



**VISION:** We will be a vibrant, dependable and clean city where services are delivered innovatively and effectively.  
**MISSION:** To provide effective operations of the city through collaboration of members, management and staff.

City Hall, Hamilton  
**Infrastructure, Development & Future Committee**  
9 December 2015  
10:00am

**Present:** Councillor John Harvey, MBE, JP (Chair)  
Rt. Wor. Charles R. Gosling, JP  
Councillor Nicholas Swan  
Councillor George Scott, JP

**In Attendance:** The Secretary - Ed Benevides, JP  
The City Engineer - Patrick Cooper

**Apologies:** The Event Project Manager - Danilee Trott

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- 1. Confirmation of Notice** - the City Engineer as the Acting Secretary confirmed that the notices for the minutes and the agenda were posted and sent out in accordance with the new meeting guidelines.
  - 2. Role of the Chairman** - Councillor Harvey acknowledged that he is Chair of the committee.
  - 3. Open Meeting** - Councillor Harvey called the meeting to order at 10:00am.
  - 4. Apologies** - The Recording Secretary confirmed apologies were received from the Event Project Manager.
  - 5. Public Participation:** the City Engineer confirmed that the Hog Penny Group will be making a presentation to discuss their Al Fresco and the rate that the CoH is proposing to charge. This will be moved to the Restricted Session because of discussions and negotiations regarding a lease.

**6. Correspondence:**

There is no correspondence.

**7. Minutes of Previous Meeting dated 10 November 2015**

**Proposed:** Councillor G. Scott

**Seconded:** Councillor H. Ming

## 8. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 10 November 2015

(i) **Asset Management Road Works Spreadsheet** – this all part of the Asset Management Plan which has been sent and posted for all members to have access. The City Engineer said that he could forward the sections to the committee members but all agreed that there were okay with what was already forwarded.

(ii) **Meeting between the Senior Engineer (I. Hind) and Ms. Marshall** – Councillor Harvey suggested that the Senior Engineer attend the next Property & Safety meeting.

**ACTION:** The City Engineer to forward an invite to the Senior Engineer to attend the next Property & Safety meeting to give an update on the meeting with Ms. Marshall.

## 9. Status Update:

(i) **Seabright Outfall Geophysical Report** – the City Engineer tabled the report for review. Last summer the CoH had the bottom of the ocean mapped off of Seabright to see what it looked like and ascertain how a new outfall could be run out through the reef line and look at the different structures. Also to see the strength of the rock and whether there are any sub-surface irregularities. This is the first stage for starting the planning of any outfall. The report reveals how the study was done and what was found. There was continued dialogue.

Councillor Harvey suggested that the City Engineer consider having a separate session to explain the report.

**ACTION:** The City Engineer will scan the actual report to the committee members for review showing the Executive Summary and the Conclusion.

There is an inner and outer reef and a lot more work needs to be done, i.e. the composition of rock in certain areas, etc. This will allow people with drilling capabilities to take a look at this report and start to understand the magnitude of the problem to try and drill in this area. Councillor G. Scott asked if a survey was done to determine the cleanliness of the bottom to which the City Engineer said this was basically towing a sonar ray behind the boat showing bottom features to determine whether there is sand or rock.

## 10. Recommendations for Review:

(i) **Training for the Tablets for Council or Staff Members (approved in General Council Meeting dated 2 December 2015)** – it was noted that Councillor Johnson has been in contact with his tenant in this regard and there has been communication between his tenant and the Secretary.

## 11. Any Other Business

(i) **Residents Advisory Committee - Review of Parking in the City** - this matter will be deferred to the next Property & Safety meeting scheduled for 21 January 2016.

Councillor N. Swan joined the meeting at 10:15am.

(ii) **Christmas Tree and Benches on the Corner of Dundonald and Court Streets** - Councillor Ming said there have been some issues and the police have become involved. He expressed his concern on how this initially took place, i.e. the beer bottles being taken off the tree, etc. There have been a number of complaints and as a result of those complaints, the staff under the protection of the police, took the bottles off the tree. This issue has been resolved. Another issue is the heavy stench of urine in that area in particular on the tree. He noted that the committee members vowed to go there, sit on the benches and eat their lunch. He has been there twice during the lunch hour and talked to a few of the individuals that hang out there, one of which is known as a "supplier" of groceries. He pointed out to them that under the recommendation of the police the benches could be removed and they could also lose the tree if this behavior continued. They would need to assist the CoH in keeping the neighbourhood clean, etc. The police also suggested that they would eat their lunch there as well. The gentlemen told Councillor Ming that the culprits were the late night revelers from Place's Place who were urinating on the tree.

(iii) **Steps on Chancery Lane** - Councillor Ming asked if the CoH had given permission for Chewstick to paint the steps as well as the artwork on the sidewalk. The response was that permission was given and this was all part of the Art Festival.

