



**THE COUNCIL OF
THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
BUDGET MINUTES**

November 25, 2021

Members Present:	P. Brown G. Carlson B. Crombie D. Damerla S. Dasko G.S. Dhillon J. Downey C. Fonseca P. Fortini N. Iannicca J. Innis J. Kovac	M. Mahoney S. McFadden M. Medeiros M. Palleschi C. Parrish P. Saito R. Santos I. Sinclair R. Starr A. Thompson P. Vicente
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Members Absent: A. Groves, due to a personal matter K. Ras, due to a personal matter

Staff Present:	J. Baker, Chief Administrative Officer S. Baird, Commissioner of Service Excellence and Innovation G. Kent, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services J. Zingaro, Acting Regional Solicitor A. Smith, Chief Planner K. Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works J. Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services N. Polsinelli, Commissioner of Health Services	Dr. L. Loh, Medical Officer of Health A. Adams, Deputy Clerk and Acting Director of Administration C. Thomson, Deputy Clerk and Manager of Legislative Services H. Gill, Legislative Specialist J. Jones, Legislative Specialist S. Valteau, Legislative Specialist R. Khan, Legislative Technical Coordinator
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Regional Chair Iannicca called the meeting of Regional Council Budget to order at 9:32 a.m. in the Council Chambers, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton.

Councillor Crombie arrived at 9:43 a.m.

Councillor Vicente arrived at 9:49 a.m.

Councillor Dhillon arrived at 10:04 a.m.

Councillor Santos departed at 12:40 p.m. due to other municipal business

2. INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Regional Chair Iannicca read an Indigenous Land Acknowledgement.

Regional Chair Iannicca acknowledged the International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**3.1 Councillor Saito - 2022 Operating and Capital Budget**

Councillor Saito declared a conflict of interest with respect to item 8.3 and general budget items that may pertain to the non-union salary portion of the Region of Peel Budget, as she has family members who are employed with the Region of Peel.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Nil.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**Resolution Number RCB-2021-53**

Moved by Councillor Saito

Seconded by Councillor Fonseca

That the agenda for the November 25, 2021 Regional Council Budget meeting, be approved.

Carried

6. DELEGATIONS**6.1 Opening Remarks**

Remarks by Gary Kent, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services

Resolution Number RCB-2021-54

Received

Gary Kent, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Commissioner of Corporate Services, provided opening remarks on the proposed 2022 Region of Peel budget stating that the past year has been dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic response; however, the 2022 Budget provides an opportunity to showcase the complete range of important Regional services that the community relies on.

Gary Kent highlighted the Mass Vaccination program delivery and noted that all material costs built into the 2022 budget for the pandemic response are assumed to be funded from sources other than property tax. The 2022 Budget focuses on being prepared to re-establish service levels and increase service levels in areas such as health, housing, climate change, diversity and inclusion, and community

safety. Additionally, the proposed budget seeks investments in technology to ensure increased productivity and customer service enhancement.

Gary Kent noted that a cautious approach was taken in establishing the budget, assuming 2 per cent inflation for 2022. Staff will monitor risks associated with inflation, construction and continued supply chain disruptions and mid-year reports will be brought forward to Council outlining price pressures.

The CFO and Commissioner advised that the five per cent cap on Pearson Airport's Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes has been suspended by the provincial government. There is still a \$32M gap in revenues to manage over the next six years until the airport gets back to 2019 passenger levels. The \$7.1M gap in 2022 will be funded through Safe Restart funding.

6.2 Corporate Budget Overview

Presentation by Norman Lum, Director, Business and Financial Planning
(Revised presentation)

Resolution Number RCB-2021-55

Received

Norman Lum, Director, Business and Financial Planning, provided an overview of the proposed 2022 consolidated budget highlighting the Operating Budget, the Utility Rate supported Budget, Capital Budget and the Capital 10 Year Plan. He noted the proposed budget strikes a balance between meeting the urgent needs of the community and tax payer affordability while recognizing the response to COVID-19 as top priority. The 2022 Budget proposes a property tax increase of 1.5 per cent (net levy = 3.5 per cent), which includes a 1 per cent infrastructure levy. The utility rate increase is proposed at 5.8 per cent which is recovered through utility bills for those on municipal water supply. The proposed operating and capital investments of \$3.8B will advance Council's current and long-term objectives and highlighted the services provided under the three pillars of the Strategic Plan: Living, Thriving and Leading. The Region of Peel continues to look across all services to find operational efficiencies and opportunities to reduce costs and the 2022 Budget reflects approximately \$8.3M in cost savings and a further \$0.8M in cost avoidance. He identified managed risks associated with the delivery of the Region's services noting that the pandemic will continue to pose significant risks in 2022. Norman Lum provided a breakdown of the Region of Peel's funding mechanisms and delivery costs and highlighted that provincial funding formulas are not keeping pace with service pressures and increased costs attributed to inflation and population growth.

Norman Lum provided an overview of the 10 year Capital Plan for Regionally controlled services identifying priority investments totaling \$11.2B and funding sources to support the capital plan investments. He noted that capital spending will be aligned with actual growth trends to reduce financial risks.

7. REGIONALLY CONTROLLED SERVICES PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Presentation by Nancy Polsinelli, Commissioner of Health Services

Resolution Number RCB-2021-56

Received

Nancy Polsinelli, Commissioner of Health Services, presented an overview of services provided by Paramedic Services, Long Term Care, Adult Day Services, Infectious Disease Prevention, Chronic Disease Prevention, and Early Growth and Development, which fall under the Living and Thriving pillars of the Strategic Plan.

