



**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  
**Residents Advisory Committee**  
4 August 2016  
4:00pm

**Present:** Councillor Henry Ming (Chair)  
Councillor RoseAnn Edwards  
Councillor George Scott, JP  
Dr. Michael Bradshaw, Associate Member

**In Attendance:** Ed Benevides, Secretary  
Danilee Trott, Event Project Manager

**Apologies:** Councillor Carlton Johnson  
Sarah Thompson, Associate Member  
Tracy Marshall, Associate Member

- 
1. **Confirmation of Notice** - the Secretary confirmed that the notices of the meeting and the agenda were sent out according to the meeting guidelines.
  2. **Role of the Chairman** - Councillor Henry Ming assumed the role of the Chairman in the absence of Councillor Carlton Johnson.
  3. **Open Meeting** - Councillor Ming opened the meeting at 4:05pm.
  4. **Apologies** - the Secretary confirmed apologies from Associate Members, Ms. Sarah Thompson and Ms. Tracy Marshall. Apologies were also received from the Chairman Councillor C. Johnson after a telephone call was made by the Recording Secretary.

**5. Public Participation:**

There is no public participation/presentation.

**6. Correspondence:**

There is no correspondence.

**7. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting dated 2 June 2016**

**Proposed:** Councillor G. Scott

**Seconded:** Councillor R. Edwards

The Minutes were accepted as read.

**8. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 2 June 2016**

(i) **Report back to the Residents Advisory Committee re: whether the cameras are operational once the Secretary has had his meeting with the central office** - the Secretary confirmed that all of the cameras are operational. He also confirmed subsequent to that meeting the Council had instructed him to write a letter which was done but has not received a response. He also met with the Superintendent of the BPS. The response received previously is that they are looking in a different direction from where the CoH needs to address the tipping and they were going to see if there were periods of time in their observation schedule as to whether they could re-direct the camera. The CoH has also requested a quote from Decisions to install a solar-powered camera at that location, i.e. the intersection of Court and Ewing Streets.

(ii) **Issues of Parking within the City to be brought to the Infrastructure Committee scheduled for 15 June 2016 for discussion** - the Secretary confirmed that this item was placed on the agenda of the Infrastructure Committee. The Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee has suggested forming a sub-committee to review parking and to include two (2) members of the Infrastructure Committee and two (2) members from the Residents Advisory Committee. The Chairman of the Residents Advisory Committee has not responded to the request for comment or agreement.

(iii) **Dr. Bradshaw to drop off the sign which was placed on a tree on the western side just down from Mrs. Brangman on Till's Hill** - Dr. Bradshaw offered his apologies for not dropping the sign off. The Secretary suggested that the Sanitation Superintendent could possibly collect the sign from Dr. Bradshaw. Councillor Ming suggested that the sign could alternatively be dropped off to his office.

(iv) **Information regarding the damaged leg on the bench located on the corner of Dundonald and Court Streets** - the Secretary confirmed that photographs of the damaged leg on the bench were forwarded to the City Engineer to address. Councillor Edwards said to date the damaged leg had not been repaired. The City Engineer had advised that the repair was low on the priority list because it was not broken; the leg was chipped and was still able to be used.

(v) **Raising the concerns of Councillor Johnson to the Infrastructure Committee re: Cutting/Trimming of trees on Dundonald Street** - the Secretary confirmed that the concerns were passed on to the Parks Superintendent who confirmed that the trees were being trimmed and pruned according to the Tree Planting and Strategy Policy. The Strategy is for trees within the City, i.e. planting, the types of trees and the impact on them as it relates to the location but the strategy does not discuss damages. Councillor Johnson would like for the trees to be cut below the roof line and these trees are several feet above the roof line. Councillor Edwards queried the liability factor for the CoH if a tree is hanging over someone's roof and creates problems for their gutters.

The Secretary clarified that these trees are not hanging over the roof but the leaves from the trees are blowing onto the roof. There was continued discussion regarding liabilities.

