

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2015

Item 6, Report No. 26, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 23, 2015.

6 INDEPENDENT ELECTRICITY SYSTEM OPERATOR MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BLANKET SUPPORT RESOLUTION: REVISED FEED IN TARIFF (FIT 4.0) PROGRAM

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Planning and the Director of Building Standards, dated June 16, 2015:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning and the Director of Building Standards, in consultation with the Environmental Sustainability Section of Strategic and Corporate Services recommend:

1. THAT Council endorse the attached revised FIT Version 4.0 resolution; and
2. THAT the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the revised Blanket Support resolution.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report recommending endorsement of the FIT program which promotes local small scale energy production through renewable energy projects including rooftop solar installations is consistent with the priorities previously set out by Council in Green Directions Vaughan regarding the Community Sustainability and Environmental Plan:

- Goal 1, Action 1.2.1: Demonstrate support for renewable energy use and generation by businesses and citizens by minimizing, where appropriate, obstacles to the development of alternative energy sources.

Economic Impact

There is no direct economic impact to the Municipality resulting from the recommendations of this report.

Communications Plan

A communication plan is not required as the FIT program is administered by the Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO"). Information about renewable energy generators in the City of Vaughan will be posted on the Environmental Sustainability area of the City website.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to request that Council provide staff with authorization to administer Council's Resolution based on the revised FIT 4.0 program's forms and procedures.

Background - Analysis and Options

Staff is recommending that Council endorse the attached FIT 4.0 Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution for all rooftop solar generation installations within the City. Staff continue to recommend that all other system types such as wind generation or ground mount solar installations should be reviewed on a site by site basis thus requiring individual site specific Municipal Council Support Resolutions approved by Council. Under the FIT Version 4.0 rules the

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blanket support resolution expires after one year. After that time, Staff recommends that, subject to City Manager approval, the Clerk can extend the term of the Blanket Resolution on behalf of Council.

This is the second FIT Blanket Resolution proposed by staff. The first was passed on October 29, 2013 and expired one year after that. As with the previous FIT application process, the IESO is continuing to provide municipalities an opportunity to influence renewable energy projects. Municipalities may provide support through either a blanket support resolution or an individual/specific support resolution. The former provides support for the specified renewable energy project anywhere in the municipality while the latter provides support for projects proposed for a specific location in the municipality. The latter requires individual Council support resolutions for each project. The resolution's sole purpose is to enable the applicant to receive priority points under the FIT program and may not be used for the purpose of seeking or qualifying for any other form of municipal approval.

In order to process requests for Council's support resolutions, Staff will continue to require the following information:

- 1) Project Owner/Applicant name, contact email and phone number
- 2) Project Location
- 3) Building Type and Project Size

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

Not applicable.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that Council endorse the attached FIT Version 4.0 Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution for all rooftop solar generation installations within the City. Staff continue to recommend that all other system types such as wind generation or ground mount solar installations should be reviewed on a site by site basis and requiring individual Municipal Council Support Resolutions approved by Council.

The applicants should be aware that the council resolution does not in itself provide for these installations and that where applicable building permits must be processed through the City of Vaughan Building Standards Department prior to commencement of any works.

Attachments

1. Municipal Council Blanket Support Resolution – Prescribed Form – FIT Version 4.0

Report prepared by:

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(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.)