

THE CITY OF TORONTO

Clerk's Department

Minutes of the Budget Committee

Thursday, March 12, 1998

The Budget Committee met on Thursday, March 12, 1998, in Committee Room A, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, 55 John Street, Toronto, commencing at 9:45 a.m.

Members Present:

Councillor Jakobek, Chair
Councillor Balkissoon
Councillor Chow
Councillor Kinahan
Councillor Ootes
Councillor Shiner

Also Present:

Councillor Moeser

66. 1998 Operating Budget - Finance Department.

The Budget Committee had before it the 1998 Operating Budget for the Finance Department.

Mr. Denis Casey, Acting President, CUPE Local 79, appeared before the Budget Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

- A. Councillor Kinahan moved that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested to register all properties that are registerable as soon as possible and to report back to the Committee in one month.
- B. Councillor Shiner moved that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested to report back through the budget process providing a gross figure for all IT hardware and software to determine how the costs are allocated back to the Departments.
- C. Councillor Ootes moved that the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be requested to:

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- (a) report on the aging of the receivables; the number of businesses involved; how many of them are still viable; and the value of the properties that have been registered in terms of whether or not they have any real value with respect to contamination;
- (b) provide a list to the Committee, in camera, of properties considered to be contaminated and that said list remain confidential; and
- (c) provide an estimate of the number of businesses that owe business taxes and the amount owed.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motions A. to C., they were carried.

The 1998 Operating Budget for the Finance Department was approved subject to the amendments proposed by the Chief Administrative Officer and the foregoing recommendations by the Budget Committee.

The Budget Committee forwarded the 1998 Operating Budget for the Finance Department to the Corporate Services Committee for review and comment, noting the foregoing recommendations by the Budget Committee.

(Corporate Services Committee; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Chief Administrative Officer; Commissioner of Corporate Services - March 23, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 13)

67. 1998 Operating Budgets - Corporate Services Department.

The Budget Committee had before it:

- (1) the 1998 Operating Budgets for the Corporate Services Department, including the following:
 - (i) Information Technology;
 - (ii) Human Resources;
 - (iii) Facilities Management;
 - (iv) Audit;
 - (v) Clerk's;
 - (vi) Legal; and
 - (vii) Real Estate;

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- (2) a report (March 12, 1998) from the City Clerk recommending that the amendments proposed by the Chief Administrative Officer relating to the following items be amended to provide that:
- (a) the printing budget for the Secretariat Section be reduced by \$50,000 rather than \$150,000;
 - (b) the following budgets not be reduced:
 - (i) Information and Communications; and
 - (ii) Secretariat support for task forces, sub-committees and advisory committees (ABC's and SPB's).

1998 Operating Budget - Information Technology

Mr. Denis Casey, Acting President, CUPE Local 79, appeared before the Budget Committee in connection with the foregoing matter.

- A. Councillor Shiner moved that the Commissioner of Corporate Services be requested to report back to the Budget Committee on capital funding available for IT programs that were approved in the area municipalities.
- B. Councillor Ootes moved that the Commissioner of Corporate Services be requested to report to a future meeting of the Corporate Services Committee on the modifications to be made to computer equipment by the year 2000;

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Ootes Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

- C. Councillor Jakobek moved that the recommendations of the Commissioner of Corporate Services for a reduction of 22 management positions be accepted as a minimum for the Information Technology Department and that the second part of the Phase 1 review of this department be referred to the Chief Administrative Officer for a report to the Budget Committee for its meeting to be held on March 31, 1998, advising whether there are any additional savings he can agree to for 1998.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

Upon the question of the adoption of the foregoing motions A. to C., they were carried.

The Budget Committee recessed at 11:50 a.m. and reconvened at 1:23 p.m. with the following Members present:

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Councillor Jakobek, Chair
Councillor Balkissoon
Councillor Chow
Councillor Kinahan
Councillor Ootes
Councillor Shiner

Facilities Management

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Ootes Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Jakobek the Committee requested the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to review this budget further for an additional one to two percent reduction.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

Audit

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Ootes Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Jakobek, the Committee requested the Committee Secretary, in consultation with the Chief Administrative Officer, to send an appropriate letter to the Toronto Police Services Board advising that the Budget Committee:

- (i) considers the whole purpose of amalgamation was to create efficiencies and eliminate duplication and that the internal audit function is an area where there are opportunities to reduce overlap between the City and its agencies, boards and commissions; and
- (ii) sees no purpose in the Toronto Police Service engaging itself in an internal audit committee when the City of Toronto has its own Audit Committee and Auditor;

and recommending that the Toronto Police Services Board:

- (1) investigate whether the City of Toronto's internal audit services could provide the audit function to the Toronto Police Service in accordance with the Toronto Police Services Board's requirements; and
- (2) confirm its agreement with this request given the considerable funding provided by the City of Toronto to the Toronto Police Services Board.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

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Legal

On motion by Councillor Ootes, the Committee requested the Commissioner of Corporate Services to report back to the Budget Committee on the cost of providing legal services to all departments, agencies, boards and commissions, on a full cost recovery basis and that information also be provided to the Committee on amounts included in the budgets of the various agencies, boards and commissions for external legal counsel.

