



VISION - We will be a democratically elected, vibrant, safe and clean city focused on economic growth and livability.

MISSION - To provide positive experiences for everyone through the delivery of quality initiatives and services.

CORPORATION OF HAMILTON
CORPORATION BOARD
PUBLIC SESSION

Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 12:30 pm
Mayor's Parlour, City Hall, Hamilton

Present: Rt. Wor. Charles R. Gosling, JP, Chairman
Councillor John Harvey, MBE, JP
Councillor Dennis Tucker, MBE, JP
Councillor Lawrence Scott, JP
Councillor Henry Ming
Councillor George Scott, JP
Councillor RoseAnn Edwards
Councillor Jenefer Brimmer

Apologies: Councillor Nicholas Swan

Staff: CFO/Acting City Secretary – Tanya Iris
COO/City Engineer - Patrick Cooper
Director of HR/Learning and Development – Lindell Foster
Director of Marketing & Communications – Jessica Astwood
Controller – Siobhan Fubler
Public Relations Manager - Helen Zoellner

Apologies: CEO/City Secretary - Dwayne A. Caines, JP

1. Confirmation of Notice

The CEO/City Secretary confirmed that the appropriate notices of the meeting were duly given according to the Meeting Guide.

2. Role of the Chairman

The Mayor confirmed his role as the Chairman.

3. Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 12.30 pm.

4. Apologies

The CFO/Acting City Secretary confirmed that apologies had been received from Councillor N. Swan and the CEO/City Secretary Dwayne Caines.

5. Public Participation/Presentation

There was no Public Participation/Presentation.

6. Correspondence

There was no Correspondence.

7. Minutes of the Previous Corporation Board Meeting dated 5 October 2022 (Public Session)

Proposed: Councillor H. Ming

Seconded: Councillor J. Brimmer

The Minutes were accepted as read.

8. Matters Arising from the Previous Corporation Board Meeting dated 5 October 2022 (Public Session)

8.1 Resolution of Affirmation for Council and Executive Members

Forward to the Staff, Legislative & Governance Committee Meeting to be held on 18 October 2022 for discussion, as it relates to whether there should be a Resolution to affirm members of the Council and Executive in the event that a proceeding would be brought against them whilst executing COH matters with integrity. Action item completed.

8.2 Concessions to Encourage Building Projects

Forward to the Infrastructure Committee meeting to be held on 12 October 2022, to compile a list together with criteria, as it relates to potential concessions which the COH could offer to encourage building projects in the City. Action item completed.

8.3 Taste of Bermuda Event

Circulate the short video of the Taste of Bermuda event to the Board. Action item completed.

9. Resolutions Approved by the Minister

That the Board approve the sponsorship request to waive the rental fees for Grateful Bread Early Thanksgiving Giveaway to the Needy, to be held at Nellie's Walk on Saturday, 12 November 2022

That the Board approve a one-year full license, including terms and conditions, be issued to Horizon Communications upon the expiry of the temporary license, as it relates to the 23 installations of communication units on COH poles throughout the City, at a yearly cost of \$500 per unit.

That the Board approve a notice to vacate period for the water tank at No.8 Dock, be written into the peppercorn rent lease agreement with Government, at twelve (12) months

That the Board approve a one-year extension to the three (3) year agreement with the Bermuda Arts Council, for free use of the Earl Cameron Theatre on 29 January 2023. The contract, now expired, included the waiver for 2019, 2020 and 2021. As a result of the lockdown in 2021, the annual Award Ceremony did not take place.

10. Board Recommendations for Review

There were no Recommendations for review.

11. Committee Recommendations for Review

11.1 Residents Advisory Committee – 6 October 2022 (Public Session)

There were no Recommendations for review.

11.2 Infrastructure Committee – 12 October 2022 (Public Session)

RESOLUTION:

That the Board decline the request from the Bermuda Tourism Association to waive the rental fee for Barr's Bay Park for the Bermuda Swizzle Festival that was held on 25 September 2022. The request had been submitted late.

Unanimous

RESOLUTION:

That the Board approve to offer two (2) parking bays as commercial vehicle parking for rent, to Switchworx Ltd.

Motion Passed

Councillor Tucker noted that liability insurance should be taken out, as it related to the Bermuda Karting Club's event. The Director of Marketing and Communications said that the contract contained the requirement for the event organisers to take out liability insurance. Councillor Edwards said that there was a manhole cover on the route which would need to be covered to provide a flat surface. The COO/City Engineer said that the route would be checked and repairs made as necessary.

RESOLUTION:

That the Board approve the sponsorship of the Bermuda Karting Club's International Race by the waiver of costs for the barricades and street closures which would be required along the route in North East Hamilton. Labour costs would be charged. Mr. Barnes would provide a detailed plan of the route, confirmation of the weekend date in April 2023, and the paperwork for the support of the houses of worship in North Hamilton.

Unanimous

11.3 Finance Committee – 13 October 2022 (Public Session)

There were no Recommendations for review.

