January 29, 2015
Special Meeting

Members Present:
Mayor L. Jeffrey
Regional Councillor G. Gibson – Wards 1 and 5
Regional Councillor E. Moore – Wards 1 and 5
Regional Councillor M. Palleschi – Wards 2 and 6 (arrived at 7:09 p.m. – personal)
Regional Councillor M. Medeiros – Wards 3 and 4
Regional Councillor G. Miles – Wards 7 and 8
Regional Councillor J. Sprovieri – Wards 9 and 10
City Councillor D. Whillans – Wards 2 and 6 (Acting Mayor – March)
City Councillor J. Bowman – Wards 3 and 4
City Councillor P. Fortini – Wards 7 and 8 (Acting Mayor – February)
City Councillor G. Dhillon – Wards 9 and 10 (Acting Mayor – January)

Members Absent:
nil

Staff Present:
Mr. J. Corbett, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. M. Ball, Chief Planning and Infrastructure Services Officer
Mr. D. Cutajar, Chief Operating Officer
Mr. J. Patteson, Chief Public Services Officer
Mr. P. Simmons, Chief Corporate Services Officer
Mr. D. Kraszewski, Senior Executive Director, Planning and Building, Planning and Infrastructure Services
Mr. P. Honeyborne, Executive Director, Finance/Treasurer, Corporate Services
Mr. R. Zuech, Acting City Solicitor, Corporate Services
Mr. D. Squires, Deputy City Solicitor, Corporate Services
Mr. P. Fay, City Clerk, Corporate Services
Mr. E. Evans, Deputy City Clerk, Corporate Services
Ms. T. Brenton, Legislative Coordinator, Corporate Services
The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. and adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

The Mayor announced the purpose of this Special Meeting was to consider a report from Jim McCarter, Interim Auditor General, regarding his financial review of the City.

A. **Approval of the Agenda**

   The following motion was considered.

   C017-2015 Moved by City Councillor Bowman  
   Seconded by Regional Councillor Moore

   That the agenda for the Special Council Meeting of January 29, 2015 be approved as printed and circulated.

   Carried

   The following was received by the City Clerk's Office after the agenda was printed and relates to published items on the Agenda (Council approval is not required for addition of this item in accordance with Procedure By-law 160-2004, as amended):

   **Re:** Item D 1 (Report from Jim McCarter, Interim Auditor General – Financial Review of the City of Brampton):

   **Delegation:**

   1. Chad Belcher, Curtis Drive, Brampton

B. **Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of interest Act** – nil

C. **Delegations**

   C 1. Delegations re: Financial Review of the City of Brampton:

   1. Chad Belcher, Brampton resident
   2. Kevin Montgomery, Brampton resident
   3. Doug Bryden, Citizens for a Better Brampton
   4. Gurjit Singh Domi, Brampton resident
   5. Jovan Singh, Brampton resident
   6. Don Haynes, Brampton resident
   7. Mark Androlia, Brampton resident
   8. Don McLeod, Brampton resident
   9. Rose O'Reilly, Brampton resident
   10. Bill Kanellopoulos, Brampton business owner
   11. Paramjit Singh Birdi, Brampton resident
   12. Sukhjot Naroo, Brampton resident
Council agreed to change the order of business to hear the presentation from Jim McCarter, Interim Auditor General, then the delegations, and then consider Mr. McCarter’s report.

Mr. McCarter acknowledged the cooperation of City staff, and introduced Louis Kan, Chartered Accountant, who provided assistance with the financial review.

Mr. McCarter provided a presentation entitled “Financial Review of the City of Brampton”, which included the following:
- Mandate and Timing
- Some Good News
- Financial Flexibility has Deteriorated Over the Last 5-10 Years
- Property Taxes
- Managing Operating Expenses
- Maintaining City Infrastructure
- Use of Debt
- Capital Budgeting
- Final Thoughts

Brampton residents and other interested parties delegated Council as follows:

Chad Belger, Brampton resident, indicated that he pre-registered his delegation in the event he had questions on Mr. McCarter’s report, but did not have any questions at this time.

