THE CITY OF TORONTO

Clerk's Department

Minutes of the Budget Committee

Tuesday, February 17, 1998.

The Budget Committee met on Tuesday, February 17, 1998, in Committee Rooms 308 and 309, 3rd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Tom Jakobek, Chair Councillor Bas Balkissoon Councillor Olivia Chow Councillor Blake Kinahan Councillor Case Ootes Councillor David Shiner

Confirmation of Minutes.

On motion by Councillor Balkissoon, the Minutes of the Special meeting held on January 20, 1998 and the Minutes of the meeting held on January 26, 1998 of the Budget Committee were confirmed.

22. St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts - Capital Improvement Fund.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (January 15, 1998) from the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee advising that on January 15, 1998, the Committee referred to the Budget Committee a communication (October 10, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk, City of Toronto, advising that City Council on October 6 and 7, 1997, adopted Clause 53 of Report No. 23 of its Executive Committee, wherein Council took the following action:

- "(1) Authorized the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts to make use of its Capital Improvements Funds in the amount of \$8,000.00 for the purpose of engaging a theatrical consultant to carry out the preliminary design work with respect to renovations to the Jane Mallett Theatre.
- (2) Authorized the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts to engage in a consultative process with appropriate City Staff, including staff from the Property Services Division and the Budget Planning and Policy Office.

- (3) Directed that the above consultation be extended to include any appropriate working group/s that may be implemented under the new amalgamated City and that the proposal be reviewed in context of the new City of Toronto's overall strategic plans.
- (4) Directed that the proposal be submitted to the Budget Review Group, or other appropriate funding committee for approval by the new City of Toronto Council."

The Budget Committee recommended to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, and Council, that the foregoing communication from the Assistant City Clerk, City of Toronto, be received.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services; Mr. David Wallett, General Manager, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 1)

23. Profile of a Changing World - The 1996 Community Agency Survey.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (January 15, 1998) from the Community and Neighbourhood Services Committee advising that on January 15, 1998, the Committee referred to the Budget Committee a communication (July 21, 1997) from the Assistant City Clerk, City of Toronto, advising that City Council on July 14, 1997, adopted, without amendment, Clause 22 of Report No. 10 of the Neighbourhoods Committee, wherein Council took the following action:

"(4) Requested the Transition Team and the new Megacity Council to ensure that funding from the municipality for agencies within the current City of Toronto are maintained at least at current levels."

On motion by Councillor Kinahan, the Budget Committee recommended to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, and Council, that the foregoing communication from the Assistant City Clerk, City of Toronto, be received.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 2)

24. Toronto Transit Commission - 1998 Operating Budget and 1998-2002 Capital Program Status.

The Budget Committee had before it the following:

- (1) report (January 27, 1998) from the General Secretary of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) advising that the Commission on January 27, 1998 recommended that:
 - (a) a meeting be set up involving the Commission and the City Budget Committee for the purpose of having staff make a full presentation on the Capital Budget;
 - (b) the Chair of the Toronto Transit Commission meet with the City Treasurer and the Chief General Manager of the Toronto Transit Commission to discuss issues of capital and operating budgets and first principles being adopted by City Council; and
 - (c) the staff from the City of Toronto be requested to include in such meeting the former staff from the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto who were assigned the Toronto Transit Commission budget;
- (2) letter of transmittal (February 11, 1998) from the Urban Environment and Development Committee advising that the Committee on February 9, 1998, received the communication (January 27, 1998) from the General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission regarding the status of the TTC's 1998-2002 Capital Program and directed that a copy be forwarded to the Budget Committee for information; and
- (3) report (February 12, 1998) from the General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission advising that the TTC on February 11, 1998 approved the following recommendations contained in the Toronto Transit Commission's Report No. 1 dated February 11, 1998:
 - (a) the TTC 1998 Operating Budget and TTC 1998-2002 Capital Budget be reaffirmed;
 - (b) the report be received noting that:
 - (i) a safe, reliable and cost effective transit system with assets valued at \$7 billion requires an average capital subsidy of \$250 million annually to replace assets on a life cycle of 30 years;

- (ii) the yearly average of the TTC's \$1.2 billion, five year capital program for the existing system is \$250 million per year.
- (c) the report be forwarded to the:
 - (i) Chief Financial Officer, City of Toronto, for consideration during the upcoming budget deliberations; and
 - (ii) Urban Environment and Development Committee for transmittal to City Council.

