

Minutes of the SECOND meeting of the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee of the Committee of the Whole held in the Committee Meeting Room on February 7, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Mayor Gray, Chair
Councillor Neal
Councillor Parkes

Also

Present: H. Break, Director, Corporate Strategic Initiatives
L. Knox, Solicitor
R. Foster, Auditor General
M. Medeiros, Manager, Support Services

Absent: Councillor Henry
Councillor Nicholson

ATSC-08-11 James Sprague – Request to address Committee concerning the Codes of Conduct for Councillors and an Integrity Commissioner (All Wards)

The Committee reviewed Correspondence ATSC-08-11 dated January 30, 2008 from James Sprague requesting to address Committee concerning the Codes of Conduct for Councillors and an Integrity Commissioner.

James Sprague addressed Committee concerning the Codes of Conduct for Councillors and an Integrity Commissioner stating that the Accountability and Transparency Committee is a positive move for Oshawa to become more accountable. James Sprague stated that he supports the proposed Charter and draft Code of Conduct but would like these to be directed rather than suggested. James Sprague stated that he supports the recommendation in ATSC-08-01.

Moved by Councillor Neal,

“That Correspondence ATSC-08-11 dated January 30, 2008 from James Sprague requesting to address Committee concerning the Codes of Conduct for Councillors and an Integrity Commissioner be referred to Report ATSC-08-10.” CARRIED

ATSC-08-03 Bill Longworth – Request to address Sub-Committee (All Wards)

This matter was previously discussed at the last Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee meeting when Correspondence ATSC-08-03 dated December 10, 2007 from Bill Longworth was tabled to the next Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee meeting to provide an opportunity for Sub-Committee to review a copy of Bill Longworth’s written comments and respond to his request.

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Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That Correspondence ATSC-08-03 and Additional Correspondence from Bill Longworth be lifted from the table.” CARRIED

The Committee now discussed Correspondence ATSC-08-03 and additional correspondence from Bill Longworth requesting that the Auditor General conduct investigations to answer the 18 questions he posed in his correspondence to the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee on December 6, 2007 as well as the seven areas of concern as per his additional correspondence.

The Committee reviewed Point One of Bill Longworth’s correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That Legal Services staff prepare a letter to Bill Longworth advising that the City of Oshawa has complied with the Municipal Elections Act and that the Members of City Council be provided with a copy of the letter.”
CARRIED

The Committee reviewed Point Two of Bill Longworth’s correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That a paragraph be inserted on the City Council minutes and agenda web pages advising that links to Committee reports and correspondence can be accessed through the appropriate Committee agenda.” CARRIED

The Committee reviewed Point Three of Bill Longworth’s correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That Bill Longworth be heard.” CARRIED

Bill Longworth advised Committee that the City of Toronto currently publishes all copies of Councillor’s expenses including copies of the actual receipts on their website and he is requesting that Oshawa do the same.

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Moved by Councillor Parkes,
“That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That Oshawa Councillors salaries and expenses be posted to the website and that a link be provided to Regional Councillors salaries and expenses, if available;

That any honorariums paid to Councillors for Committees be listed as well as any expenses related to these;

That if a Councillor does not receive any honorariums or has any expenses related to Committees, ‘Not Applicable’ be listed beside it; and

That the list of expenses paid by Councillors include all expenses submitted for reimbursement as well as all Council related expenses paid for personally by Councillors that must be submitted to Finance.”
CARRIED AS AMENDED

Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That the motion be amended to include all Task Forces and any special Committees.” CARRIED

The vote on the main motion CARRIED AS AMENDED.