**ACTION:** The Secretary to forward a copy of the Tree Planting and Strategy Policy to the members of the Residents Advisory Committee.

There was continued dialogue.

## 9. Status Update:

### (i) Laffan Street Roundabout:

- a. Proposed traffic flow.
- b. Re-instituting "No Left Turn" for HA, HB, HC and TT trucks/vehicles turning up Laffan Street from Canal Road.
- c. Also the same coming up from Woodlands Road towards Laffan Street exception being CoH refuse trucks.

The Secretary advised that there is no strategy or plan at the moment to institute a "No Left Turn" or of changing the ability for vehicles of all types to go in any direction. The design of the roundabout is such as to compensate for larger vehicles and hopefully slow them down. There is a proposed traffic flow that will change but that is to do with Washington Street, Elliott Street and Laffan Street.

Councillor Ming said this may have come from an issue pertaining to potential damage to an adjoining property. The Secretary clarified that the suggestions came from Associate Member, Ms. Thompson. He said the project has been evaluated and the whole design of the roundabout was two-fold, i.e. (i) had to do some work to move the pumping station and (ii) improve the traffic flow through that area.

Councillor Ming advised that he had spoken directly to the City Engineer about the issues pertaining to the property. The City Engineer and the Senior Engineer were to meet with Ms. Thompson to review whether this is a problem that has been created by the trucks. The Secretary said the Laffan Street roundabout continues to be protracted. Some of the work (some of which has nothing to do with the roundabout), i.e. the extending of the sidewalk and the land swap with Ms. Thompson and Butterfield & Vallis that has been held up due to the amendments to the Municipalities Act requiring all pieces of the CoH's properties that are either sold or leased for more than 21 years to be approved by the House of Parliament.

Dr. Bradshaw queried if this information was going to be shared with the public because it is important for the public to be kept informed. The Secretary advised that the CoH had several public meetings with all the stakeholders in the area on how the roundabout would be designed and how it would work. Discussion continued regarding Ms. Thompson's concerns.

Councillor Ming suggested that a reminder be given to the public about the way the roundabout is designed and how it is to be used in general. The Secretary said the hope is to have it completed by the end of the year.

The Event Project Manager suggested that a letter be written to Ms. Thompson with responses to her suggestions.

**ACTION:** The Secretary to write a response and that response be communicated to the appropriate parties as it relates to the Laffan Street roundabout.

#### 10. Recommendations for Review:

(i) **Recommendation:** That the Board agree for the Secretary to write an official letter to the Bermuda Police Service (BPS) as it relates to the dumping of household garbage on the streets with the City of Hamilton (tipping). Also when a request is made to ascertain what cameras are operational, the Corporation of Hamilton should receive a more courteous response from the BPS. **(Approved in Corporation Board meeting dated 8 June 2016)**

(ii) **Recommendation:** That the Board approve the expenditure of \$2,500.00 for 1000 informational material magnets for the residents within the City. **(Approved in Corporation Board meeting dated 6 July 2016)**

(iii) **Recommendation: Proposal re: New Year's Eve Event on Court Street.** The Event Project Manager received the application and sponsorship request from Spanish Town to do the event in Northeast Hamilton. It is the exact same application as last year, i.e. for the street closures and requesting the City to sponsor the event. The sponsorship request will go to the Finance Committee. Dr. Bradshaw queried whether the application would not have to come to the Residents Advisory Committee first. It was noted that the application is standard to rent the streets, etc. and will not necessarily come through the Residents Advisory Committee. It is going through the Finance Committee because there is a financial implication, i.e. waiving of fees, etc. which has not been budgeted for. They are not looking for cash sponsorship. The reason that the event came through the Residents Advisory Committee last year is because the CoH was looking at putting it as a part of the annual budget where the CoH was actually going to fund the event. Another entity is going to host the event this year.