The Commission also re-affirmed the 1998 Wheel-Trans Budget and authorized staff to make their budget presentations at the next City Budget Committee meeting on February 17, 1998.

On motion by Councillor Kinahan, the Budget Committee deferred this matter for consideration during the budget process.

(Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; c. General Secretary, Toronto Transit Commission - February 19, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 4)

25. Resolution - Loss of Revenue as a Result of Downloading from the Province - Town of Pickering.

The Budget Committee had before it the following communications:

(1) (January 22, 1998) from Mr. Bruce Taylor, Town Clerk, Town of Pickering referring a resolution passed by the Council of the Town of Pickering, at its meeting of January 19, 1998, instructing the Town Solicitor to draft a contract between the Town of Pickering and the Province of Ontario in which the Province will agree that if reallocation of responsibilities is not revenue-neutral and will result in increased revenue for the Corporation of the Town of Pickering using 1997 Budget figures as a benchmark, then the Province will immediately pay to Pickering any such shortfall; that the contract be directed to the Premier of Ontario for his signature and that the executed copy be returned to the Corporation of the Town of Pickering no later than February 19, 1998; and that in the event of a disagreement between the Corporation of the Town of Pickering and the Province of Ontario over the impact of reallocation of responsibilities upon the Town of Pickering's budget, the contract should direct that an independent auditor, agreed to by both parties, be retained at the cost of the

Province of Ontario to determine the impact of restructuring of the Corporation of the Town of Pickering; and

(2) (January 27, 1998) from the City Clerk referring a communication dated December 23, 1997, from Mr. Bruce Taylor, Town Clerk, Town of Pickering, advising that the Council of the Town of Pickering, at its meeting of December 22, 1997, passed the resolution that the Town of Pickering expresses its strenuous objection to the proposal received from the Minister of Finance which provides a substantial loss of revenue for the Town of Pickering resulting from the downloading from the Province; its desire to meet with the Minister of Finance or his designate to discuss the funds withheld from the Town as announced; and that the Town be allowed to state its business case for accessing those funds.

On motion by Councillor Kinahan, the Committee recommended to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, and Council, that the foregoing communications (December 23, 1997 and January 22, 1998) from the Town Clerk, Town of Pickering, be received.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 5)

26. Fire Vehicle Standardization - 1998 Interim Capital Budget.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 11, 1998) from the Emergency and Protective Services Committee advising that the Committee on February 10, 1998, recommended to the Budget Committee the adoption of the report dated February 3, 1998, from the Fire Chief, wherein it is recommended that:

- "(1) the amount of \$170,130.00 be deleted inclusive of GST from the \$189,000.00 requested in the 1998 Capital Budget, for the conversion of the aerial ladder vehicles; and
- the balance of \$18,870.00 be requested for the alteration of two pumper vehicles under construction by General Safety Equipment of White Bear, Minnesota. The alterations to the design will allow for the continuation of the multi-purpose rescue/pumper concept of the Department in 1998."

The Budget Committee recommended to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, and Council, the adoption of the report (February 3, 1998) from the Fire Chief subject to the funds in the amount of \$18,870.00 for the

alteration of the two pumper vehicles being allocated from the Fire Department's 1998 Operating Budget.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Fire Chief; Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 7)

27. High-Speed Network for the City of Toronto.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 16, 1998) from the Corporate Services Committee, advising that the Committee on February 16, 1998, recommended to the Budget Committee the adoption of the report (February 2, 1998) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services wherein it is recommended that:

- "(1) capital funding, in the amount of \$498.2 thousand, for data cabling, hardware and configuration services be allocated to connect to the global network for the City of Toronto;
- (2) funding, in the amount of \$569.1 thousand over the next three years be allocated for hardware maintenance and the lease of termination equipment and high-speed network services;
- (3) the necessary officials be authorized to enter into contracts for the acquisition, implementation and maintenance of the global telecommunications network for the City of Toronto over the next three years;
- (4) Bell Canada be awarded a contract for the provision of high-speed network connectivity and data cabling for one year with two optional years; and
- (5) the appropriate officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action in order to give effect thereto."; and

reporting, for the information of the Budget Committee and Council, having:

- (1) requested the Chief Financial Officer to submit a report directly to Council for its meeting scheduled to be held on March 4, 1998, clarifying the benefits to be achieved by implementing this high-speed fibre network; and
- (2) requested the Special Committee to Review the Final Report of the Toronto Transition Team to consider a more streamlined process for dealing with budget

items that require Budget Committee approval prior to final approval of the Operating and Capital budget, and report thereon to Council.

