

THE CITY OF TORONTO

Clerk's Department

Minutes of the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee

Meeting No. 15

Thursday, October 1, 1998

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee met on Thursday, October 1, 1998, in Committee Room A, 2nd Floor, Metro Hall, Toronto, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Mayor Lastman, Chair
Councillor Berardinetti
Councillor Disero
Councillor Fotinos
Councillor Jakobek
Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski
Councillor O'Brien
Councillor Ootes
Councillor Pantalone
Councillor Prue
Councillor Rae
Councillor Saundercook

Declarations of Interest pursuant to the Municipal Conflict Of Interest Act - None declared

318. Veterans' Clubhouses and Legion Halls

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the action of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee and recommending that the report (September 22, 1998) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be amended by deleting the words, "November 15, 1998" from Recommendation No. (6) and replacing them with "November 11, 1998", and that the report, as amended, be adopted.

On motion by Councillor Jakobek, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendations of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force embodied in

the transmittal letter (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk.

(Report No. 19, Clause 1)

319. Reassessment and Tax Policy Information and Communications Plan

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the action of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee and recommending that the Chair of the Task Force and the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be authorized to meet with provincial officials to discuss valuation models, quality control studies and the review of the quality and accuracy of the reassessment in Toronto, and report back to the Task Force on those discussions, at its meeting to be held on October 22, 1998.

On motion by Councillor Jakobek, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendations of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force embodied in the transmittal letter (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk.

(Report No. 19, Clause 2)

320. Ontario Property Assessment Corporation - Recovery Of 1998 Costs

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the action of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee and recommending that:

- (1) the report (September 15, 1998) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be adopted;
- (2) the Mayor, and interested Members of Council, be requested to meet with the Minister of Finance to ensure that the City of Toronto has the number of members on the Board of Ontario Property Assessment Corporation proportional to the percentage of its levy;

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- (3) Councillor Chong be appointed an ex-officio member of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force; and
- (4) Council's position be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario with the request that it endorse the City's position.

On motion by Councillor Ootes, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendations of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force embodied in the transmittal letter (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk, subject to Recommendation (2) therein being amended by deleting the words "and interested Members of Council" and substituting in lieu thereof the words "the Deputy Mayor and the Chair of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force", so as to read:

"(2) The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and the Chair of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force, be requested to meet with the Minister of Finance to ensure that the City of Toronto has the number of members on the Board of Ontario Property Assessment Corporation proportional to the percentage of its levy;"

(Report No. 19, Clause 3)

321. Owner-occupied Condominiums

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the action of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee and recommending that the administrative process set out in the report (September 12, 1998) from the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer be approved.

On motion by Councillor Korwin-Kuczynski, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendations of the Assessment and Tax Policy

Task Force embodied in the transmittal letter (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk.

(Report No. 19, Clause 4)

322. Extension of Property Assessment Appeal Deadline

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the action of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee and City Council, and recommending that Council request all parties in the Ontario legislature to ensure that amending legislation to extend the property assessment appeal deadline to October 30, 1998 is supported in the house and approved without delay.

On motion by Councillor Fotinos, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendations of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force embodied in the transmittal letter (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk.

(Report No. 19, Clause 5)

323. Capping of Business and Realty Taxes for BIAs

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk forwarding the action of the Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force to the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee and recommending that:

- (1) the provincial government be requested to amend legislation in order that individual BIAs may create their own tax policies on BIA levies, at the individual discretion of each BIA; and
- (2) TABIA be advised of the City's request to the provincial government, in order that it may inform its members.

On motion by Councillor Disero, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee recommended to Council the adoption of the recommendations of the

Assessment and Tax Policy Task Force embodied in the transmittal letter (September 30, 1998) from the City Clerk.

(Report No. 19, Clause 6)

324. Transfer Plan for Child Care Services and Adjustments to Child Care Support for Ontario Work

The Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee had before it a report (September 30, 1998) Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhood Services advising that the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, in its communication (September 29, 1998) appended to the aforementioned report has confirmed that the annualized expansion funding of \$3,147,500 from the Province for Ontario Works child care may be used in 1998 to manage current City child care pressures but by 1999 must be used to provide an expanded level of service, and further advising that this clarification from the Province negates the need to defer consideration of the recommendations of the Community and Neighbourhoods Services Committee emanating from its meeting on September 10, 1998.

On motion by Councillor O'Brien, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee forwarded to Council, for consideration at its meeting on October 1, 1998 with Clause 21 of Report No. 18 of the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee, the report (September 30, 1998) from the Commissioner of Community and Neighbourhoods Services and the communication (September 29, 1998) from Marilyn Renwick, Area Manager, Ministry of Community and Social Services appended thereto.

(Report No. 19, Clause 8)

(Letter to Council - October, 1998)

325. Staff Lay-offs in Works and Emergency Services

On motion by Councillor Jakobek, the Strategic Policies and Priorities Committee requested the Chief Administrative Officer to report directly to Council for its meeting on October 1, 1998 on the matter of

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pending lay-offs of employees in Water and Sewage
Plants and advise of the status of such.

(Report No. 19, Clause 7)

(Letter to CAO - October 1, 1998)

Adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Chair.