management
Bill Boyes, Fire Chief, Fire and Emergency Services, and Acting
Commissioner, Community Services
Rick Conard, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Support Services
Paul Morrison, Acting Commissioner, Legislative Services
Alex Milojevic, General Manager, Transit
Sameer Akhtar, City Solicitor
Nash Damer, Treasurer, Corporate Support Services
Peter Fay, City Clerk
Charlotte Gravlev, Deputy Clerk
Sonya Pacheco, Legislative Coordinator

1. Call to Order

On February 27, 2023 the meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m., recessed at 4:11 p.m., reconvened at 7:00 p.m. and recessed again at 7:22 p.m.

On February 28, 2023 the meeting reconvened at 9:32 a.m., recessed at 11:29 a.m., reconvened at 1:04 p.m. recessed at 1:18 p.m., reconvened at 7:02 p.m. and recessed again at 7:38 p.m.

On March 6, 2023 the meeting reconvened at 1:09 p.m., recessed at 3:31 p.m., reconvened at 3:47 p.m. and adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Attendance Notes:

(1) All Members were present for each meeting session, with the exception of Regional Councillor Toor, who was absent during the following sessions:

- February 27, 2023 - 7:00 p.m. session (personal)
- March 6, 2023 (personal)

(2) On March 6, 2023, Regional Councillor Medeiros arrived late at 2:22 p.m. (personal)

Meeting Chair Roles:

Regional Councillor Vicente, Vice Chair, assumed the Chair at the following times:

- February 27, 2023 - 2:56 p.m. to 3:08 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 7:22 p.m.
- February 28, 2023 - 7:27 p.m. to 7:32 p.m.
- March 6, 2023 - 3:27 p.m. to 3:31 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Singh assumed the Chair at the following time:

- February 28, 2023 - 1:07 p.m. to 1:18 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Committee discussion took place with respect to proposed amendments to the agenda.

The following motion was considered.

BC001-2023

That the agenda for the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, be approved, as amended, to add the following items:

- 6.4 Delegation from Prashanth Panda, Karmbir Singh, Jitender Jani, Pushkar Chavan, Residents of Ward 6, re: Mississauga / Embelton Community Park Progress
- 6.5 Delegation from Glen Coyle, Canada House Veterans Ambassador, re: Canada House and Post-Traumatic Growth Association (PTGA)

Carried

Note: Later in the meeting, on a two-thirds majority vote to reopen the question, the Approval of Agenda was reopened and Items 6.4 and 6.5 were added.

3. Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Regional Councillor Fortini declared a conflict of interest with respect to the compensation portion of the Enforcement and By-law Services Division budget, as his daughter is employed in this division.

4. Consent

Nil

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Presentation by M. Kallideen, Chief Administrative Officer, and N. Damer, Treasurer, Corporate Support Services, re: 2023-2025 Operating and Capital Budgets

Prior to the staff presentation, Mayor Brown thanked staff for their public engagement efforts for the 2023 budget.

M. Kallideen, Chief Administrative Officer, and N. Damer, Treasurer, Corporate Support Services, provided a presentation regarding the proposed 2023-2025 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Proposed overall tax increase (Region of Peel and Brampton)
- Tax bill components

- School Board tax funding
- 2022 property taxes by residence type
- Residential and non residential breakdown of \$24.4M stormwater charge
- Number of new hires (by department) approved in 2022 that have not been filled, and have been included in the 2023 budget
- Comparison of staff costs with other municipalities
- Review of the number of staff reporting to management level staff
- Communications and public engagement budget for each department
- Purchase of furniture for the Chris Gibson and Victoria Park Recreation Centres
- Capital infrastructure funding and reserve contributions
- Capital project implementation and efforts to address the backlog
 - Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on project implementation

The following motion was considered.

BC002-2023

That the presentation by M. Kallideen, Chief Administrative Officer, and N. Damer, Treasurer, Corporate Support Services, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **2023-2025 Operating and Capital Budgets**, be received:

- a. CAO – Introductory Budget presentation
- b. Treasurer – Financial Context and Budget Proposal.

Carried

5.2 Departmental Presentations

a. Transit

A. Milojevic, General Manager, Transit, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Transit Department.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Connectivity with regional transit systems
- Ridership demand increase and system pressures

- Active transportation integration
- Budget for communications and community engagement
- Costs relating to towing, fuel, maintenance and cleaning
- Level of service for bus cleaning
- Group purchase for fuel
- Busiest transit corridors
- Number of new hires approved in 2022 that have not been filled, and have been included in the 2023 budget

b. Fire and Emergency Services

B. Boyes, Fire Chief, Fire and Emergency Services, and Acting Commissioner, Community Services, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Fire and Emergency Services Department.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Number of new hires approved in 2022 that have not been filled, and have been included in the 2023 budget
- Clearing of fire hydrants to ensure visibility
- Budget for truck wrapping
- Fuel contract and costs
- Budget for community engagement and communications

c. Public Works and Engineering

R. Gasper, Director, Road Maintenance, Operations and Fleet, Public Works and Engineering, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Public Works and Engineering Department.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Winter maintenance operations (e.g. type of salt used, damages and repairs, level of service)
- Winter maintenance contract timelines and costs
- Procurement process for future contracts, and consideration of service level options (e.g. windrow snow clearing)
- Windrow snow clearing experience in other municipalities, and the significant cost of providing this service