Councillor Ron Moeser, Scarborough Highland Creek, appeared before the Budget Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

A. Councillor Shiner moved the adoption of the recommendations of the Corporate Services Committee wherein it is recommended that the report (February 2, 1998) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services be adopted.

Councillor Ootes assumed the Chair.

B. Councillor Jakobek moved that the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer report to the next Budget Committee meeting with respect to the financial information system, any plans for future computerization and the matter of software changes to correct the year 2000.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion A. by Councillor Shiner, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion B. by Councillor Jakobek, it was carried.

Councillor Bas Balkissoon, Scarborough Malvern, declared his interest in this matter in that he is an employee of Bell Canada.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Chief Administrative Officer; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Commissioner of Corporate Services - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 9)

28. Tax Manager 2000 - Purchase/Upgrade of Desktops.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 16, 1998) from the Corporate Services Committee advising that the Committee on February 16, 1998 had before it a report (February 2, 1998) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services wherein it is recommended:

"that desktop workstations and upgrades to support the implementation of the new Tax Administration System, Tax Manager 2000, be purchased at a cost not to exceed \$150,000.00."

The Budget Committee recommended to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, and Council, the adoption of the following recommendation of the Corporate Services Committee:

"that the report (February 2, 1998) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services be approved in principle; and further, that the Commissioner of Corporate Services be requested to submit a report directly to Council for its meeting scheduled to be held on March 4, 1998, on the relative merits of purchasing versus leasing the workstations."

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Commissioner of Corporate Services - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 10)

29. Mapping Workstation Replacement.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 16, 1998) from the Corporate Services Committee advising that the Committee on February 16, 1998, recommended the adoption of the report (February 2, 1998) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services, wherein it is recommended that:

- "five (5) graphics workstations be purchased for the Geomatics Section (Scarborough) to replace the existing RS6000 workstations at a total price not to exceed \$42,000.00, including all applicable taxes."
- A. Councillor Shiner moved that this matter be deferred for a report from the Commissioner of Corporate Services on the mapping and workstation requirements for the entire City of Toronto and recommended that this matter be considered further during the budget process.
- B. Councillor Balkissoon moved the adoption of the recommendation of the Corporate Services Committee wherein it recommended that the report (February 2, 1998) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services be adopted.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion A. by Councillor Shiner, it was carried.

(Commissioner of Corporate Services; c. Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer - February 19, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 11)

30. Workers' Compensation - Transfer of the Former City of York from Schedule 1 to Schedule 2.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 16, 1998) from the Corporate Services Committee advising that the Committee on February 16, 1998 recommended to the Budget Committee the adoption of the joint report (February 16, 1998) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, and the Commissioner of Human Resources, wherein it is recommended:

"that Council authorize the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to remit immediately to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board the amount of \$1,019,411.00 in satisfaction of the transfer of the former City of York from Schedule 1 to Schedule 2 pursuant to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act."

The Committee recommended to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, and Council, the adoption of the recommendation of the Corporate Services Committee.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Commissioner of Human Resources - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 12)

31. Renewal of Leases for Child Care Centres at O'Connor, Emery and Shoreham Public Schools in North York.

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 16, 1998) from the Corporate Services Committee advising that the Committee on February 16, 1998, recommended to the Budget Committee the adoption of the report (January 30, 1998) from the Commissioner of Corporate Services wherein it is recommended that:

- "(1) financing in the amount of \$21,992.08 be approved;
- (2) authority be granted to renew the leases with the Toronto District School Board for the captioned Child Care Centres, for a one-year term commencing August 1, 1997, and expiring on July 31, 1998, based on the terms and conditions in this report, in a form acceptable to the Toronto Solicitor; and

(3) the appropriate Toronto Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto."

On motion by Councillor Kinahan, the Budget Committee recommended to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, and Council, the adoption of the recommendations of the Corporate Services Committee.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Commissioner of Corporate Services - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 13)

32. 1997 Capital Works Projects.

