



Minutes

City Council - Special Meeting

The Corporation of the City of Brampton

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

Members Present: Mayor P. Brown
Regional Councillor R. Santos
Regional Councillor P. Vicente
Regional Councillor N. Kaur Brar
Regional Councillor M. Palleschi
Regional Councillor D. Keenan
Regional Councillor Medeiros
Regional Councillor G. Singh Toor
City Councillor R. Power
Deputy Mayor H. Singh

Members Absent: Regional Councillor P. Fortini (personal)

Staff Present: M. Kallideen, Chief Administrative Officer
B. Boyes, Commissioner, Community Services
S. Ganesh, Commissioner, Planning, Building and Growth Management
L. Johnston, Commissioner, Legislative Services
A. Milojevic, Commissioner, Corporate Support Services
P. Pilateris, Commissioner, Public Works and Engineering
S. Akhtar, City Solicitor, Legislative Services
H. Dempster, General Manager, Transit Services
G. Scharback, City Clerk
S. Pacheco, Legislative Coordinator
T. Jackson, Legislative Coordinator
T. Brenton, Legislative Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m. and adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Brown and Genevieve Scharback, City Clerk, confirmed that all Members were present in the meeting, with the exception of Regional Councillor Fortini (absent for personal reasons).

2. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Brown outlined the purpose for the special meeting and noted that, in accordance with Council's meeting rules, no new business could be considered at this meeting.

The following motion was considered.

C191-2024

Moved by Regional Councillor Santos

Seconded by Regional Councillor Kaur Brar

That the agenda for the Special Council Meeting of October 9, 2024 be approved as published and circulated.

Carried

3. Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Nil

4. Delegations/Correspondence

4.1 Delegation from John Versluis, Manager, Community Safety and Well-Being Services, re. Item 5.1 – Discussion – Compassionate Intervention Programs

Council agreed to vary the order of business and deal with Item 5.1 before Items 4.1 and 4.2.

A motion, moved by Regional Councillor Santos and seconded by Regional Councillor Vicente, was introduced, with the operative clauses as follows.

Therefore be it resolved:

1. That the City of Brampton Mayor, on behalf of Brampton Council, write to the Minister of Health and the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, to request that the provincial government establish and fund an involuntary mental health and addictions treatment pilot project to stem the rising tide of preventable overdoses and alleviate unsustainable use of frontline police resources;
2. That this pilot project be based on the British Columbia model of compassionate treatment for those in crisis threatening their own life and include stakeholders such as Peel Paramedics, and other first responders and medical professionals;
3. That the City of Brampton agrees that treatment should be the ultimate goal for anyone who finds themselves addicted to opioids, but that while waiting treatment, users of opioids need to have ready access to naloxone in case they overdose. Addictions treatment is not available to someone who has succumbed to an overdose. Additionally, individuals leaving treatment programs should be provided with nasal naloxone in case of relapse;
4. That, in addition to urging greater access to treatment, The City of Brampton will collaborate with the Province to enhance access to nasal naloxone in the community, including through Peel Paramedics and Peel Public Health and any other channels that improves access to nasal naloxone better supporting those at risk of opioid overdose;
5. That the Medical Officer of Health and Commissioner of Health be asked to work under the direction of the Chairs of the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee to host a roundtable with The Minister of Health, Hon., Sylvia Jones, the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Michael Tibollo and representatives from neighbouring regions and experts assembled from the community to build action plans to address the addictions crisis based on nationally identified best practices. This work would be in alignment with the mandate of our community safety and well-being plans and that the findings from the roundtable are to be presented to Council within four months for further consideration and implementation;
6. That this resolution be immediately forwarded to the Region of Peel, including the Correspondence from Peel Paramedics and Delegation from Peel Regional Police; and

7. That advocacy efforts continue to support compassionate intervention programs, the completion of Peel Memorial Hospital, and support of other medical facilities throughout the Region of Peel.

The motion was displayed for Council's reference.

Members of Council cited examples of the impact on persons in distress and the community at large as a result of municipalities not having the required tools to address these incidents.

Council consideration of the motion included a number of proposed amendments, which were accepted and incorporated into the displayed motion.

The motion, as amended, was considered as outlined in Resolution C193-2024 below.

John Versluis, Manager, Community Safety and Well-Being Services, Peel Regional Police (PRP), provided information to Council on PRP's response to mental health and addiction incidents, statistics on the number of related incidents since 2020, impact of these incidents on Police resources, and outlined support for legislation in Ontario to provide for compassionate intervention programs as an additional tool to ensure the safety of individuals and communities.

At the request of Council, Mr. Versluis provided a copy of his remarks for the record and to be shared with Peel Region Council.

Regional Councillor Santos read the correspondence from the Peel Paramedic Union (Item 4.2), which was displayed for Council's reference.

A motion was considered to receive the correspondence and delegation as outlined in Resolution C192-2024 below.

C192-2024

Moved by Deputy Mayor Singh

Seconded by Regional Councillor Vicente

That the correspondence received from Dave Wakely, President, Peel Paramedic Union, dated October 8, 2024, and the delegation by John Versluis, Manager, Community Safety and Well-Being, Peel Regional Police, re. **Compassionate Intervention Programs**, to the Special Council Meeting of October 9, 2024, be received.