11.4 Staff, Legislative & Governance Committee – 18 October 2022 (Public Session)

There were no Recommendations for review.

12. Vagrancy Report

The CFO/Acting City Secretary said that there had been no update.

The Mayor referred to the recent presentation to the Board by the Commissioner of Police Darrin Simons and Chief Inspector Alex Rollins, as it related to the COH's Extra Duty Police Officer patrols within the City. He noted that there had been a good exchange of comments and the Commissioner would be open to attend other meetings.

Councillor Harvey said that the COH continue to pay a considerable amount of ratepayers money for the Extra Duty Police Officers, in order to deal with the vagrancy in the City, which had not been a great success. He would strongly recommend that legislation be drafted in order to make illegal the behaviour that was not currently considered criminal and reference was made to the Vagrancy Act. The Mayor said that he thought this would be inappropriate coming from the COH as it might give the impression that the COH Council was an oligarchy. Councillor Harvey disagreed and said that was in the past, now in the present, anyone can see that the misconception that the COH Council were white oligarchy, was not the case. He said that the Council's commitment to the City was the focus. Councillor Harvey said that legal means should be available to remove vagrants who were sleeping in the streets, as well as other anti social behaviour.

Councillor Tucker agreed saying that there was still a belief that white oligarchs still exist and were represented by the current COH Council, which was not the case. He did not know how to change that perception. He also referred to the misconception that the COH Councillors were receiving a salary, when in fact they received \$50 for attending each properly constituted meeting. He referred to the comments made by the CEO/City Secretary at the Bermuda Day Parade concerning the COH and said that should be published in the COH magazine.

Councillor Ming said that it would be the Government's responsibility to create a National law pertaining to the issue of vagrancy.

Councillor L. Scott had observed that the increase in vagrancy seemed to have mirrored the downturn in the economy. Perhaps a rejuvenation in the economy may well result in less vagrancy.

Councillor Edwards said that she had seen an individual every morning sweeping leaves at the Flagpole, who clearly wanted to contribute to tidying up.

Councillor Brimmer said that this was a National issue with pockets of vagrancy island-wide and until the issue is taken care of, it will continue to deteriorate. All stakeholders would be involved. She said that the police officers seemed reluctant to sign on for Extra Duty Police patrols.

The Mayor said that before Covid, the CEO/City Secretary had pulled together all the stakeholders who were working towards a resolution for care of the homeless, and suggested that the regular meetings should recommence. He said that the Government Agencies were responsible for addressing the issue.

ACTION:

Consider recommencing the regular meetings with all stakeholders and the homeless individuals, which had been halted due to Covid, as it related to the issue of vagrancy in the City. **(CEO/City Secretary)**

13. Any Other Business

13.1 Remembrance Day

Councillor Harvey said that there were three (3) Remembrance Day events which the COH Councillors would attend. Wreath layings at Victoria Park, one at Jarvis Bay at Albuys Point and the Mayor would attend at the Cenotaph. Councillor Edwards said that she would attend at the Victoria Park and Councillor Brimmer would attend at Jarvis Bay. There had been confusion as to whether the wreaths would be at the locations or would be collected beforehand. Councillor Brimmer said that she was unaware that any PR coverage had taken place last year. The Director of Marketing and Communications said that it had been and the COH would cover the events again this year.

13.2 Traffic Calming Policy

Councillor Edwards referred to the Traffic Calming Policy mentioned in previous Minutes, and wondered how that would affect the requested speed bumps on Angle Street. She said that this was a matter of urgency as there had recently been three (3) chase incidents on Angle Street involving the police and speed bumps would have slowed down the chase through the neighbourhood. The COO/City Engineer said that the Traffic Calming Policy had been written and awaited diagrams to be inserted. Following approval by the Committee, the Board and the Minister, speeds bumps could be installed around the City as per the specifications in the Policy. Councillor Harvey noted that the draft Traffic Calming Policy had been distributed to all Members under separate cover.

Councillor G. Scott joined the meeting at 1.15 pm.

The Mayor said that the reason for the Traffic Calming Policy was as a result of very serious injury to a bike rider at the site of a newly installed speed bump. Speed bumps would follow a recognised standard throughout the City and installation would be prioritised as per the Engineering Department schedule, once approved.

Councillor Edward asked about the wellbeing of the injured bike rider. Councillor Harvey said that the CEO/City Secretary had made inquiries a few months ago but no response had been received.

13.3 Mayor's Reception - 25 November 2022

The Director of Marketing and Communications said that the guest list for the Mayor's Reception would be increased this year. She invited Council Members to submit the names of those that they would like to invite, to the Executive Assistant. Hard copy invitations would also be available to be handed out. The Reception at City Hall would commence at 5.30 pm until 7.00 pm, followed by the Tree Lighting ceremony on the lawn. An email of the programme would be sent to the Members.

14. Motion to Move to Restricted Session

Proposed: Councillor L. Scott

Seconded: Councillor R. Edwards

Mayor

CEO/City Secretary

Date