The Budget Committee had before it a report (February 2, 1998) from the City Clerk, advising that York Community Council on January 21, 1998, recommended that the Budget Committee be requested to consider the following:

- (1) that all outstanding 1997 Capital Works Projects which were approved by the Councils of the former area municipalities, but not commenced or completed during 1997, be identified and carried forward; and
- (2) that these outstanding projects be automatically considered as fully funded 1998 Capital expenditures, and that funding for any new capital projects be commenced from this level of previous commitment.

The following persons appeared before the Budget Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Councillor Joe Mihevc, York-Eglinton; and
- Councillor Ron Moeser, Scarborough Highland Creek.

The Budget Committee recommended that the report (February 2, 1998) from the City Clerk be considered with the Capital Budget.

A. Councillor Ootes moved that the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer bring forward to the next meeting of the Budget Committee, a list of all capital projects which were started in 1997 and have not yet been completed.

Councillor Jakobek directed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to re-advise everyone who has submitted a list of capital projects that

if any such projects have not commenced, they not do so until after final budget approval has been given.

B. Councillor Shiner moved that:

- (a) the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer provide a list of any 1997 projects for which prior approval has been given, but for which funding has not been provided and a contract has not been signed or issued; and
- (b) any projects which are not already on the 1997 Capital Works projects list will not be included for funding in 1998.

Councillor Ootes assumed the Chair.

C. Councillor Jakobek moved that the motions moved by Councillor Ootes and Councillor Shiner be referred to the Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer for a report back to the Budget Committee as soon as possible and that the Chair call a Special Meeting of the Budget Committee, if necessary.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion C. by Councillor Jakobek, it was carried.

(Chief Administrative Officer; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer - February 19, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 3)

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

33. 495 Shelbourne Street - Acquisition for a Multi-Service Community Facility (Ward 25 - Don River).

The Budget Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 16, 1998) from the Corporate Services Committee advising that the Committee on February 16, 1998, recommended to the Budget Committee the adoption of the report (January 29, 1998) from the Acting Executive Commissioner of Corporate Services wherein it is recommended that:

"(1) the acquisition of 495 Shelbourne Street from Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC) in the amount of \$2.5 million be approved, subject to the terms and conditions as set out in this report;

- (2) the City Solicitor, in consultation with the Director, Property Services (Toronto Region), prepare and have executed an Agreement of Purchase and Sale with ORC, incorporating a closing date in the first quarter of 1999 and the terms and conditions elaborated in the body of this report, other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Acting Executive Commissioner of Corporate Services and prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (3) the City Solicitor complete this real estate transaction and pay to ORC or to whomever may be entitled to receive it, the sum of \$2.5 million and pay any expenses incurred for the closing of the real property transaction, including the payment of Land Transfer Tax and GST in the estimated amount of \$221,500.00;
- (4) the appropriate Civic Official be instructed to furnish the necessary legal description and prepare a survey suitable for the closing;
- the Acting Executive Commissioner of Corporate Services be instructed to continue to pursue all opportunities for additional amounts owed by the Province to the City which could be utilized to be set-off against the purchase price of 495 Shelbourne Street and that these opportunities be presented to City Council for approval; and
- (6) the lands being acquired be placed under the jurisdiction of the Director, Property Services (Toronto Region), on closing for property management/maintenance purposes, until such time as the lands are to be developed as a multi-service community facility and that the lands be operated on an interim basis as a parking lot with the revenue being utilized to offset the cost of acquisition."

The following persons appeared before the Budget Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Councillor Pam McConnell, Don River;
- Councillor Jack Layton, Don River.
- Councillor Doug Holyday, Markland-Centennial; and
- Councillor Ron Moeser, Scarborough Highland Creek;

A. Councillor Chow moved:

- (i) the adoption of the report (January 29, 1998) from the Acting Executive Commissioner of Corporate Services; and
- (ii) that staff continue its negotiations and express the City's continued interest in this matter.