Kevin Montgomery, Brampton resident, referenced the comparison of property taxes in Brampton to other municipalities outlined in Mr. McCarter’s report. He inquired about the possibility of approaching the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) to determine if the tax values in Brampton are accurate and if there is room for a reassessment to get a fairer proportion.

Doug Bryden, Citizens for a Better Brampton, asked if the commitments made toward the Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness were factored into Mr. McCarter’s report.

Gurjit Singh Domi, Brampton resident, asked what should be done about the high salaried staff in the City of Brampton.

Jovan Singh, Brampton resident, inquired if Brampton was the highest taxed municipality in Ontario.
Don Haynes, Brampton resident, asked if the City would be able to take advantage of lower interest rates for the SWQ project, given Canada’s current low interest rate environment.

Mark Androlia, Brampton resident, indicated his position that Brampton is on a downward trend and that the City has been losing ground over the past 10 years, and wondered what could be done about this, e.g. hire another auditor to provide a plan to build up the City again.

Don McLeod, Brampton resident, inquired about the average payroll costs for Ontario municipalities, and asked if the City is at the top end for these costs.

Rose O’Reilly, Brampton resident, asked about the P3 model for the SWQ project. Council informed Ms. O’Reilly that the specifics of this project were not within the scope of Mr. McCarter’s review.

Bill Kanellopoulos, Brampton business owner, inquired about the SWQ project and was informed by Council that this project was not within the scope of Mr. McCarter’s review.

Paramjit Singh Birdi, Brampton resident, inquired about the percentage of taxes from residential versus industrial/commercial.

Sukhjot Naroo, Brampton resident, commented on the change in the City’s finances over the last five to 10 years, including depletion of the City’s reserve funds, and ratio of the City’s payroll to property taxes.

At the request of Council, Mr. McCarter responded to questions from the delegations on matters within the scope of his review.

Council consideration of this matter included:
- Suggestions that a study be undertaken for consideration during budget deliberations providing a comparison between Brampton and like municipalities, to include ratio of property taxes to payroll costs, ratio of payroll costs to services provided, and property tax levels
- Referral of Mr. McCarter’s report to Budget Sub-Committee for consideration as part of the 2015 budget deliberations
- Need for strategies to address debt management, reserve funds, aging infrastructure, and communications/outreach to residents and business owners
- Acknowledgement that increased capital projects and facilities result in increased labour needs

Mr. McCarter responded to questions of clarification from Council with respect to matters outlined in his report.
The following motion was considered.

C018-2015 Moved by Regional Councillor Moore
Seconded by City Councillor Whillans

1. That the presentation by Jim McCarter, Interim Auditor General, to the Special Council Meeting of January 29, 2015, re: Financial Review of the City of Brampton, be received; and,

2. That the 12 delegations of Brampton residents and other interested parties, to the Special Council Meeting of January 29, 2015, re: Financial Review of the City of Brampton, be received; and,

3. That the report from Jim McCarter, Interim Auditor General, dated January 26, 2015, re: Financial Review of the City of Brampton, be referred to the Budget Sub-Committee for consideration as part of the City’s 2015 budget approval process; and,

4. That Brampton City Council expresses its gratitude and thanks to Jim McCarter, Interim Auditor General, for his work reviewing and reporting on the state of the City’s finances.

Carried

D. Reports of Accountability Officers


Dealt with under Item C – Resolution C018-2015

E. Confirming By-law

The following motion was considered.

C019-2015 Moved by City Councillor Dhillon
Seconded by Regional Councillor Gibson

That the following By-law before Council at its Special Meeting of January 29, 2015 be given the required number of readings, taken by the Mayor and the City Clerk and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto.
F. **Adjournment**

The following motion was considered.

C020-2015  Moved by City Councillor Dhillon  
Seconded by City Councillor Bowman  

That this Council do now adjourn to meet again for a Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 1:00 p.m., or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

________________________________________  L. Jeffrey, Mayor  

________________________________________  P. Fay, City Clerk