- Removal of the capital budget for the Caledon Barn
- Budget for traffic calming measures by ward pairing
 - Costs for the installation of speed humps
 - Priority areas for traffic calming
- Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) camera installations in community safety zones and in-house processing options
- Budget for communications and community engagement
- Number of new hires approved in 2022 that have not been filled, and have been included in the 2023 budget
- Budget for, and status of, the Howden and Victoria Park Recreation Centre projects
- Disparity of recreation services in the City
- Aging facilities in the Bramalea area
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan refresh
- Operational costs for Riverstone Community Centre
- Status of the Centre for Innovation project

d. Community Services

B. Boyes, Fire Chief, Fire and Emergency Services, and Acting Commissioner, Community Services, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Community Services Department.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Review of the state of good repair budget for the Civic Centre, in consideration of the Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) moving into this space
 - Lester B. Pearson Theatre maintenance
- Operational costs for the Riverstone Community Centre compared to other recreation facilities
- Grant funding for recreation centre renovation projects
- Budget for, and status of, the Howden and Victoria Park Recreation Centre projects

- Availability of private and public fitness facilities, and pressure for the City to provide more community/cultural space
- Possibility of converting space in community centres (e.g. fitness facilities) for arts space
- Active Assist program capacity and refresh to increase threshold
- Initiative to provide free recreation programming for seniors
- Number of new hires approved in 2022 that have not been filled, and have been included in the 2023 budget
- Budget for communications and community engagement
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan refresh
- Options and budget for improving the recreation program registration process
- Staff shortage in the Recreation Division
- Recreation programs that are at, or near, capacity (e.g. swimming)

e. Corporate Support Services

R. Conard, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Support Services, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Corporate Support Services Department.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Staff resources in the Strategic Communications Division
 - Increased workload in this division
 - The need to improve communications to the public
- Budget for communications and community engagement
 - Coordination of work with other departments
 - Communications relating to Bill 23
- Corporate Security budget and leveraging cybersecurity partnerships
- Request for an update on Data Centre upgrades at the Civic Centre
- PerfectMind registration issues
 - IT solutions for this program to avoid system delays/crashing during high-peak registration periods

- Resolution process for residents that were unable to register for recreation programs due to system issues
- Timelines for non-resident registration
- Staff shortage in the Recreation Division
 - Lack of qualified staff to deliver programs in aquatics
 - Review of part-time wages and efforts to attract talent and increase staff levels
 - Review of the nepotism policy, and a suggestion that youth be excluded from this policy

f. Planning, Building and Growth Management

S. Ganesh, Commissioner, Planning, Building and Growth Management, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Planning, Building and Growth Management Department.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Alternative solutions for stormwater management ponds
- Reduced wait times for processing development applications

g. Legislative Services

P. Morrison, Acting Commissioner, Legislative Services, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Legislative Services Department.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Location for a new animal shelter, and combining this project with the Environmental Education Centre
- Settlements for incidents such as tripping on sidewalks, vehicle damage from pot holes, etc.
- Changes in risk management to remove barriers and minimize project delays
- Status of the report on proactive enforcement of property standards
- Main issues for by-law enforcement (e.g. parking and property standards offences)
- Possibility of increasing fines to improve compliance
 - Challenges relating to the collection of fines

- Process for dealing with recurring property standards offenders
- Towing of vehicles parked on the road during snow clearing operations
 - Challenges in towing vehicles in a timely manner
- Possible use of the plate reading system to identify stolen vehicles

h. Office of the CAO

M. Kallideen, CAO, presented the 2023-2025 Capital and Operating Budgets for the Office of the CAO.

Committee discussion took place and included the following topics:

- Breakdown of six (6) new staff additions in the CAO's Office
- Compensation levels for Internal Audit staff
- Budget for communications and engagement, and amount attributed to Internal Audit

The following motion was considered

BC003-2023

That the following departmental presentations to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **2023-2025 Operating and Capital Budgets**, be received:

- a. Transit
- b. Fire and Emergency Services
- c. Public Works and Engineering
- d. Community Services
- e. Corporate Support Services
- f. Planning, Building and Growth Management
- g. Legislative Services
- h. Office of the CAO

Carried

6. Delegations

6.1 Possible Delegations re: 2023-2025 Budget

Tracy Pepe, Brampton resident, asked questions of Committee with respect to the following:

- Limited staff resources in the Enforcement and By-law Services Division and potential new additions in this budget
- Economic development and investment in Downtown Brampton, and the timeline for developing the downtown core
- Amount of funding in reserves for the new hospital
- Budget allocation for the "green track" project
- Percentage of staffing costs attributed to management staff
- Enforcement of the Fireworks By-law

In response to questions from the delegation, staff provided the following information:

- There are no new staff requests in the 2023 budget for the Enforcement and By-law Services Division
 - Staff are reviewing enforcement processes and will evaluate the need for additional staff in 2024
 - Use of advanced technology has been effective and increased productivity
- The cannabis task force is no longer active as provincial funding has ceased, and staff will evaluate future enforcement needs

The following motion was considered.

BC004-2023

That the following delegations to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **2023-2025 Budget**, be received:

1. Tracy Pepe, Brampton resident

Carried

6.2 Delegation from Brampton Canadettes Girls Hockey Association, re: Funding Request for the Brampton Canadettes Girls Hockey Association

Joshua Sammut, Head Coach and General Manager, and Tina Kelloway, President, Brampton Canadettes Girls Hockey Association, provided a presentation to Committee, which included information regarding the history of this organization and women's hockey in Brampton, the need to upgrade team

facilities at the Century Gardens Recreation Centre, and examples of quality facilities of other girls hockey teams in comparable municipalities. The delegations outlined the proposal to renovate this facility with the City's financial support, and highlighted the importance of this project to remain competitive, retain players, and establish a foundation for the future of women's hockey in Brampton.

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Growth of, and Brampton's support for, women's hockey
- History of the Brampton Canadettes organization
- Acknowledgment of former Mayor Susan Fennell's support for women's hockey
- Fundraising and sponsorship efforts of the Brampton Canadettes
- Current condition and space limitations at the Century Gardens Recreation Centre, and options to provide additional space for this team
- The delegation's funding request for the proposed renovations, and the possibility of providing a grant to this organization for this project
- Potential availability of federal grants for this project

The following motion was considered.

BC005-2023

That the delegation from the Brampton Canadettes Girls Hockey Association, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re:

Funding Request for the Brampton Canadettes Girls Hockey Association,
be received:

Joshua Sammut, Head Coach and General Manager

Tina Kelloway, President

Stewart Mackie, Vice President

Mikyla Grant-Mentis, Professional; and

Whereas the World Health Organization (WHO) states that, “each one of us, irrespective of gender, must advocate for inclusive mindsets and tangible solutions for a sustainable future with the active participation of woman and girls.”

Whereas the Government of Canada announced a target to achieve gender equity in sport at every level by 2035 and formed a specific working group on Gender Equity in Sport;

Whereas gender inequality in Canadian sport has been perpetuated by women's restricted access to sport facilities and training resources, a lack of quality physical education, and marginalized representation within national sport organizations;

Whereas on December 7, 2022 this term of Council passed a motion to support and empower women at the City of Brampton, with celebrations planned annually on International Women's Day on March 8th;

Whereas the City of Brampton has a policy in place since 2019 on Gender Identity and Expression Protocol and is committed to go beyond commemoration of these days of significance and be intentional in its efforts to provide support and empowerment opportunities for women and gender parity within the City;

Whereas the City of Brampton has a proud history of supporting women's hockey in Brampton to include honouring legends like Cassie Campbell and sponsoring the upcoming 2023 IIHF Women's World Hockey Tournament;

Whereas the Canadettes have proudly supported Girls Hockey in Brampton for over 60 years and is home to the largest and longest running female hockey tournament in the world,

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

1. A new 2023 capital budget be established and included in the 2023 Capital Budget ask, pending Council approval in the amount of \$164,000, to be funded from Capital Reserve #4 – Asset Replacement, to provide a grant for the Canadettes to renovate the dedicated player changerooms and coaches changerooms at Century Gardens Recreation Centre in a form approved by Community Services staff;
2. City Staff be directed to seek possible sponsorships and partnerships in an attempt to offset a portion or all of the cost, and any other further opportunities in relation to the expansion proposal, and report back to Council if successful;
3. City seek possible grant opportunities with the Federal and Provincial Governments or other granting organizations, to support Women in Sport in Brampton including but not limited to this renovation project.

Carried

6.3 Delegation from Malkeet Sandhu, Community Organizer, David Suzuki Foundation, re: Budget for Transportation and Environmental Initiatives

Malkeet Sandhu, Community Organizer, David Suzuki Foundation, addressed Committee regarding the proposed budget, specifically in relation to initiatives that will help address climate change. The delegation provided information

regarding the impacts of climate change and timelines for reducing emissions, and urged Council to:

- continue to advocate against Bill 23
- continue to advocate for transit infrastructure funding to electrify transit
- consider providing free transit for children under 12 and explore options for transit affordability for university students

Committee discussion took place with respect to environmental initiatives in Brampton, and staff provided information on the City's progress to electrify transit, and limitations due to the lack of infrastructure to support electrification.

The following motion was considered.

BC006-2023

That the delegation from Malkeet Sandhu, Community Organizer, David Suzuki Foundation, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **Budget for Transportation and Environmental Initiatives**, be received.

Carried

- 6.4 Delegation from Prashanth Panda, Karmbir Singh, Jitender Jani, Pushkar Chavan, Residents of Ward 6, re: Mississauga / Embelton Community Park Progress

Prashanth Panda, Ward 6 Brampton resident, provided a presentation to Committee, regarding the need to expedite the development of the Mississauga/Embelton Community Park. The delegation provided information with respect to the following:

- Lack of community services in this area
- Population growth and demographic in this area
- Proposed timeline for this facility in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Community requests and petitions to expedite this project
- Request that funding be allocated in this year's budget for this project

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Lack of community services in this area of Brampton and the need to explore options to expedite this project
- COVID-19 impacts on projects

The following motion was considered.

BC007-2023

That the delegation from Prashanth Panda, Karmbir Singh, Jitender Jani, Pushkar Chavan, Residents of Ward 6, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **Mississauga / Embelton Community Park Progress**, be received.

Carried

6.5 Delegation from Glen Coyle, Canada House Veterans Ambassador, re: Canada House and Post-Traumatic Growth Association (PTGA)

Glen Coyle, Canada House Veterans Ambassador, provided background information on his service in the military, his struggle with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and the impact of services provided by Canada House and the Post-Traumatic Growth Association (PTGA) for veterans and first responders. The delegation highlighted the following:

- Mental health among veterans and first responders
- Mission of Canada House, which was founded by Canadian Forces Veterans
- Programs and services provided by Canada House and PTGA, which support veterans and first responders
- Request for space in Brampton to provide these services to veterans and first responders

The delegation responded to questions from Committee regarding the request for space and programming by the PTGA.

The following motion was considered.

BC008-2023

That the delegation from Glen Coyle, Canada House Veterans Ambassador, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **Canada House and Post-Traumatic Growth Association (PTGA)**, be received.

Carried

7. Local Board and other Presentations

7.1 Downtown Brampton BIA

Suzy Godefroy, Executive Director, Downtown Brampton BIA, advised that Carrie Percival, Board Chair, was unable to attend this meeting, and introduced the Board Members and Treasurer in attendance. Suzy Godefroy presented the Downtown Brampton BIA 2023 Operating Budget request.

The following motion was considered.

BC009-2023

1. That the presentation from Suzy Godefroy, Executive Director, Downtown Brampton BIA, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **Downtown Brampton BIA 2023 Operating Budget Request**, be received; and
2. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Downtown Brampton BIA be approved, as presented.

Carried

7.2 Brampton Public Library

Todd Kyle, CEO, and Michael Ben, Board Chair presented the Brampton Public Library 2023 Operating Budget request.

The following motion was considered.

BC010-2023

1. That the presentation from Todd Kyle, CEO, and Michael Ben, Board Chair, Brampton Public Library, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **Brampton Public Library 2023 Operating Budget Request**, be received;
2. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Brampton Library be approved, as presented;
3. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Brampton Library be approved, as presented; and
4. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Brampton Library be endorsed, in principle.

Carried

8. Reports

8.1 Staff Report re: Brampton Transit Fare Change

The following motion was considered.

BC011-2023

1. That the report from Jarrid Jensen, Supervisor, Transit Accounting and Employee Support Services, Transit, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **Brampton Transit Fare Change**, be received; and
2. That Brampton Transit fares and related charges be approved and set, with an effective date in Q2 of 2023, as detailed in Appendix B of this report; and
3. That Schedule G of the User Fee (Municipal Act) By-Law 380-2003, as amended be updated to reflect the approved 2023 Brampton Transit fares and related charges as detailed in Appendix B.

Carried

8.2 Staff Report re: Recreation Cost Analysis for Free Older Adult Programming

A motion was introduced directing staff to report on phasing in free recreation fees through the upcoming User Fee study being undertaken in 2023.

Committee discussion on this matter included the possibility of providing free recreation for seniors in the 2024-2026 budget.

The following motion was considered.

BC012-2023

1. That the report from Anand Patel, Director, Recreation, Community Services, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **Recreation Cost Analysis for Free Older Adult Programming**, be received; and
2. That Council directs staff to report on phasing in free recreation fees, through the upcoming User Fee study happening in 2023 as follows:
 - i) 2024: Ages 90 and above;
 - ii) 2025: Ages 80 and above;
 - iii) 2026: Ages 65 and above;

with exceptions for User-Pay programs (e.g. Curling, Tennis, Ice rentals and seniors-specific programming at Flower City Centre – Seniors Centre), for seniors residing in Brampton, possessing permanent residency or Canadian citizenship.

Carried

9. **Correspondence**

Nil

10. **Other/New Business**

10.1 Supplementary Information re: 2023 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets
Pre-Budget Discussions

The following motion was considered.

BC013-2023

That the supplementary information, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, re: **2023 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets Pre-Budget Discussions**, be received.

Carried

10.2 Public Engagement Handout

The following motion was considered.

BC014-2023

That the **Public Engagement Handout**, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, be received.

Carried

10.3 Recording of Traffic Cameras at Intersections

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Number, cost and type of cameras required at each intersection for accident investigations
 - Clarification that these cameras are for recording only and do not replace red light or Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) cameras
- Options to phase in camera installations at intersections
- Potential funding source and budget implications for this initiative
- Exploring options to generate revenue to offset costs, and potential funding opportunities from the Provincial and Federal Governments
- Cost difference between recording and licence plate recognition cameras

- Storage capacity of cameras
- Operation of cameras and use as a tool for community safety
- Type of cameras used in the City of Toronto, and a suggestion that staff seek input from Peel Regional Police

There was Committee consensus to stand this item down, pending additional information to be provided at the March 9, 2023 Special Council Meeting.

10.4 Responses to Questions Raised at Budget Deliberations

The following motion was considered.

BC015-2023

That the **Responses to Questions Raised at Budget Deliberations**, to the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, be received.

Carried

Committee discussion took place with respect to identifying opportunities for potential savings from projects that may no longer be necessary, and redirecting funds towards new additions to the budget. Committee requested that this information be presented at the March 9, 2023 Special Council meeting.

Further Committee discussion included:

- Budget for 2023 traffic calming measures (e.g. budget allocation for speed humps)
- Change of scope for various projects, which may result in budget savings
- Maintenance budget for various facilities, and potential savings through identifying efficiencies

The following motion was considered.

BC016-2023

That staff be requested to review and identify opportunities for potential savings in relation to projects that may no longer be necessary or may have changed in scope or intent, the funds for which could be redirected to account for the costs of new items proposed for this 2023 budget.

Carried

10.5 Proposed Motions by Members of Budget Committee

Arts and Culture

A motion was introduced with the following operative clause:

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

1. The City de-designate the heritage property located at 8990 McLaughlin Road, Brampton, Ontario, to allow for demolition of the existing heritage building while retaining heritage elements to the greatest extent possible;
2. That a new capital project be included in the 2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$2,600,000 for the design and demolition of an Arts and Culture Centre to be funded from Reserve #4 – Repair and Replacement;
3. That Capital Project #236811-001 - Brampton Arts and Culture Hub Feasibility Study currently included in the Proposed 2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$60,000 with funding from Reserve #4 – Repair and Replacement, be removed;
4. Council delegate authority to the CAO or his designate to expedite the actions necessary to prepare the site, issue an RFP to solicit consulting services and evaluate the needs of the arts and cultural sectors in the community and determine the size, scope and funding strategy for a purpose-built Arts & Culture Centre, including accommodations for community space, at 8990 McLaughlin Road, Brampton.

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Prioritizing space for the Brampton arts community
- Expediting the creation/design for an Arts and Culture Centre

An amendment to the motion was introduced and accepted by the mover to amend clause 2 to include accommodations for community space in the Arts and Culture Centre.

The motion, as amended, was considered as follows.

BC017-2023

Whereas Brampton City Council recognizes the benefits of Arts and Culture to the City of Brampton and the valuable contributions of the local creative community;

Whereas Council approved the City’s first Culture Master Plan in 2018, which identified a critical need to expand spaces for Creative Production and Presentation in Brampton;

Whereas staff were directed to identify municipally-owned properties to expand dedicated cultural space in the City;

Whereas the heritage-designated former OPP Administration building at Flower City Community campus, with a civic address of 8990 McLaughlin Road, Brampton, Ontario, is beyond the reasonable state of repair and not economical to remediate;

Whereas the boarded building referenced above is impacted by mold, asbestos and other hazardous substances, and was estimated in 2020 to require a minimum of \$1,000,000 to establish safe access to the facility;

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

1. The City de-designate the heritage property located at 8990 McLaughlin Road, Brampton, Ontario, to allow for demolition of the existing heritage building while retaining heritage elements to the greatest extent possible;
2. That a new capital project be included in the 2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$2,600,000 for the demolition of the building identified above and the design of an Arts and Culture Centre, including accommodations for community space, to be funded from Reserve #4 – Repair and Replacement;
3. That Capital Project #236811-001 - Brampton Arts and Culture Hub Feasibility Study currently included in the Proposed 2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$60,000 with funding from Reserve #4 – Repair and Replacement, be removed;
4. Council delegate authority to the CAO or his designate to expedite the actions necessary to prepare the site, issue an RFP to solicit consulting services and evaluate the needs of the arts and cultural sectors in the community and determine the size, scope and funding strategy for a purpose-built Arts & Culture Centre, including accommodations for community space, at 8990 McLaughlin Road, Brampton.

