Regional Council met at 9:32 a.m. in the Council Chambers, York Region Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, with Regional Chair Fisch presiding.

The following were present at this Meeting:

Mayor: Barrow, Black, Emmerson, Grossi, Jackson, Scarpitti, Van Bynen, Young

Regional Councillor: Ferri, Frustaglio, Heath, Hogg, Jones, Landon, Spatafora, Taylor, Wheeler and Wong

Staff: Hulton, Kurji, Llewellyn-Thomas, Macgregor, Mahoney, Russell, Simmons and Tuckey

PRESENTATION

20 United Way Awards Presentation

Daniele Zanotti, Chief Executive Officer of the United Way of York Region, advised that the Region was recently awarded both the Employee Campaign Spirit Award and the Community Fund Spirit Award for its 2007 United Way Campaign.

Mr. Zanotti expressed his appreciation to Regional Council, Regional Chair Fisch, Co-Chairs Bryan Tuckey and Police Inspector Stan Colley and all Region and York Regional Police staff for their support and contributions to the campaign. Mr. Zanotti advised that the Region’s 2007 campaign raised $202,000 which is an $80,000 increase over the previous year. Over $170,000 of the $202,000 was directed to local services and agencies in York Region.

Regional Chair Fisch thanked Mr. Zanotti for all of his work in assisting the various agencies and the people who live in York Region.

Bryan Tuckey, Commissioner of Planning and Development Services, also expressed his appreciation to all involved for the successful campaign.
MINUTES

It was moved by Regional Councillor Wong, seconded by Regional Councillor Jones, that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 24th of January 2008 be confirmed in the form supplied to the Members.

Carried

MOTION

22 Environmental Assessment for Regional Road Widensings
(Clause 13, Items 2 and 3, Transportation and Works Committee Report No. 2)

Regional Councillor Landon requested that Council waive the rules of procedure in order that he could introduce an amendment to that part of the Committee Update contained in Clause 13, Items 2 and 3 of Report No. 2 of the Transportation and Works Committee. Council agreed to this on a two-thirds majority vote.

It was moved by Regional Councillor Landon, seconded by Regional Councillor Wheeler that the recommendations in Items 2 and 3 of Clause 13 of Transportation and Works Committee Report No. 2, regarding the letters from the Clerk of the Town of Markham re. Environmental Assessments for Regional road widenings, be amended to state that the letters be received and referred to the Commissioner of Transportation Services for a report.

Carried

(See Minute No. 28.)

COMMUNICATIONS

Council considered the following communications:

23 Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board Resolution Regarding Penalties for Crimes Involving Illicit Drugs

Connie Phillipson, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board, January 30, 2008, forwarding a resolution adopted at the November 21, 2007 Board meeting, regarding Penalties for Crimes Involving Illicit Drugs.

It was moved by Regional Councillor Wheeler, seconded by Mayor Scarpitti, that the resolution from the York Regional Police Services Board dated November 21, 2007 regarding Penalties for Crimes Involving Illicit Drugs be endorsed and forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Carried

24 Request for Recognition of March, 2008 as Red Cross Month

Jerry Chwang, Branch President, Canadian Red Cross, January 28, 2008, regarding recognition of March, 2008 as Red Cross Month.
It was moved by Regional Councillor Frustaglio, seconded by Mayor Emmerson, that the communication from Jerry Chwang, Branch President, Canadian Red Cross dated January 28, 2008 be received and that March, 2008 be recognized as Red Cross Month.

Carried

25 City of Vaughan Resolution regarding Peace Tree Day

Sybil Fernandes, Deputy City Clerk, City of Vaughan, February 1, 2008, forwarding a resolution adopted by the City of Vaughan at its meeting of January 28, 2008 regarding Peace Tree Day – June 1, 2008.

It was moved by Mayor Emmerson, seconded by Regional Councillor Hogg, that the communication from Sybil Fernandes, Deputy City Clerk, City of Vaughan dated February 1, 2008 be received and the resolution regarding Peace Tree Day be endorsed.

Carried

26 Request for Deputation – York Region Food Network

Sue Smitko, Volunteer, York Region Food Network, January 23, 2008, regarding the Network’s goals and the Annual Charity Golf Tournament and requesting deputant status.

It was moved by Mayor Grossi, seconded by Mayor Jackson, that the communication from Sue Smitko, Volunteer, York Region Food Network be received and that deputant status be granted.

Carried

27 Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Resolution regarding Earth Hour

Michele Kennedy, Town Clerk, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, February 11, 2008, forwarding a resolution adopted by the Council of the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville at its meeting on February 5, 2008, regarding Earth Hour – March 29, 2008.

It was moved by Mayor Emmerson, seconded by Mayor Scarpitti, that the resolution from the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville regarding Earth Hour be received.