**FYI** - Councillor Edwards commented that there will be other events taking place on Court Street.

(iv) **Recommendation: Removal of Current Fee for Residential Parking Permits.** Councillor Edwards queried if there were any notices sent out to the residents with regards to the fee that is being charged for the permits. The Secretary said that the fee of \$25.00 was indicated on the application form which had to be completed in order to secure a permit. Councillor Edwards further queried whether there was any prior notice to the residents coming in to fill out the application form. The Secretary advised that the fee was included in the CoH's budget and it was published in the newspaper. A media release pointed out every single increase in the budget and all of the fee increases were separated out in that release.

Dr. Bradshaw commented that when the CoH institutes new fees, etc. the public should be advised accordingly. A lengthy discussion continued in this regard.

## 11. Any Other Business

(i) **Residents Advisory Committee Draft Information Flyer** - Councillor Edwards provided a draft copy of the flyer for the committee's perusal to either add or remove any information as they deemed necessary. She requested that the committee forward any feedback within a week. The Event Project Manager suggested for expediency to forward the information via email to the members.

**ACTION:** Associate Member, Ms. T. Marshall to forward a digital copy of the draft informational flyer to the committee and then the committee can respond via email with any changes, etc.

(ii) **Responsibilities of How Residents are Handled** - Dr. Bradshaw commented on a certain type of responsiveness in guiding the handling of residents without placing any extra burden of costs or labour on any part of the CoH. He said that one can say many things but it is how it is said and to whom. He commented on the activities that occurred on Parliament, i.e. Peoples Campaign, Status, etc. He then quoted a very important comment made by Mr. Larry Burchall: **"It happened because people did not pay attention to history and did not treat other people with respect."** Dialogue continued.

Councillor G. Scott commented that any changes to be made have to be made within City Hall in order for the people outside these walls to really understand what is going on.

(iii) **Budget Suggestions** - the Secretary said the CoH is kicking off the budget period this month and is asking committees to put forward any suggestions regarding service levels, e.g. the Infrastructure Committee will be asked whether the sanitation levels are adequate, whether they have to be raised, lowered to save costs, etc. He further commented on the previous discussion regarding communications which can be costly. If the committee would like to see a larger budget allocated to communications for the residents that could be put forward as a suggestion.

Residential parking will be reviewed as part of the budget. Depending on what happens with the review in the sub-committee, if the cost of residential parking increases there will be a recommendation for the residential parking permit to increase. There have been a number of ideas put forward, e.g. that residents should only park in certain areas (colour-coded) which would require all different types of residential parking permits, signage and painting, etc. The Secretary reiterated that a committee is going to be formed to review the Residential Parking Permit Policy with Councillor Harvey as Chair and will consist of two (2) members each from the Infrastructure Committee and Residents Advisory Committee. The recommendation was forwarded to the Chair of the Residents Advisory Committee but there has been no response.

**ACTION:** Members of the Residents Advisory Committee to speak with the Chairman of the committee to assist in selecting which two (2) members of the Residents Advisory Committee would be willing to sit on the committee to review of the Residential Parking Permit Policy.

He suggested that the Residents Advisory Committee comment on whether the service levels for the residents are sufficient, i.e. sanitation, etc.

At the moment residents are collected once a day, five (5) days a week, businesses twice a day, six (6) days a week and bars and restaurants on Sundays.

Councillor Ming suggested that emails be sent between the committee members so that this can be moved along quicker. The Secretary said the existing budget for all of the departments can be retrieved from the website. Dialogue continued.

The Secretary commented that the challenge that is had every budget year is at what level of involvement do the committees have because ultimately the Finance Committee and the full Council will approve the budget.

There was continued discussion.

The Event Project Manager left the meeting at 5:15pm.

Councillor Edwards commented on the walkabout in the area of Northeast Hamilton and stated that a member of the Residents Advisory Committee should have also been invited on that walkabout. Councillor Ming clarified that the walkabout was not in the residential area of Northeast Hamilton, it was a walkabout/informational tour for the Minister of the facilities on Front Street, i.e. the sewage plant, the dock face, etc.

There was no further business to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm.