



Minutes

Governance and Council Operations Committee

The Corporation of the City of Brampton

Monday, September 21, 2020

Members Present:	Regional Councillor P. Fortini (Chair)	Wards 7 and 8
	Regional Councillor M. Medeiros	Wards 3 and 4
	Regional Councillor P. Vicente	Wards 1 and 5
	Regional Councillor G. Dhillon	Wards 9 and 10
	City Councillor C. Williams	Wards 7 and 8
Other Members Present:	Regional Councillor R. Santos	Wards 1 and 5
	City Councillor J. Bowman	Wards 3 and 4
Staff Present:	D. Barrick, Chief Administrative Officer	
	M. Davidson, Commissioner, Corporate Support Services	
	J. Tamming, Director, Strategic Communications, Corporate Support Services	
	M. Medeiros, Acting Treasurer, Corporate Support Services	
	Z. Majid, Senior Manager, Accounting Services and Deputy Treasurer, Corporate Support Services	
	P. Fay, City Clerk, Legislative Services	
	C. Gravlev, Deputy City Clerk, Legislative Services	
T. Brenton, Legislative Coordinator, City Clerk's Office		

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

1. **Call to Order**

As this meeting was conducted with electronic participation by Members of Committee, the meeting started with the City Clerk calling the roll for attendance at the meeting, as follows:

Members present during roll call: Councillor Fortini, Councillor Medeiros, Councillor Vicente, Councillor Dhillon and Councillor Williams

Members absent during roll call: nil

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was considered.

GC011-2020

That the agenda for the Governance and Council Operations Committee Meeting of September 21, 2020 be approved as published and circulated.

Carried

3. **Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act** – nil

4. **Consent** – nil

5. **Announcements** – nil

6. **Delegations** – nil

7. **Staff Presentations** – nil

8. Reports

8.1 Staff Report re: **Councillors' Expense Policy – Consulting Services (RM 12/2020)**.

At the request of Committee, staff provided an overview of the subject report and responded to questions.

Committee consideration of this matter included varying opinions in support of and opposition to the proposed amendments to the Councillors' Expense Policy, outlined in the staff report.

Committee discussion took place with respect to a Member's retention of consulting services, and included:

- varying opinions on a Member's use of consulting services
- actions outlined in Committee Recommendation GC044-2020 (approved by Council, as amended, on November 20, 2020 pursuant to Resolution C422-2019) regarding Councillor retention of consulting services
- concern that the direction outlined in Recommendation GC044-2019 was not followed
- questions about payments made to the consultant subsequent to Council's approval of Recommendation GC044-2019, including cancellation fees
- concern that a consultant hired by a Member of Council may have access to confidential information and work spaces, and unlike Members of Council who must follow the Code of Conduct, and Councillor staff who must abide by all applicable policies and procedures, such Codes and policies and procedures may not be applicable to a consultant
- policies as they relate to an individual Member of Council binding the Corporation through the hiring of consultant services
- need for further review and information on the contract and payments made to the consultant

During discussion on this matter, a Point of Order was raised by Councillor Williams. The Chair gave leave for the Point of Order.

City Councillor Williams, in response to comments made by Members of Committee, outlined her view that a copy of the contract was never requested by Committee, but was provided to Finance when requested.

Chair Fortini brought forward discussion Item 9.1 and outlined concerns about the use of social media and the type of messaging posted by the consultant hired by a Member of Council, and provided a reminder about the appropriate use of

Members' corporate social media accounts, and that the use of taxpayers money as it relates to corporate social media accounts.

A Point of Personal Privilege was raised by Councillor Williams at which time she acknowledged the use of taxpayers money for Councillors' corporate media accounts.

The following motion, moved by Regional Councillor Vicente, was introduced.

That staff be requested to further review and report on the details of the contract for Consulting Services agreed to by Councillor Williams, and any requirement to pay penalty in relation thereto, and the chronology of events and decisions regarding the use of consultants by Members of Council, to a future meeting of the Governance and Council Operations Committee.

Committee discussion took place on the proposed motions and included varying opinions in support of and opposition to the motion.

The following motions were considered.

GC012-2002

1. That the report titled: **Update to Councillors' Expense Policy (RM 12/2020)**, to the Governance and Council Operations Committee Meeting of September 14, 2020, be received; and
2. That the updated Councillors' Expense Policy and Annual Statement of Remuneration and Expenses ("SOR") format attached to the subject report be approved.

Carried

GC013-2020

That staff be requested to further review and report on the details of the contract for Consulting Services agreed to by Councillor Williams, and any requirement to pay penalty in relation thereto, and the chronology of events and decisions regarding the use of consultants by Members of Council, to a future meeting of the Governance and Council Operations Committee.

Carried

Following the votes on the above-motions, in response to a clarification from Councillor Williams, Peter Fay, City Clerk, confirmed that both motions were voted on at the same time.

8.2 Staff Report re: **Communications, Events and Protocol Policies and Procedures for City Council Information (I 89/2020)**.

The following motion was considered.

GC014-2020

Moved by Regional Councillor Vicente

That the report titled: **Communications, Events and Protocol Policies and Procedures for City Council Information, all Wards, I 89/2020**, to the Governance and Council Operations Committee Meeting of September 21, 2020, be received.

Carried

9. **Other Business/New Business**

9.1 Discussion Item from Chair Fortini re: **Council Expense Reporting**.

Dealt with under Item 8.1.

10. **Deferred/Referred Matters**

10.1 Staff Report re: **Annual Statement of Remuneration and Expenses for 2019 (I 33/2020)**.

At the request of Committee, staff clarified the information included in the subject Statement of Remuneration, and responded to questions.

The following motion was considered.

GC015-2020

Moved by Regional Councillor Vicente

That the report titled: **Annual Statement of Remuneration and Expenses for 2019 (I33/2020)**, to the Governance and Council Operations Meeting of September 21, 2020, be received.

Carried

11. **Notices of Motion** – nil

12. **Correspondence** – nil

13. **Councillor Question Period**

1. In response to questions from Regional Councillor Fortini, staff confirmed that monthly expense statements for Members of Council are published online, and that outside souvenirs are allowed under the Councillors' Expense Policy.

Councillor Fortini suggested that a workshop be provided for Members of Council regarding what is and is not allowed under the expense policy.

14. **Public Question Period**

Members of the public were given the opportunity to submit questions via e-mail to the City Clerk's Office regarding any decisions made at this meeting.

Peter Fay, City Clerk, confirmed that no questions were submitted regarding decisions made at this meeting.

15. **Closed Session** – nil

16. **Adjournment**

The following motion was considered

GC016-2020

Moved by Regional Councillor Medeiros

That Governance and Council Operations Committee do now adjourn to meet again on Monday, November 23, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

Regional Councillor Fortini, Chair