

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 23, 2018

Item 24, Report No. 18, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 23, 2018.

24 REVIEW OF CITY OF VAUGHAN RESPONSE TO APRIL 14 – 15, 2018 WINTER STORM

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following resolution of Councillor Shefman, dated May 8, 2018:

Member's Resolution

Submitted by Councillor Alan Shefman.

Whereas, the City of Vaughan and other GTA municipalities received a late winter storm on the weekend of April 14-15, 2018; and

Whereas, the staff plan to respond to the forecasted conditions relied on multiple applications of salt and rainfall to reduce the buildup of ice and snow;

Whereas, the actual conditions during April 14 and 15 were different from the forecast and as the storm subsided on April 16 there was a significant buildup of ice and snow on City roads and sidewalks making driving and walking conditions challenging; and

Whereas, staff, who continued to assess the conditions and monitor road and sidewalk conditions during and following the winter storm made the decision to begin plowing on April 17; and

Whereas, by that time, many residents were contacting Councillors' and other City offices to express their concerns and anger about what was perceived as either no or little response to the conditions; and

Whereas, climate change is resulting in more unusual, severe, unpredictable and unexpected weather events; and

Whereas, it is important and useful to fully understand how the City responds to extreme and unpredictable events, as part of our quest for continual improvement in providing services to our residents and businesses.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That a review of all aspects of the City's response to the April 14-15, 2018 winter storm be undertaken, including:
 - a. The planning, decision-making, execution, and internal and external communications processes
 - b. The terms of winter maintenance contracts and how the

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 23, 2018

Item 24, CW Report No. 18 – Page 2

- availability of contracted equipment and labour influenced the City's response
 - c. The total costs incurred by the City in responding to the winter storm
 - d. Resident communications with the City and responses
 - e. How other GTA municipalities responded to the winter storm to serve their citizens; and
2. That the review, including recommendations to mitigate the impact of such severe weather events, be presented to Council in June of 2018; and
 3. That recommendations be considered for implementation through

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



MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Meeting/Date: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MAY 8, 2018

Title: REVIEW OF CITY OF VAUGHAN RESPONSE TO
APRIL 14 – 15, 2018 WINTER STORM

Submitted by: Councillor Alan Shefman

Whereas, the City of Vaughan and other GTA municipalities received a late winter storm on the weekend of April 14-15, 2018; and

Whereas, the staff plan to respond to the forecasted conditions relied on multiple applications of salt and rainfall to reduce the buildup of ice and snow;

Whereas, the actual conditions during April 14 and 15 were different from the forecast and as the storm subsided on April 16 there was a significant buildup of ice and snow on City roads and sidewalks making driving and walking conditions challenging; and

Whereas, staff, who continued to assess the conditions and monitor road and sidewalk conditions during and following the winter storm made the decision to begin plowing on April 17; and

Whereas, by that time, many residents were contacting Councillors' and other City offices to express their concerns and anger about what was perceived as either no or little response to the conditions; and

Whereas, climate change is resulting in more unusual, severe, unpredictable and unexpected weather events; and

Whereas, it is important and useful to fully understand how the City responds to extreme and unpredictable events, as part of our quest for continual improvement in providing services to our residents and businesses.

It is therefore recommended:

- 1. That a review of all aspects of the City's response to the April 14-15, 2018 winter storm be undertaken, including:*
 - a. The planning, decision-making, execution, and internal and external communications processes*
 - b. The terms of winter maintenance contracts and how the availability of contracted equipment and labour influenced the City's response*
 - c. The total costs incurred by the City in responding to the winter storm*
 - d. Resident communications with the City and responses*
 - e. How other GTA municipalities responded to the winter storm to serve their citizens; and*
- 2. That the review, including recommendations to mitigate the impact of such severe weather events, be presented to Council in June of 2018; and*
- 3. That recommendations be considered for implementation through the 2019 budget process and, where possible, the 2018/19 winter maintenance period.*

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Alan Shefman



MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Meeting/Date: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MAY 8, 2018

Title: REVIEW OF CITY OF VAUGHAN RESPONSE TO
APRIL 14 – 15, 2018 WINTER STORM

Submitted by: Councillor Alan Shefman

Whereas, the City of Vaughan and other GTA municipalities received a late winter storm on the weekend of April 14-15, 2018; and

Whereas, the staff plan to respond to the forecasted conditions relied on multiple applications of salt and rainfall to reduce the buildup of ice and snow;

Whereas, the actual conditions during April 14 and 15 were different from the forecast and as the storm subsided on April 16 there was a significant buildup of ice and snow on City roads and sidewalks making driving and walking conditions challenging; and

Whereas, staff, who continued to assess the conditions and monitor road and sidewalk conditions during and following the winter storm made the decision to begin plowing on April 17; and

Whereas, by that time, many residents were contacting Councillors' and other City offices to express their concerns and anger about what was perceived as either no or little response to the conditions; and

Whereas, climate change is resulting in more unusual, severe, unpredictable and unexpected weather events; and

Whereas, it is important and useful to fully understand how the City responds to extreme and unpredictable events, as part of our quest for continual improvement in providing services to our residents and businesses.

It is therefore recommended:

- 1. That a review of all aspects of the City's response to the April 14-15, 2018 winter storm be undertaken, including:*
 - a. The planning, decision-making, execution, and internal and external communications processes*
 - b. The terms of winter maintenance contracts and how the availability of contracted equipment and labour influenced the City's response*
 - c. The total costs incurred by the City in responding to the winter storm*
 - d. Resident communications with the City and responses*
 - e. How other GTA municipalities responded to the winter storm to serve their citizens; and*
- 2. That the review, including recommendations to mitigate the impact of such severe weather events, be presented to Council in June of 2018; and*
- 3. That recommendations be considered for implementation through the 2019 budget process and, where possible, the 2018/19 winter maintenance period.*

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Alan Shefman

Media Release



Office of the Mayor

Statement by Mayor Linda Jeffrey on City's Storm Response

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

BRAMPTON - Today at Council we were able to ask questions of our Commissioner of Public Works and Engineering regarding the storm we experienced this past weekend.

My colleagues and I learned from staff that our winter contracts for snow clearing had actually expired either in mid-March or at the beginning of April. When the contracts end the equipment and operators also are in short supply. Most of our trucks had already been converted (plows had been removed) for summer operations. Our City staff worked around the clock to bring back as many operators and equipment as possible.

The communication by the City to our residents should have happened much earlier. We intend to do better in the future.

Council unanimously passed a motion directing staff to review the City's storm response this past weekend and report back on measures that can be taken to better combat extreme weather incidents.

The reality is that these extreme weather events are happening more frequently and we as a City need to adjust how we respond not only to the event but to our residents. I know that my residents were frustrated and we as a Council heard your concerns about public safety. The safety of all our residents and their ability to get to work, to school and to appointments is paramount.

When City Staff brings back the report you have my assurance that I will be making that update public and seek your input.