

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2018

Item 1, Report No. 6, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on February 21, 2018, as follows:

By receiving Communication C3, from the Integrity Commissioner and Lobbyist Registrar, dated February 15, 2018.

1 REPORT ON COUNCIL DECISION – 230 GRAND TRUNK AVENUE

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Solicitor dated February 6, 2018, be approved;**
- 2) That the presentation by the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C. be received;**
- 3) That the deputation by Ms. Codruta Papoi, Maverick Crescent, Vaughan, be received; and**
- 4) That the following Communications be received:**
 - C2 Mr. Furio Liberatore, The Friends of Grand Trunk Ravine, dated January 31, 2018; and**
 - C4. Mr. Richard T. Lorello, dated February 6, 2018.**

Purpose

On June 27, 2017, Council directed as follows:

That the Council decision regarding 230 Grand Trunk Avenue referenced within the context of the Integrity Commissioner's Final Investigation Report be addressed in a future report to Council that considers the issue of whether or not the inappropriate influence found in the Integrity Commissioner's report impacted upon the decision.

In response, staff retained former Ontario Court of Appeal Justice, the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C., who has prepared the attached report for Council's consideration.

Recommendations

- 1. That the report of the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C., dated January 23, 2018 be received.**

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Report Highlights

- The City's Integrity Commissioner reported on a formal complaint relating to the conduct of former Regional Councillor and Deputy Mayor Michael Di Biase in respect of his actions related to the development proposal at 230 Grand Trunk Avenue
- Council directed a future report be submitted to Council considering if inappropriate influence found in the Integrity Commissioner's report impacted the decision
- The Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C., was retained to provide a report in response to the Council direction which is attached

Background

On November 1, 2016, the City's Integrity Commissioner received a formal complaint relating to the conduct of former Regional Councillor and Deputy Mayor Michael Di Biase in respect of his actions related to the development proposal at 230 Grand Trunk Avenue.

The Integrity Commissioner's report, submitted to Council for consideration at the Council meeting of June 27, 2017, included a finding that the former Regional Councillor attempted to improperly influence the decision of Council.

Following consideration of the Integrity Commissioner's report, Council directed as follows:

"That the Council decision regarding 230 Grand Trunk Avenue referenced within the context of the Integrity Commissioner's Final Investigation Report be addressed in a future report to Council that considers the issue of whether or not the inappropriate influence found in the Integrity Commissioner's report impacted upon the decision."

In furtherance of Council's direction, the City retained former Justice for the Ontario Court of Appeal, the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C., to review this matter and prepare a report for Council's consideration. Attached as Attachment 1 is the Report of the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C., dated January 23, 2018.

Previous Reports/Authority

[Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2017](#)

[Extract from Council Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2017](#)

[OMB Decision dated March 9, 2016](#)

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Analysis and Options

The Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C. will be in attendance at the Committee of the Whole meeting to present his report and address any questions.

Financial Impact

The Office of the City Solicitor has a budget for external consultations. The retainer of the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C. did not require any changes to the existing budget.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Not applicable

Conclusion

The Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C. will be in attendance at the Committee of the Whole meeting to present his report in furtherance of Council's direction of June 27, 2017. It is recommended that the Report of the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C. dated January 22, 2018 be received.

For more information, please contact: Claudia Storto, City Solicitor

Attachments

1. The Report of the Honourable Robert P. Armstrong, Q.C. dated January 23, 2018.

Prepared by

Claudia Storto, City Solicitor, extension 8315

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)