Carried

Environmental Education Centre and Animal Shelter

A motion was introduced with the following operative clause:

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the \$3.5-million allocated towards the new construction of the Animal Shelter be moved from the forecasted 2024 Capital Budget to the 2023 Capital Budget;

That the allocation of this \$3.5million be leveraged to design the Environmental Education Centre and animal shelter as a joint complex and maximize efficiencies; and

That the Environmental Education Centre design concept include space dedicated to the Centre for Community Energy Transformation (CCET) as part of the City's commitment towards Environmental Resiliency, where it would simultaneously serve as an educational tool for the community.

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Location for the new Animal Shelter
- Designing a joint complex for the new Animal Shelter and the Environmental Education Centre
- Incorporating space for support programs for veterans and first responders in partnership with the Post-Traumatic Growth Association (PTGA)

An amendment to the motion was introduced and accepted by the mover to include the addition of space and programming for veterans and first responders in the proposed joint complex.

The motion, as amended, was considered as follows.

BC018-2023

Whereas the Building, Design and Construction of the Animal Shelter Design is listed under the forecasted 2024 Capital Budget;

Whereas the City of Brampton is slated to begin the planning and design of the new animal service centre under the 2023 Proposed Operating and Capital Budgets;

Whereas the City of Brampton is committed to ensuring a sustainable and resilient community where residents safely coexist with wildlife and natural ecosystems;

Whereas Environmental Resiliency is listed as a key goal in the 2023 Proposed Operating and Capital Budget;

Whereas the City of Brampton's commitment towards facilitating the coexistence of our residents with wildlife and natural ecosystems, as well as its commitments towards Environmental Resilience and Responsibility;

Whereas a report from the Institute for Sustainable Brampton (ISB) was received in February 2019 highlighting an Environmental Education Centre as a Vision 2040 Priority;

Whereas a motion was passed on November 20, 2019 directing the formation of a partnership between Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Plan (CEERP) and the Institute for a Sustainable Brampton (ISB), to establish a comprehensive strategy and action plan to address environmental concerns;

Whereas in September 2020, Council unanimously passed a motion to endorse, in principle, the recommended organizational model and approach for developing the Centre for Community Energy Transformation (CCET) (formerly known as Institute for Sustainable Brampton, ISB), further directing that this initiative be presented at the Regional level for endorsement and expansion;

Whereas in a special Council Meeting on March 9, 2022, following a staff report titled “City of Brampton Veterans Program”, staff were directed to enhance the City of Brampton’s outreach to actively support members of the Canadian Armed Force Veterans to promote employment opportunities and establish partnerships with external community partners and engage in community events;

Whereas the City of Brampton is committed to strategies designed to prioritize community safety and well-being and should therefore include initiatives focused on the mental health and well-being of war veterans and our first responders;

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the \$3.5-million allocated towards the new construction of the Animal Shelter be moved from the forecasted 2024 Capital Budget to the 2023 Capital Budget;

That the allocation of this \$3.5million be leveraged to design the Environmental Education Centre and animal shelter as a joint complex and maximize efficiencies;

That the Environmental Education Centre design concept include space dedicated to the Centre for Community Energy Transformation (CCET) as part of the City’s commitment towards Environmental Resiliency, where it would simultaneously serve as an educational tool for the community;

That during the program design phases of the Environmental Education Centre and Animal Shelter, that space be created for veterans and first responders and include a component that explores possible program partnerships between the joint complex and veterans and first responders, whereby the former will serve as a safe space for the latter to actively engage with the community;

That the City of Brampton engage in partnership with Post-Traumatic Growth Association (PTGA) to administer this space for the purpose of actively supporting members of the Canadian Armed Force Veterans and our First Responders; and

That additional funding also be sought, for space and operations, from the Department of National Defence and/or Veterans Affairs if available and be accounted for with in the request for proposal.

Carried

New Amenities in Ward 4 Park

Committee discussion took place with respect to establishing new park amenities at a City-owned park in Ward 4.

The following motion was considered.

BC019-2023

Be It Resolved that:

1. A new 2023 capital budget be established and included in the 2023 capital budget in the amount of \$2,750,000, to be funded from Reserve #134 – Development Charges – Recreation, to investigate and initiate, using the design and construction method, the establishment of new park amenities to be installed at a City-owned park in Ward 4; and
2. If programming for the new park is expanded, staff report back to Council in the form of a budget amendment for additional funding.

Carried

Outdoor Rinks

Discussion took place regarding the establishment of two seasonal outdoor artificial rinks.

The following motion was considered.

BC020-2023

That a new 2023 capital budget be established and included in the 2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$1,000,000, to be funded from Reserve #134 – Development Charges-Recreation, to establish two seasonal outdoor artificial rinks, in the same manner as Duggan Park rink as follows:

- a. Boreham outdoor rink; and
- b. Peel Village outdoor rink; or
- c. Other sites as identified in collaboration with Ward-area Councillors, should either of the above sites be deemed unsuitable.

Carried

Strategic Communications Division Operating Budget

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Funding shortfall in Strategic Communications due to increased public engagement
- Consideration of the need for additional staff resources in the Strategic Communications Division due to increased demand for services
- Funding for communications/engagement in other departments

The following motion was considered.

BC021-2023

Whereas, the City connects and engages with residents through a variety of communications platforms and methods;

Whereas, Tele Town Halls, Press Conferences and Voice Drops are forms of communication that can connect with large numbers of Brampton residents to share City programs, initiatives and campaigns;

Whereas, the City has a number of new and important campaigns coming forward in 2023 that require additional public awareness and community support;

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council approve an additional \$174,057.00 operating budget for the Strategic Communications Division to enable the following enhanced communications activities in 2023: such as press conferences per annum, tele town halls per annum, and additional voice drops per annum, and enhanced multilingual communications, and that this amount be added to the Strategic Communications operating budget on an ongoing basis.

Carried

Winter Optimization of Recreation Amenities

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Importance of promoting and encouraging healthy lifestyles through providing recreational amenities
- Winter optimization of recreation amenities for year-round use

The following motion was considered.

BC022-2023

1. That a new capital project be included in the 2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$100,000 to initiate a feasibility study for the winter optimization of

recreation amenities, to be funded from Reserve #4 – Repair and Replacement; and

2. That staff be directed to report back to Council with an implementation plan to optimize recreation amenities for winter, such as a pilot project for winter availability for tennis, soccer, basketball and cricket sports, for the 2023-2024 winter season.

Carried

Carbon Credits

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- The carbon market, and quantifying carbon credits generated by the City through carbon reduction projects
- The possibility of backdating carbon credits
- Economic benefits of climate action

The following motion was considered.

BC023-2023

Whereas the City of Brampton Council declared a Climate Change Emergency in August 2019;

Whereas Brampton is a municipal leader nationwide in implementation of GHG reduction measures and strategies including introduction of zero emission buses, net zero retrofits and rollout of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations;

Whereas the City has established an ambitious goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions generated in Brampton by 100% by 2050;

Whereas Brampton's Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Plan (CEERP), an evidence-based, comprehensive plan guides the City's innovation, employment and economic development while helping achieve the City's environmental and climate change goals;

Whereas Brampton has been successful in leveraging Federal and Provincial funding to implement sustainable infrastructure, transit and active transportation improvements, green technologies and GHG reduction initiatives;

Whereas the current economic environment may impact the availability of critical funding opportunities from higher levels of government;

Whereas the carbon credit trading market is a fast growing market, estimated at \$50 billion per year by 2030;

Whereas Brampton's ambitious approach to climate action and GHG emissions reduction positions the City to realize the environmental and economic benefits of the City's climate goals;

Whereas at the December 14, 2022 City Council meeting, council endorsed a motion that the City of Brampton solicit a vendor with expertise in the carbon market to work with the city staff to specifically assess potential revenue for the City and the expertise to create carbon credits on behalf of the city; and

Whereas any carbon credit that can be created through carbon reductions by the City of Brampton can only be backdated six months;

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

1. The City of Brampton work to quantify how many carbon credits it has generated through carbon reduction projects; and
2. The City position itself to develop tools and strategies to scale up economic benefits from effective climate action for maximum implementation and expertise sharing through/with sector peers.

Carried

Councillor Budget Increase

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Council budget increase
- Disproportionate population numbers between ward pairings and a suggestion that future budgets be based on ward population
- Council Office staff model and needs

The following motion was considered.

BC024-2023

That the Councillor budget increase be amended from an additional \$25,000 to \$50,000, to the new total of \$500,000.

Carried

Traffic Calming

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Clarification of the budget for traffic calming measures

- Possibility of increasing the budget for speed hump installations

The following motion was considered.

BC025-2023

Whereas the City of Brampton implements traffic calming measures to address issues with speeding, excessive traffic volumes, and neighbourhood safety; and

Whereas the 2023 Roads Maintenance, Operations & Fleet Capital Budget includes \$800,000 to be used towards a Traffic Calming Program; and

Whereas in 2022 Council approved \$200,000 of this budget to be used for speed cushions to be installed based on locations identified by the local area Councillors; and

Whereas the current budget allocated for the installation of speed cushions limits Councillors to either one long street or two small streets;

Therefore Be It Resolved:

That the capital budget allocated to the installation of traffic calming measures including speed cushions be increased by \$1.2-million for a total of \$2,000,000; and

That staff report back on identified budget savings through projects that no longer meet their original intent in the 2023 Capital Budget to fund the increase above.

Carried

Status of Bus Procurements

Committee discussion on this matter included the following:

- Refurbishment and replacement of buses
- Minimizing the purchase of GHG emitting buses
- Facility infrastructure required to support additional electric buses

The following motion was considered.

