



**Town of Aurora  
Budget Committee  
(Operating Budget Review)  
Meeting Report**

**Date:** Monday, January 16, 2023  
**Time:** 6 p.m.  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Aurora Town Hall

**Council Members:** Mayor Tom Mrakas (Chair)  
 Councillor Ron Weese  
 Councillor Rachel Gilliland  
 Councillor Wendy Gaertner\*  
 Councillor Michael Thompson  
 Councillor John Gallo  
 Councillor Harold Kim

**Other Attendees:** Doug Nadorozny, Chief Administrative Officer\*  
 Allan Downey, Director, Operations\*  
 Robin McDougall, Director, Community Services  
 Marco Ramunno, Director, Planning and Development Services  
 Techa van Leeuwen, Director, Corporate Services  
 Rachel Wainwright-van Kessel, Director, Finance  
 Jason Gaertner, Manager, Financial Management  
 Daniel Bitonti, Acting Manager, Corporate Communications\*  
 Sandeep Dhillon, Senior Financial Management Advisor\*  
 Tracy Evans, Financial Management Advisor\*  
 Mohamedali Kamalia, Financial Management Advisor\*  
 Phillip Rose, Manager, Aurora Town Square  
 Laura Sheardown, Financial Management Advisor\*  
 Patricia De Sario, Town Solicitor\*  
 Michael de Rond, Town Clerk  
 Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

\*Attended electronically

---

## 1. Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Budget Committee consented to recess the meeting at 8:11 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

Budget Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

## 3. Approval of the Agenda

Budget Committee approved the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services.

## 4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

## 5. Delegations

None.

## 6. Consideration of Items

### 6.1 2023 Operating Budget - Community Partner Business Plans and Presentations

#### 6.1.1 Central York Fire Services 2023 Operating Grant

[\(Binder Tab 14\)](#)

Fire Chief Ian Laing provided an introduction and Deputy Chief Jeremy Inglis presented an overview of the 2023 Fire Services

Budget submission including: budget process and highlights; operating budget; wages and benefits; and capital budget. Mike Mayes, Treasurer, Town of Newmarket, was also present.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the Central York Fire Services presentation be received; and
2. That the request for the 2023 Operating Grant to the Central York Fire Services in the amount of \$12,722,900 be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**6.1.2 Aurora Public Library Board 2023 Operating Grant**

[\(Binder Tab 15\)](#)

Tom Connor, Board Chair, provided an introduction and Bruce Gorman, Chief Executive Officer, expressed appreciation to the outgoing Board Chair for his service and commitment to the community. Bruce Gorman presented an overview of the Board's funding request including: the Library's community-led service model; impacts of COVID-19 and Town Square construction; programming and resources; key performance indicators; civic engagement and community partnerships; community feedback; governance; and budget pressures. Julie Rocca, Business Manager, was also present.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the Aurora Public Library Board presentation be received; and
2. That the request for the 2023 Operating Grant to the Aurora Public Library Board in the amount of \$4,052,100 be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

**6.1.3 Aurora Historical Society Board 2023 Operating Grant**

[\(Binder Tab 15\)](#)

Alan Lambert, Interim Co-President, Geoffrey Dawe, Interim Co-President and Treasurer, and Kathleen Vahey, Curator, presented an overview of the Board's funding request including: background and mission statement; 2022 highlights, goals and achievements; continued impacts of COVID-19; key performance indicators; ongoing challenges; partnerships; sponsors, supporters, and donors; community feedback; 2023 goals and moving forward; 2022 funding and 2023 forecast; the Godfrey collection; and Hillary House restoration. Directors Ronen Grunberg, Dan McGeown, and Michelle Primeau were also present.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the Aurora Historical Society Board presentation be received; and
2. That the request for the 2023 Operating Grant to the Aurora Historical Society Board in the amount of \$87,100 be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

#### **6.1.4 Aurora Sports Hall of Fame 2023 Operating Grant**

([Binder Tab 15](#))

Javed Khan, President and Chair, and Brian Roberts, Treasurer, presented an overview of the Board's funding request including: background and 2022 key highlights; Class of 2022 Inductees and 2022 Future Hall of Famers; 10th Annual Induction Celebration Evening; 2023 nomination process; and 2023 funding requirements and budget 2023-2026. Lisa Cook, Volunteer, Sharon Kelly, Donor, and Dave Giroux, 2022 Hall of Fame Inductee, were also present.

**Budget Committee recommends:**

1. That the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame presentation be received; and
2. That the request for the 2023 Operating Grant to the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame in the amount of \$30,800 be tentatively approved.

**Carried**

### 6.1.5 Aurora Cultural Centre Board 2023 Operating Grant

([Binder Tab 15](#))

Eric Acker, President and Chair, provided an introduction and highlighted the budget requests for a supplemental increase to the base funding and rewording of the staff recommendation to align with the Town's responsibility for funding of any relocation-driven operating deficits according to the signed agreement between the Town and the Aurora Cultural Centre. Suzanne Haines, Executive Director, presented an overview of the Board's funding request including: mission, vision and core values; programming and key performance indicators; 2022 financial summary; Aurora Town Square financial impact; and 2023-2026 objectives and projections. Laura Hostick, Treasurer, was also present along with other Board members, staff, and supporters.

#### **Motion to defer**

That the Aurora Cultural Centre Board 2023 Operating Grant item be deferred to the Budget Committee meeting of January 23, 2023.

**Carried**

## 7. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.