

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2017

Item 1, Report No. 7, of the Finance, Administration and Audit Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 27, 2017.

1 COUNCIL EXPENDITURE AND CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW TASK FORCE: FINDINGS REPORT

The Finance, Administration and Audit Committee recommends:

- 1) That consideration of this matter be deferred to the September 20, 2017 Finance, Administration and Audit Committee meeting; and**
- 2) That the term of the Council Expenditure and Code of Conduct Review Task Force be extended to provide for additional Task Force meetings as necessary to allow further review of recommendations by Members of Council who were not part of the Task Force and that all necessary parties attend the Task Force meetings, including the Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer and the Integrity Commissioner.**

Recommendation

The City Clerk, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer, on behalf of the Council Expenditure and Code of Conduct Review Task Force, forwards the following for Council's consideration:

1. That the recommended amendments to the Council Member Expense Policy (CL-012) and Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council (CL-011) set out in the Task Force Findings Report be approved.

Contribution to Sustainability

Periodic reviews of financial and ethical accountability frameworks for elected officials supports sustainable and good governance practices.

Economic Impact

The recommended amendments to the Council Member Expense Policy (CL-12) have no impact on the amounts allocated to Council Office budgets and the Council Corporate budget. Incremental costs that may be incurred through City departmental budgets are insignificant and are considered part of the day to day City business.

There is no economic impact associated with the recommended amendments to the Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council (CL-011).

Communication Plan

This report will be posted on the City's website and the outcome resulting from the review of the Council Member Expense Policy and the Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council will be incorporated in the policy documents.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council Expenditure and Code of Conduct Review Task Force Findings Report to Council for consideration. The Findings Report represents a summary of the Task Force's deliberations and recommendations to amend the Council Member Expense Policy and the Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council Policy.

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Item 1, Finance Report No. 7 – Page 2

Background – Analysis and Options

The Council Expenditure and Code of Conduct Review Task Force was formed to review the Council Member Expense Policy and report its findings to the Finance, Administration and Audit Committee by the end of June 2016 for consideration in the budget. The Task Force mandate was expanded to include a review of the Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council and the Task Force term was extended to May 2017 to allow the Task Force to complete both tasks.

The Council Expenditure and Code of Conduct Review Task Force completed its review of the Council Member Expense Policy and made recommendations for amendments to the Policy as the first phase of reporting its findings at the January 16, 2017 Finance, Administration and Audit Committee. This matter was deferred for consideration to a future Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meeting. Recognizing the close alignment between the Council Member Expense Policy and the Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council, it was subsequently determined that both sets of recommendations should be brought forward for consideration at the same meeting. The Task Force Findings Report (attachments 1, 2 and 3) is a combined report which includes recommended amendments to both policies.

Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)

This report supports the goals established by Council in the Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map, specifically:

- Continue to advance a culture of excellence in governance.

Regional Implications

There are no regional implications resulting from this extension.

Conclusion

The Council Expenditure and Code of Conduct Task Force has completed its mandate and the City Clerk is forwarding the Task Force's Findings Report for Council's consideration.

Attachments

1. Covering Letter – Task Force Chair
2. Council Member Expense Policy Amendments
3. Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council Policy Amendments

Report prepared by:

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Council / Committee Administrator

(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.)