BC026-2023

Whereas The City of Brampton has declared a Climate Emergency to support the Government of Canada's emission reduction targets, and has established a goal of reducing GHGs to 80% by 2050;

In alignment with the City's Community Energy & Emissions Reduction Plan, the Environmental Master Plan – Brampton Grow Green, Term of Council Priorities,

and the Brampton 2040 Vision, the long-term plan for Brampton Transit is to operate zero emission buses and the City of Brampton is committed to the electrification of its Transit fleet;

Brampton has an urgent need to procure buses, to replace the existing fleet reaching its 18-year useful life and to implement new growth service to address extraordinary ridership demand, which is significantly exceeding pre-pandemic levels;

One of the biggest challenges with electrification of transit fleets is the supporting infrastructure;

Brampton is not able to accommodate any more electric buses, beyond the existing 8 battery electric buses and 10 more battery electric buses (BEBs) as part of phase 2 of the e-bus trial, with existing infrastructure;

The approved budget for 38 replacement buses is replacing units that have achieved or will soon be approaching their 18-year useful life.

Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) of the buses have advised that available manufacturing slots in their production facilities are filling up quickly. As a result, in the short term the only options are clean diesel or hybrid-electric buses (HEBs);

Staff have explored the option of HEBs. Preliminary estimates suggest the cost of HEBs could be as much as 40% higher than equivalent 18m (40') clean diesel buses.

Therefore Be It Resolved That Council directs staff to report to City Council in April, if possible, on the following:

- i. an overview of current bus procurement considerations,
- ii. a strategy and recommendations to address the urgent need for replacement and growth buses, while minimizing the purchase of GHG emitting buses to the extent possible,
- iii. providing an update on the anticipated timelines of facility infrastructure required to support additional electric buses at the existing Sandalwood Transit Facility.

Carried

10.6 Departmental Budget Recommendations

Prior to consideration of the departmental budgets, staff responded to questions from Committee with respect to the following:

- Past practice for the consideration and approval of budget recommendations, and clarification regarding the opportunity to amend recommendations at the Special Council meeting
- Clarification regarding the budget for park enhancements
- Opportunity to reallocate funds/savings from projects, towards other priorities

The following motion was considered.

BC027-2023

Transit

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Transit Department be approved;
2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Transit Department be approved, as presented; and
3. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Transit Department be endorsed, in principle, as presented.

Fire and Emergency Services

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Fire and Emergency Services Department be approved;
2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Fire and Emergency Services Department be approved, as presented; and
3. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Fire and Emergency Services Department be endorsed, in principle, as presented.

Public Works and Engineering

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Public Works and Engineering Department be approved,
2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Public Works and Engineering Department be approved, as presented; and
3. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Public Works and Engineering Department be endorsed, in principle, as presented.

Community Services

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Community Services Department be approved;

2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Community Services Department be approved; and
3. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Community Services Department be endorsed, in principle, as presented.

Corporate Support Services

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Corporate Support Services Department be approved;
2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Corporate Support Services Department be approved, as presented; and
3. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Corporate Support Services Department be endorsed, in principle, as presented.

Planning, Building and Growth Management Development

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Planning, Building and Growth Management Department be approved;
2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Planning, Building and Growth Management Department be approved, as presented; and
3. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Planning, Building and Growth Management Department be endorsed, in principle, as presented.

Legislative Services

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Legislative Services Department be approved, except for the compensation portion of the Enforcement and By-law Services Division of the Legislative Services Department budget;
2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Legislative Services Department be approved, as presented; and
3. That the 2024 and 2025 Capital Budget submission for the Legislative Services Department be endorsed, in principle, as presented.

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

1. That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer be approved; and
2. That the 2023 Capital Budget submission for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer be approved.

General Government

That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for General Government be approved.

A recorded vote was requested and the motion carried as follows:

Yea (10): Mayor P. Brown, Regional Councillor Vicente, Regional Councillor Santos, Regional Councillor Kaur Brar, Regional Councillor Palleschi, Regional Councillor Keenan, Regional Councillor Medeiros, Regional Councillor Fortini, City Councillor Power, and Deputy Mayor Singh

Absent (1): Regional Councillor Toor

Carried (10 to 0)

Note: Regional Councillor Fortini declared a conflict of interest with respect to the compensation portion of the Enforcement and By-law Services Division budget, as his daughter is employed in this division, and left the meeting during consideration of the recommendation below.

The following motion was considered.

BC028-2023

Legislative Services

That the 2023 Operating Budget submission for the Legislative Services Department, as it pertains specifically to the compensation portion of the Enforcement and By-law Services Division of the Legislative Services Department budget, be approved.

Carried

11. Referred Matters List

Nil

12. Council Question Period

Nil

13. Public Question Period

Nil

14. **Closed Session**

Nil

15. **Adjournment**

Mayor Brown announced that, as Budget Committee has completed its deliberations of the 2023-2025 Operating and Capital Budgets, the March 7, 2023 meeting session is not required.

The following motion was considered.

BC029-2023

That the Budget Committee meeting of February 27, 28 and March 6, 2023, do now adjourn to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Carried

Mayor P. Brown, Chair

Regional Councillor Vicente, Vice Chair