Carried

28 Environmental Assessments for Regional Road Widenings

(Clause 13, Items 2 and 3, Transportation and Works Committee Report No. 2 and Minute No.22)

It was moved by Mayor Scarpitti, seconded by Mayor Black, that the following communications be received:

Valerie Burke, Councillor, Town of Markham, Ward 1, February 8, 2008
Erin Shapero, Councillor, Town of Markham, Ward 2, February 8, 2008
Joseph Virgilio, Councillor, Town of Markham, Ward 3, February 13, 2008
It was moved by Regional Councillor Jones, seconded by Mayor Grossi, that the following communications be received:

Marilyn Ginsburg, Co-chair, Grandview Area Residents Association, February 10, 2008;
Toinette Bezant, President, Bayview Glen Residents Association, February 14, 2008;
Toinette Bezant, President, Bayview Glen Residents Association, February 20, 2008;
Peter Miasek, Preserve 16th, February 10, 2008;
Bill Kinney, Resident, Town of Markham, February 11, 2008;
Louise Martel, Resident, Town of Markham, February 12, 2008;
Sandra McEleney, Markham Resident and Member, Conservation Committee, February 9, 2008;
Evelin Ellison, Vice-President, Ward One (South) Thornhill Residents Inc.;
Janet May, Network Director, Ontario Smart Growth Network, February 19, 2008;
John Zoratto, February 19, 2008;
Wes Lammers, February 19, 2008;

and that the Regional Clerk forward a copy of any future report and the date and time of the future Transportation and Works Committee meeting regarding this issue to those who sent these communications and that Transportation Services staff contact them to identify any issues or concerns.

DEPUTATIONS

Council then heard the following deputation:

29 York Region Food Network

Sue Smitko of the York Region Food Network was accompanied by Joan Stonehocker, Executive Director of the Food Network. Ms. Smitko indicated that over 41,000 people used Regional food banks in 2007 and 17,000 of these were children. She requested the continuing and growing support of Members of Council in signing up for the Food Network’s Golf Tournament which is currently scheduled for August 2008.

It was moved by Mayor Emmerson, seconded by Mayor Grossi, that Council receive the deputation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Regional Councillor Ferri presented the following reports for the consideration of Council:

Report No. 1 of the Audit Committee
Report No. 1 of the Community Services and Housing Committee
Report No. 2 of the Finance and Administration Committee
Report No. 2 of the Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee
Report No. 1 of the Joint Rapid Transit Public/Private Partnership Steering Committee
Report No. 2 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee
Report No. 2 of the Rapid Transit Public/Private Partnership Steering Committee
Report No. 2 of the Solid Waste Management Committee
Report No. 2 of the Transit Committee
Report No. 2 of the Transportation and Works Committee, and
Report No. 1 of the Commissioner of Community and Health Services

It was moved by Regional Councillor Ferri, seconded by Regional Councillor Jones, that the reports be received and that Council resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to consider them. Carried

Regional Chair Fisch chaired the Committee of the Whole.

The Committee of the Whole rose after making the following recommendations:

Report No. 1 of the Audit Committee be adopted without amendment;

Report No. 1 of the Community Services and Housing Committee be adopted without amendment;

Report No. 2 of the Finance and Administration Committee be adopted with the following amendment:

Recommendation No. 4 in Clause 3 regarding an Update on Property Tax Relief Options for Seniors and other Low-Income Persons, be amended to request that the additional report be tabled at the June 5, 2008 Committee meeting and include information on potential impacts to the Region as a result of updated census data from Statistics Canada.

Report No. 2 of the Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee be adopted without amendment;

Report No. 1 of the Joint Rapid Transit Public/Private Partnership Steering Committee be adopted without amendment;

Report No. 2 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee be adopted without amendment;

Report No. 2 of the Rapid Transit Public/Private Partnership Steering Committee be adopted without amendment;

Report No. 2 of the Solid Waste Management Committee be adopted without amendment;
Report No. 2 of the Transit Committee be adopted without amendment;

Report No. 2 of the Transportation and Works Committee be adopted with the following amendment:

Clause 6 regarding the Anti-Whistling Policy for Trains at Road/Rail Crossings be referred back to staff for further discussion with the local municipalities and the submission of a report to the April 9, 2008 Committee meeting.

See Minute Nos. 22 and 28 for amendments to Clause 13, Items 2 and 3 regarding Environmental Assessments for Regional Road Widening.

Report No. 1 of the Commissioner of Community and Health Services be adopted without amendment.

It was moved by Mayor Scarpitti, seconded by Mayor Van Bynen, that Council adopt the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole.

Carried

31 BY-LAWS

It was moved by Regional Councillor Heath, seconded by Regional Councillor Ferri, that certain Bills be introduced and approved in the form as noted on the Revised Agenda, and enacted as By-laws.