The Committee reviewed Point Four of Bill Longworth’s correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Parkes,
“That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That Point Four of Bill Longworth’s correspondence be received for information.” CARRIED

The Committee reviewed Point Five of Bill Longworth’s correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Parkes,
“That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That when Council directs a delegation to address a Committee the Clerk Services Branch advise the delegation of the Committee meeting date and time that delegation will be heard.” CARRIED

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The Committee reviewed Point Six of Bill Longworth's correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Parkes,
"That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That staff prepare a report that will be distributed to the Members of Council and posted on the website on the cost of the General Motors Centre, how it was financed including an explanation that the monetizing of the Promissory Note of the Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. was not used to fund this project; and,

That similar final financial reports be prepared and posted on the website for any future major capital projects for public buildings and structures costing over 2 million dollars, excluding roadwork and development-related infrastructure." CARRIED

The Committee reviewed Point Seven of Bill Longworth's correspondence.

Moved by Councillor Parkes,
"That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That Point Seven of Bill Longworth's correspondence be received for information." CARRIED

ATSC-08-01 Proposed Public Consultation Options (All Wards)

This matter was previously discussed at the last Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee meeting when Report ATSC-08-01 dated January 11, 2008 from the Director, Corporate Strategic Initiatives presenting possible options for public consultation on materials produced by the Sub-Committee was tabled to the today's meeting.

Moved by Councillor Neal,
"That Report ATSC-08-01 be lifted from the table." CARRIED

The Sub-Committee now reviewed Report ATSC-08-01 dated January 11, 2008 from the Director, Corporate Strategic Initiatives presenting possible options for public consultation on materials produced by the Sub-Committee, including the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee Policy, Council Charter and possibly other materials related to the Notice By-law, the need for one or more accountability officers and other matters within the mandate of the Sub-Committee.

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Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee recommend to City Council:

That the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee conduct public consultation from time to time on the fulfillment of its mandate in accordance with Options 1 and 2, as reflected in Report ATSC-08-01 dated January 11, 2008.” CARRIED

ATSC-08-12 T.M. Mason – Request to have Report ATSC-08-09 Tabled (All Wards)

The Committee reviewed Correspondence ATSC-08-12 dated February 5, 2008 from T.M. Mason requesting that Report ATSC-08-12 be tabled.

Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That staff write a letter to T.M. Mason requesting that he/she outline his/her concerns.” CARRIED

ATSC-08-09 Bill 130 –Optional Accountability Officers (All Wards)

The Committee reviewed Report ATSC-08-09 dated February 1, 2008 from the Senior Solicitor providing an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the optional accountability officers provided for by Bill 130 to allow the Sub-Committee to determine whether one or more of these roles may provide value for the City, in accordance with the mandate of the Sub-Committee.

Moved by Councillor Neal,
“That Report ATSC-08-01 be tabled.” CARRIED

ATSC-08-10 Draft Oshawa Council Charter (All Wards)

This matter was previously discussed at the last Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee meeting when Report ATSC-08-08, Memorandum #11 - Draft Council Charter was referred back to staff to consider the changes and report back to the next meeting of the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee.

The Committee now reviewed the ATSC-08-10, Draft Oshawa Council Charter containing the changes as requested at the last meeting.

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Moved by Councillor Parkes,

“That ATSC-08-10 Draft Oshawa Council Charter be referred for public consultation and that the public be asked whether the Charter should be a guideline or mandatory.” CARRIED

ATSC-08-05 Mayor Gray, Chair, Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee submitting Memo CM-07-71 concerning the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee – Completion of First Phase of Mandate
(All Wards)

This matter was previously discussed at the last Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee when City Council Directive ATSC-08-05, Mayor Gray, Chair, Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee submitting Memo CM-07-71 concerning the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee – Completion of First Phase of Mandate be tabled to today’s meeting.

Moved by Councillor Neal,

“That Item ATSC-08-05 be lifted from the table.” CARRIED

The Sub-Committee now reviewed City Council Directive ATSC-08-05, Mayor Gray, Chair, Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee submitting Memo CM-07-71 concerning the Accountability and Transparency Sub-Committee – Completion of First Phase of Mandate.

Moved by Councillor Nicholson,

“That the Accountability and Transparency Policy as outlined in Attachment 1 to Item CM-07-71, be referred for public consultation.” CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Neal,

“That the meeting adjourn.” CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.