Carried

C193-2024

Moved by Regional Councillor Santos

Seconded by Regional Councillor Vicente

Whereas overdoses represent another area where a relatively small population represents a significant risk to their well-being and impact on Peel Regional Police (PRP) resources. Between January 2022 and June 2024, there were a total of 1,851 police attended overdoses involving approximately 1,500 unique individuals, 328 of which were fatal; and

Whereas those who were the subject of fatal overdoses often had many prior overdose occurrences, highlighting the importance of early intervention and intensive treatment; And whereas, it is important to note that police only attend a fraction of non-fatal overdoses in the region; and

Whereas additional data from Public Health and hospital authorities can be obtained to provide a more fulsome overview of the scope and scale of overdose events; and

Whereas much like apprehensions, individuals who were the subject of overdose occurrences had multiple additional involvements with police. Specifically, the 1,500 individuals in this data set had a combined total of more than 7,000 occurrences during the reference period, equating to more than 67,100 frontline service hours; and

Whereas there were approximately 12,000 mental health apprehensions by PRP among nearly 8,000 unique individuals January 2022 and June 30, 2024, average of about 5,185 per year or 14 per day. In many cases, those who are the subject of an apprehension are often apprehended multiple times; and

Whereas from January 2022-June 2024, a total of 1,754 individuals in Peel were apprehended on more than one occasion with 57 people being the subject of more than 10 apprehensions and 10 individuals apprehended nearly 300 times in total; and

Whereas the frequent and repeat nature of these apprehensions suggests that community-based interventions may be ineffective for some of these individuals; and

Whereas in the most extreme case, one individual was apprehended on 53 occasions, accounting for nearly 400 service hours; and

Whereas in total 153,970 frontline officer hours were spent on these serious mental health occurrences over the past two-and-a-half years, equivalent to 12,830 officer shifts and over \$12 million in officer time equivalency. This includes

more than 30,000 hours of time spent waiting in hospital during the two-and-a-half-year timeframe; and

Whereas outside of direct apprehension occurrences, individuals who are the subject of apprehensions had a disproportionate rate of other occurrence types with police; and

Whereas among the 106 individuals in Peel with the most apprehensions over the past 30 months (seven apprehensions or greater), there were an additional 916 occurrences associated with these individuals unrelated to an apprehension; and

Whereas among the 7,960 unique individuals apprehended at least once during the reference period, there were nearly 9,900 additional police occurrences not related to an apprehension;

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the City of Brampton Mayor, on behalf of Brampton Council, write to the Minister of Health and the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, to request that the provincial government establish and fund an involuntary mental health and addictions treatment pilot project to stem the rising tide of preventable overdoses and alleviate unsustainable use of frontline police resources;
2. That this pilot project be based on the British Columbia model of compassionate treatment for those in crisis threatening their own life and include stakeholders such as Peel Paramedics, and other first responders and medical professionals;
3. That the City of Brampton agrees that treatment should be the ultimate goal for anyone who finds themselves addicted to opioids, but that while waiting treatment, users of opioids need to have ready access to naloxone in case they overdose. Addictions treatment is not available to someone who has succumbed to an overdose. Additionally, individuals leaving treatment programs should be provided with nasal naloxone in case of relapse;
4. That, in addition to urging greater access to treatment, The City of Brampton will collaborate with the Province to enhance access to nasal naloxone in the community, including through Peel Paramedics and Peel Public Health and any other channels that improves access to nasal naloxone better supporting those at risk of opioid overdose;
5. That the Medical Officer of Health and Commissioner of Health be asked to work under the direction of the Chairs of the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee to host a roundtable with The Minister of Health, Hon., Sylvia Jones,

the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Michael Tibollo and representatives from neighbouring regions and experts assembled from the community to build action plans to address the addictions crisis based on nationally identified best practices. This work would be in alignment with the mandate of our community safety and well-being plans and that the findings from the roundtable are to be presented to Council within four months for further consideration and implementation;

6. That this resolution be immediately forwarded to the Region of Peel, including the Correspondence from Peel Paramedics and Delegation from Peel Regional Police; and

7. That advocacy efforts continue to support compassionate intervention programs, the completion of Peel Memorial Hospital, and support of other medical facilities throughout the Region of Peel.

Carried

- 4.2 Correspondence from Dave Wakely, President, Peel Paramedic Union, dated October 8, 2024, re. Item 5.1 – Discussion – Compassionate Intervention Programs

Dealt with under Item 4.1 – Resolution C192-2024

5. Business Matters

- 5.1 Discussion Item – Compassionate Intervention Programs

Dealt with under Item 4.1 – Resolution C193-2024

6. Public Question Period

The public was given the opportunity to submit questions via e-mail to the City Clerk's Office or in person regarding any decisions made during the meeting.

Genevieve Scharback, City Clerk, confirmed that there were no questions from the public.

7. Confirming By-law

- 7.1 By-law 153-2024 – To confirm the proceedings of Council at its special meeting held on October 9, 2024

The following motion was considered.

C194-2024

Moved by Regional Councillor Santos

Seconded by Regional Councillor Vicente

That the following by-law before Council at its Special Meeting of October 9, 2024, be given the required number of readings, taken as read, and signed by the Mayor and the City Clerk, and the Corporate Seal affixed thereto:

By-law 153-2024 – To confirm the proceedings of Council at its Special Meeting held on October 9, 2024.

Carried

8. Adjournment

The following motion was considered.

C195-2024

Moved by Deputy Mayor Singh

Seconded by Regional Councillor Vicente

That Council do now adjourn to meet again for a Regular Meeting of Council on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried

P. Brown, Mayor

G. Scharback, City Clerk