By-law No. 2008-16 To amend By-law No. R-1102-96-100 to prohibit or regulate parking and stopping on Regional Roads

By-law No. 2008-17 A by-law to amend By-law No. A-0339-2004-026, being a by-law to provide tax assistance to certain seniors and disabled residents who are owners of real property in The Regional Municipality of York

By-law No. 2008-18 A by-law to amend By-law No. A-0378-2006-031 being a by-law to adopt an Emergency Management Program

By-law No. 2008-19 A by-law to assume the Jefferson Sideroad Watermain in the Town of Richmond Hill

By-law No. 2008-20 A by-law to adopt Amendment No. 60 to the Official Plan for the Region of York

By-law No. 2008-21 To dedicate certain lands for the purposes of public highways

Carried
OTHER BUSINESS

32 VIVA – Regional Councillor Heath

Regional Councillor Heath advised Council that he had taken the VIVA bus from the Markham-Stouffville Hospital to Council’s meeting in Newmarket today. He indicated that he had enjoyed the trip immensely, was able to read material that he otherwise would not have the time to read and recommended the VIVA option to everyone.

33 Request for Report – Contingency Funds

It was moved by Mayor Van Bynen, seconded by Mayor Grossi, that the Commissioner of Finance be requested to prepare a report for consideration by the Finance and Administration Committee recommending a process to identify the extent to which contingency funds are drawn on and for what purpose.

Carried

34 PRIVATE SESSION

It was moved by Regional Councillor Frustaglio, seconded by Regional Councillor Heath that Council convene in Private Session for the purpose of considering the following:

3. Private Report of the Community Services and Housing Committee, Receivership Of Housing Project – (Security of Municipal Property)
4. Private Report of the Commissioner of Corporate Services, CUPE 905 (Long Term Care Unit) Bargaining Status Update (Labour Relations matter)

Carried

Council met in Private Session at 12:25 p.m. and reconvened in Council at 1:05 p.m.

It was moved by Mayor Black, seconded by Mayor Scarpitti, that Council rise and report from Private Session.

Carried
Durham-York Residual Waste Environmental Assessment Study
Consultants’ Budget Update

It was moved by Regional Councillor Heath, seconded by Regional Councillor Ferri, that Council adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential report of the Solid Waste Management Committee, as follows:

1. York Region’s budget for the Durham-York Residual Waste Environmental Assessment Study be increased by $1.445 million due to revisions required to the project work program as outlined in this report.

2. York Region support the retention of HDR Corporation by Durham Region to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) for design, construction and operation of the Durham-York energy-from-waste facility at a cost of $400,000 and that York Region contribute an amount not to exceed $200,000 towards this retainer.

3. Staff be directed to report back to Council on the outcome of negotiations with Durham Region with respect to the cost sharing of the RFP process and other related expenditures.

The balance of the report to remain confidential under the provisions of the Municipal Act as it pertains to the security of municipal property.

Rapid Transit — Direct Award of Contract for Consulting Services
(Report No. 3 of the Rapid Transit Public/Private Partnership Steering Committee)

It was moved by Regional Councillor Frustaglio, seconded by Regional Councillor Ferri, that Council adopt the report (February 14, 2008) of the Rapid Transit Public/Private Partnership Steering Committee, including its recommendations, as amended, as follows:

1. Council authorize staff to renew Dave Duncan’s contract for consulting services for one year at $75,000.

2. Council delegate authority to the Vice President, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation to annually renew the contract in one-year increments for an additional two years, based on approved budget and satisfactory performance.

3. The Regional Chair and the Vice-President, York Region Rapid Transit be authorized to execute the necessary contracts, subject to review by Legal Services.

Carried
37 Receivership of Housing Project

It was moved by Regional Councillor Spatafora, seconded by Regional Councillor Wheeler, that Council adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential report of the Community Services and Housing Committee, with the report and recommendations to remain confidential under the provisions of the Municipal Act as they pertain to the security of municipal property.  
Carried

38 CUPE 905 (Long Term Care Unite) Bargaining Status Update

It was moved by Regional Councillor Heath, seconded by Mayor Barrow, that Council adopt the recommendations contained in the confidential report of the Commissioner of Corporate Services, as follows:

1. The Regional Chair and Chief Administrative Officer ratify the Collective Agreement reflecting the Minutes of Settlement described in the report from the Commissioner of Corporate Services.  
Carried

The balance of the report to remain confidential under the provisions of the Municipal Act as it pertains to labour relations.

39 CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

It was moved by Regional Councillor Frustaglio, seconded by Mayor Barrow, that the following by-law be enacted to confirm the proceedings of this meeting of Council.

By-law No. 2008-22  To confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on February 21, 2008.  
Carried

The Council meeting adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

________________________________________
Regional Clerk

Minutes confirmed and adopted at the meeting of Regional Council held on March 27, 2008.

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Regional Chair