

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2013

Item 47, Report No. 32, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 25, 2013.

47 TREATMENT OF TREES ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY BY RESIDENTS

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following resolution submitted by Regional Councillor Schulte, dated June 18, 2013:

Member's Resolution

Submitted by Regional Councillor Deb Schulte

Whereas, the City has been approached by residents requesting the application of TreeAzin, through a licensed contractor, at their expense to protect their Ash street tree.

Whereas, the City has made a decision not to treat street trees with TreeAzin as it is not a cost effective solution, as the tree must be treated every two years for the rest of the trees life, and this treatment does not guarantee the tree will not succumb to the disease.

Whereas, residents have expressed a desire to protect their street tree at their expense because they value the tree canopy and understand that it will take, in some cases, twenty years to get the canopy that they currently enjoy.

Whereas, given the current situation with the decimation of the City's ash tree population resulting in the significant reduction in our urban tree canopy, extending the life of a tree, and canopy at the homeowner's expense is a positive contribution as it demonstrates environmental stewardship.

Whereas, the City needs to ensure its indemnification should the treatment not be successful and that City will not be involved or responsible in determining if the tree is suitable for treatment. This determination is at the sole discretion of the homeowner and should be done by an Arborist.

Whereas, the Application of TreeAzin must be done by a licensed Contractor.

Whereas, the City's normal procedure for determination of an infected tree (dead or dying) and required removal will be respected despite the homeowner's treatment of the tree.

Whereas, the spread of the EAB is continuing throughout the summer across the City. There is urgency to addressing this request, as once the tree is infected, (30% canopy loss) the treatment is unlikely to be as effective.

It is therefore recommended that,

That the appropriate City staff investigate the approval process and the required indemnification documents so residents can hire licensed contractors to treat trees on City property.