- B. Councillor Shiner moved that:
 - (i) the report (January 29, 1998) from the Acting Executive Commissioner of Corporate Services be deferred and considered during the Capital Budget process;
 - (ii) the Mayor be requested to write to the President of the Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC) advising that Council continues to be interested in the acquisition of the subject property, considers it a high priority, requests that it not be sold to anyone else until such time as it has made its final decision, (which is expected to take place shortly), and requests that the ORC respond immediately to the City's request; and
 - (iii) the Chief Administrator Officer and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer submit a comprehensive report on both the capital and operating costs of this proposal and how it can be dealt with within the context of the five-year budget plan.

Councillor Ootes assumed the Chair.

- C. Councillor Kinahan moved that the Commissioner of Corporate Services report on the:
 - (i) negotiations with respect to the lane closings, east of Bay Street; and
 - (ii) details of the appraised values of the property and the lanes.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion B. by Councillor Shiner, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion C. by Councillor Kinahan, it was carried.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Mayor Mel Lastman; Chief Administrator Officer; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Commissioner of Corporate Services - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 8)

34. Parks Levy Funds.

The Budget Committee had before it a memorandum (February 16, 1998) addressed to Councillor Tom Jakobek, Chair of the Budget Committee, from the Interim Functional Lead, Parks and Recreation, with respect to the issue of the Parks Levy Reserve Funds and advising that:

- (a) in accordance with the Planning Act, the City can only use these funds for specific parks and recreation purposes: and
- (b) a recommendation will be forwarded to the appropriate Standing Committee and Council noting that a much more equitable process would be to have these funds dedicated to providing or upgrading park and recreational facilities on a city-wide basis.

The Budget Committee received this report as information and recommended that it be dealt with at the beginning of the Capital Budget considerations.

(Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, c. Mr. Joe Halstead, Functional Lead, Parks and Recreation - February 19, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 14)

35. 1998 Interim Capital Budget - Capital Projects Requiring Urgent Financing Approval.

The Budget Committee on February 17, 1998 had before it a report (February 17, 1998) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer providing a complete list of city-wide watermain relining and replacement projects proposed for 1998 and recommending that \$6,950,000.00 be approved for Project 35 - Watermain Capital Maintenance.

The Budget Committee received this report as information and recommended that it be dealt with at the beginning of the Capital Budget considerations.

(Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, c. Mr. Michael G. Thorne, Interim Functional Lead, Water and Wastewater - February 19, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 15)

36. Acquisition of Replacement Ambulances.

Councillor Ootes assumed the Chair.

The Committee had before it a letter of transmittal (February 11, 1998) from the Emergency and Protective Services Committee, advising that the Committee on February 10, 1998 recommended to the Budget Committee, the adoption of the report (January 27, 1998) from the Commissioner, Toronto Ambulance, wherein it is recommended that:

- "(1) the Emergency and Protective Services Committee approve the Department's request for the acquisition of 24 ambulances through the Ministry of Health;
- (2) the cost of the acquisition inclusive of the purchase of the vehicles and any conversion charges not exceed \$1.948 million;
- (3) the Budget Committee be requested to recommend pre-authorization of the amount; and
- (4) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto."

Councillor Ron Moeser, Scarborough Highland Creek, appeared before the Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

A. Councillor Jakobek moved:

- (i) the adoption of the recommendations of the Emergency and Protective Services Committee wherein it is recommended that the report (January 27, 1998) from the Commissioner, Toronto Ambulance, be adopted; and
- (ii) that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer report on the feasibility of funding these vehicles from the existing reserves for vehicle replacement;

B. Councillor Shiner moved that:

- (i) the Province of Ontario be requested to confirm the cost of transferring patients between hospitals will be paid by OHIP and until such time as confirmation is received, the City be re-imbursed for the cost of 12 ambulances.
- (ii) the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer report on the savings that can be achieved on ambulance vehicle maintenance:
- C. Councillor Chow moved that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer report on the details of the extra costs required as a result of the hospital restructurings.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion A. by Councillor Jakobek, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion B. by Councillor Shiner, it was carried.

Upon the question of the adoption of motion C. by Councillor Chow, it was carried.

(Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee; c. Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Commissioner, Toronto Ambulance; Commissioner of Works and Emergency Services - February 18, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 6)

37. List of Pending Items for the Budget Committee.

On motion by Councillor Balkissoon, the Budget Committee directed the Committee Secretary to provide members of the Committee with a list of pending items.

The Budget Committee adjourned its meeting at 12:45 p.m.

	Chair.	