Clerk's

On motion by Councillor Kinahan, the Committee approved the 1998 Operating Budget for the Clerk's Department subject to the following:

- (a) the budget for Item 10, Secretariat printing requirements, be reduced by \$50,000, rather than \$150,000;
- (b) the budget for Item 11, Information and Communications, not be reduced; and
- (c) the budget for Item 23(a), the provision of secretariat support to task forces, sub-committees and advisory committees, i.e. ABC's and SPB's, not be reduced.

Real Estate

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Ootes Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Jakobek, the Committee:

- (a) requested the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to review this budget further to determine if it can be improved upon by an additional one or two percent reduction; and
- (b) requested the Chief Administrative Officer to report as soon as possible to a regular meeting of the Budget Committee on the disposition of property issue and the staffing necessary for this purpose.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

The Budget Committee approved the 1998 Operating Budgets for the Corporate Services Department listed above subject to the amendments proposed by the Chief Administrative Officer and the foregoing recommendations by the Budget Committee.

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The Budget Committee forwarded the 1998 Operating Budgets for the Corporate Services Department to the Corporate Services Committee for review and comment, noting the foregoing recommendations by the Budget Committee.

(Corporate Services Committee; Commissioner of Corporate Services; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Chief Administrative Officer; c. City Clerk - March 23, 1998)

(Chair, Toronto Police Services Board; c. Chief Administrative Officer; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer - March 27, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 14)

68. 1998 Operating Budget - Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

The Budget Committee had before it the 1998 Operating Budget for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Councillor Jakobek appointed Councillor Ootes Acting Chair and vacated the Chair.

On motion by Councillor Jakobek, the Committee:

- (1) approved the 1998 Operating Budget for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer subject to the amendments proposed by the Chief Administrative Officer, as embodied in Section 'C', as they relate to the:
 - (a) Healthy City Office;
 - (b) Corporate Policy and Planning Division; and
 - (c) Executive Office; and
- (2) directed the Chief Administrative Officer to:
 - (a) assume responsibility for all corporate policy, including housing policy issues of corporate significance;
 - (b) undertake a six month review of the Corporate Policy and Planning Division and the Healthy City Office as part of the report on the Strategic Directions Secretariat; that this review identify the appropriate mechanisms for providing policy and planning services to Council, the Chief Administrative Officer and each department; that evaluate functions, operations and the best fits within the corporation; and

- (c) include in the six month review the identification and evaluation of policy areas within the various departments.

Councillor Jakobek resumed the Chair.

The Budget Committee forwarded the 1998 Operating Budget for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer to the Corporate Services Committee for review and comment, noting the foregoing recommendations by the Budget Committee.

(Corporate Services Committee; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Chief Administrative Officer; Commissioner of Corporate Services - March 23, 1998)

69. 1998 Operating Budget - Offices of the Mayor and Members of Council.

The Budget Committee had before it the 1998 Operating Budget for the Offices of the Mayor and Members of Council.

The Committee approved the 1998 Operating Budget for the Offices of the Mayor and Members of Council, as submitted.

The Budget Committee forwarded 1998 Operating Budget for the Offices of the Mayor and Members of Council to the Corporate Services Committee for review and comment.

Councillor Shiner, Seneca Heights, declared his interest in the foregoing matter in that a member of his family is an employee of the City of Toronto.

(Corporate Services Committee; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Chief Administrative Officer; Commissioner of Corporate Services; c. City Clerk - March 23, 1998)

(Agenda Item No. 15)

The Budget Committee met **in-camera** to consider the following legal matter.

70. Yonge Dundas Redevelopment Project.

The Budget Committee had before it, in camera, a memorandum (March 11, 1998) from Mr. Gary Wright, Project Manager for the Yonge Dundas Redevelopment Project, addressed to the Commissioner of Corporate Services providing information regarding legal issues related to this project.

The Budget Committee reconvened in public session.

The Budget Committee:

- (a) referred the foregoing matter to the City Solicitor, the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer and the City Auditor for a confidential report to the Corporate Services Committee; and
- (b) requested that the City Clerk take the necessary action to arrange an in-camera briefing for all Members of Council on this matter so that they may be provided with all the details related thereto.

(City Solicitor; Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; City Auditor; Commissioner of Corporate Services; City Clerk; Chief Administrative Officer - March 23, 1998).

The Committee adjourned its meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Chair