The Commissioner reviewed the proposed 2022 operating and capital budget for Health Services and highlighted the COVID-19 emergency response and Public Health service disruptions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She provided an overview of service pressures, noting that provincial Public Health funding remains frozen at 2018 levels which does not address inflation and growth. She stated the 2022 Health Services budget includes \$6.7M in COVID-19 related expenditures approved by Regional Council in 2021 to be fully funded by the province or from reserves, resulting in no net impact on the budget.

Members of Council discussed and asked questions regarding construction of a new paramedic station; psychological health, safety and wellness, and peer mentoring supports for Paramedics; paramedic preceptor programs to onboard paramedic students; staffing requirements for the Seniors Health and Wellness Village; and, funding received to date from the provincial government in relation to COVID-19 cost recovery.

7.2 Presentation by Janice Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services

Resolution Number RCB-2021-57

Received

Janice Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services, presented an overview of the services provided through Housing Supports, Income Support, Community Investment, and Early Years and Child Care, which fall under the Living pillar of the Strategic Plan.

The Commissioner reviewed the proposed 2022 operating and capital budget for Human Services and highlighted solutions to address the affordable housing crisis in Peel; funding pressures to allow Peel Living to maintain assets in a state of good repair; an anticipated increase in Ontario Works cases; the transformation of the social assistance system; the creation of the COVID-19 Community Response Table to address unmet needs of the vulnerable population with increased demands for funding by the not-for-profit sector; and, the Region's investment as Service Manager for Early Years and Child Care. The Commissioner stated that staff identified \$2.7M through efficiencies for 2022 with no impact to service levels.

Members of Regional Council discussed and asked questions regarding affordable housing wait lists; household income capping for eligibility for the Second Unit Renovation program; involvement with stakeholders and developers to provide affordable housing; and the net tax impacts of converting contract staff to full time.

Councillor Parrish stated that the Region of Peel has not increased grants to not-for-profit organizations in five years and noted that food banks are struggling. She enquired if the Mississauga Food Bank's grant could be increased on a temporary basis to assist with pandemic-related pressures. Gary Kent, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services, responded that a temporary increase in some services could be funded from stabilization reserves.

In response to questions from Councillor Palleschi regarding the Second Unit Renovation Assistance Program, the Commissioner of Human Services undertook to report to Regional Council in 2022 with an evaluation of the program, including whether increasing the cap on household income would increase participation levels.

The Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services undertook to report to a future meeting of Regional Council with additional information related to the conversion of contract staff to full time.

7.3 Presentation by Kealy Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works

Resolution Number RCB-2021-58

Received

Kealy Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works, presented an overview of services provided in the areas of Water, Wastewater, Waste Management, Land Use Planning, Roads and Transportation and TransHelp, which fall under the Thriving and Living pillars of the Strategic Plan.

The Commissioner reviewed the proposed 2022 operating and capital budget for Public Works and highlighted the increased costs related to personal protective equipment and cleaning; increased organic waste collection, processing and disposal requirements in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated that the department introduced 12 Continuous Improvement Initiatives that resulted in \$2.8M cost savings for the 2022 budget.

7.4 Presentation by Sean Baird, Commissioner of Service Excellence and Innovation

Resolution Number RCB-2021-59

Received

Sean Baird, Commissioner of Digital and Information Services, presented an overview of the internal services provided under Enterprise Programs and Services including: Corporate Services; Service Excellence and Innovation; and Heritage, Arts and Culture, which fall under the Leading and Thriving pillars of the Strategic Plan.

The Commissioner reviewed the proposed 2022 operating and capital budget and highlighted temporary pressures in response to COVID-19. He noted that COVID-19 related costs will be funded by provincial funding and rate stabilization reserves with no net budget impact. Cost containment efficiencies identified in

2021 resulted in a 2022 budget reduction of \$1.56M and did not impact service levels.

Members of Regional Council discussed and asked questions regarding the impact of PILTs on the 2022 and 2023 budgets; and Full Time Equivalent requests for 2022.

8. REPORTS

8.1 Enterprise Asset Management Program Update

Resolution Number RCB-2021-60

Deferred to the December 2, 2021 Regional Council Budget meeting

8.2 Overview and Update on the Status of Reserves

(For information)

Resolution Number RCB-2021-61

Deferred to the December 2, 2021 Regional Council Budget meeting

8.3 2022 Operating and Capital Budget

Councillor Saito declared a conflict on this item. (Councillor Saito declared a conflict of interest with respect to item 8.3 and general budget items that may pertain to the non-union salary portion of the Region of Peel Budget, as she has family members who are employed with the Region of Peel.)

Resolution Number RCB-2021-62

Deferred to the December 2, 2021 Regional Council Budget meeting

9. COMMUNICATIONS

Nil.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil.

11. NOTICE OF MOTION/MOTION

Nil.

12. BY-LAWS

12.1 By-law 65-2021

A by-law to amend By-law 43-2002 titled the "Fees By-law", as amended, and to repeal By-law Numbers 6-2021, 14-2007, 10-2021, 21-2021, 15-2007, 9-2021, 20-2021, 16-2007, 7-2021, 17-2007, 34-2020, 8-2021.

Resolution Number RCB-2021-63

Deferred to the December 2, 2021 Regional Council Budget meeting

13. IN CAMERA MATTERS

Nil.

14. BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

Moved by Councillor Downey

Seconded by Councillor Innis

That By-law 66-2021 to confirm the proceedings of Regional Council at its Budget meeting held on November 25, 2021, and to authorize the execution of documents in accordance with the Region of Peel by-laws relating thereto, be given the required number of readings, taken as read, signed by the Regional Chair and the Deputy Regional Clerk, and the corporate seal be affixed thereto.

Carried

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Deputy Clerk

Regional Chair