(iv) **Update on the E.F. Gordon Square and the Christmas Tree** - the City Engineer said the CAT team came to City Hall after the last Council meeting last week to speak about the very same issue as was discussed in Item 11 (ii). They were very concerned about that area and everything that was going on. They put a strong case together for the CoH to remove the benches. It was agreed in the interim to remove the benches to alleviate the hanging out and the drinking, etc. Then if the CoH continues to move benches around those persons will just migrate around until the City becomes barren and unwelcoming for everyone. Removing the benches would be a short-term fix and the CoH would like to get some CCTV erected in that area putting coverage there. Then the benches could be placed back and if there is any bad behavior, it will be seen on camera and can be addressed by the police. There was further discussion regarding the businesses in the area who are suffering because of the bad behavior. Further discussion ensued.

The Mayor commented that if there is enough volunteerism from committee members and PC Dill seemed to be reasonably satisfied that if there is a move on the committee's part to have a chat with these guys to see if there is a change in behavior, he would be willing to leave things as they are for the short-term. If there is not a noted improvement within the week, the police would be looking for the benches to be removed.

The Secretary joined the meeting at 10:27am.

Councillor Ming commented on the quality of the lighting in North Hamilton, i.e. the Christmas tree on the corner of Dundonald and Court Streets as well as the area across the street next to Emmanuel Baptist Church where the trees in the lot are lit up as well. He further commented that the area has to be one of the best lit blocks in Hamilton and congratulated the engineering department. The lighting on Princess and Ewing Streets look spectacular as well. The City Engineer said because of the re-designing of those streets, they are designed to take the Christmas lights and very easy to place.

The Mayor suggested having a sign placed in that area stating that it is a "double fined area" for people that are trafficking in drugs. Discussion continued on the decorations in the City. The City Engineer advised that the CoH is updating and renewing decorations and has spent \$50K in new decorations this year for just replacements.

(v) **Docking Arrangements for Front Street in 2017** - Councillor Harvey advised that those arrangements have been signed off on regarding the Tall Ships, Cruise Ships and Super Yachts. He added that this was announced by Mr. Bill Hanley at a Rotary meeting. The Mayor said he spoke with Mike Winfield who asked about the CoH's interest in terms of a more permanent structure down at #1 and #3 docks for the Super Yachts. He will be looking to arrange a meeting to have this matter discussed further.

The City Engineer said the CoH has been in meetings regarding the Tall Ships, Cruise Ships and Super Yachts and how it could work. The issue has been the signing off of the Tall Ships; it seems that the Ministry of Tourism and Transport took it upon themselves to agree with the Tall Ships. That agreement should have been with the City. The CoH has made it clear that if there is a choice of Super Yachts, Tall Ships or Cruise Ships, Cruise Ships would take preeminence. If the cruise ships would be happy moving down to Pier #7 then it would not be an issue. Unfortunately the CoH has been left out of the conversation in this regard. The CoH has been told that the Veendam is coming for a number of visits. Also know that #1 car park has been marketed for Super Yachts.

**ACTION:** The Secretary to write a letter to the Minister asking about the signing off of the docks for America's Cup. Also request an update on the cruise ships that are scheduled.

This could be a precursor to say to the Minister that there are other similar issues to be discussed in the New Year whereby Government ministries are taking positions on Municipal issues. The CoH would prefer to participate in these matters from the beginning. It was noted that Marine and Ports controls what ships can come into Bermuda waters. There was continued discussion of who is in charge of the docks. The Mayor commented that the legislation was amended in the time period 2010-2013 where the CoH did not even receive any revenue for the tying up of ships to the docks.

Councillor G. Scott gave an update on a meeting of the Marine and Ports Board held 24 November 2015. Polaris who runs Stevedoring Services Ltd. has increased their fees. There is former increase that was approved but was never implemented. A complaint was received from BCL who said that they are paying out more than normal.

He asked the Director of Marine and Ports to copy the Secretary in on any future correspondence on this matter. The Secretary clarified that the previous increase mentioned was not approved by the CoH, only approved by Marine & Ports so that increase could not be put in place.

(vi) **Vallis Building** - the City is promoting al fresco dining but one of the challenges experienced is when a tenant moves and someone else moves in. A situation happened where a new tenant wants to use the al fresco but does not want to pay the price or sign the lease. It was discussed to incorporate the landlord as part of that discussion particularly for those persons who want to put structures on the building. The Vallis Building has two (2) organisations that use al fresco and have a fixed structure to the building. The tenants say that they were never told about paying extra and the landlord insists that they were told and would have to discuss with the CoH regarding any leases, etc. They are rejecting that they participate or be held accountable for structures on their building that are being installed for al fresco. If the CoH allows that to stand then whenever someone puts up a structure on someone else's building, they can walk off after the tenancy and the CoH is stuck with the situation. With the new structures it can be implemented but with the old ones it becomes problematic. If they do not want to pay the al fresco rates, they are technically trespassing and a simple solution would be to have the structures removed. It was suggested give the current tenants using the facility for al fresco on the Vallis Building proper notice to remove the structure. Discussed continued.

**ACTION:** The City Engineer to approach the current tenants with the new tier structure rates for al fresco dining.

Moving forward the CoH has to do the al fresco lease with owner of the properties particularly with the fixed structures because a lot of the bars and restaurants are transient.

## 12. Motion to Move to a Restricted Session

**Proposed:** Councillor G. Scott

**Seconded:** Councillor N. Swan

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.