
Governance Committee

Date: September 28, 2020
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Online Video Conference

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| Members | Mayor Bonnie Crombie | |
| | Councillor Karen Ras | Ward 2 |
| | Pat Saito | Ward 9 (Chair) |
| | George Carlson | Ward 11 |
| | Carolyn Parrish | Ward 5 |
| | John Magill | Citizen Member |
| | Sandy Milakovic | Citizen Member (Vice-Chair) |

Staff Present

Paul Mitcham, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer
Gary Kent, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer
Andra Maxwell, City Solicitor, Legal Services
Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk
Sacha Smith, Manager, Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk
Allyson D'Ovidio, Legislative Coordinator, Legislative Services

Find it online

<http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/councilcommittees>

1. CALL TO ORDER

1:00 PM

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councillor Carlson requested that consideration of adding a "consent agenda" to the Heritage Advisory Committee agendas, be added under item 9.1, "Matters Related to the Council Procedure By-law".

Councillor Saito spoke to raising a discussion under item 9.1 "Matters Related to the Council Procedure By-law" with respect to "Public Question Period".

RECOMMENDATION

Moved By G. Carlson

Approved

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Governance Committee Draft Minutes - January 28, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Moved By C. Parrish

Approved

5. PRESENTATIONS - Nil

6. DEPUTATIONS - Nil

7. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit (5 minutes per speaker)

Mr. Alan Kan, resident, addressed the Committee and requested clarity with respect to the City's position on Ranked Choice Voting as outlined in item 8.1.

In response to Mr. Kan, Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk spoke to the mock voting process and its purpose, noting it allows the public to understand how the voting results are formed.

8. MATTERS CONSIDERED

8.1 Establishing an Ad Hoc Ranked Choice Voting Review Subcommittee of the Governance Committee

Councillor Saito spoke to the subject matter and provided the background information on the requested review. Diana Rusnov, Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk

spoke to the memorandum outlining the timing and costs associated with the request to establish an Ad Hoc Ranked Choice Voting Review Subcommittee. Further, Ms. Rusnov advised that direction from the Governance Committee is needed as a determination and by-law would be required to be passed by May 2021.

Councillor Parrish spoke in support of Ranked Choice Voting for the 2022 Municipal Election.

Councillor Ras spoke in support of the Ranked Choice Voting and addressed concerns with respect to costs and timing that would be associated with establishing an Ad Hoc Subcommittee and making a recommendation before the deadline in 2021. Councillor Ras spoke in support of Ranked Choice Voting and a boundary review in time for the 2026 Municipal Election. Sandy Milakovic arrived via telephone at, 1:10 PM.

In response to Councillor Saito, Ms. Rusnov spoke to the requirements of conducting a ward boundary review noting it would not be completed before the 2026 Election. Further, Ms. Rusnov identified the concerns with timing to establish a committee and conduct a mock election, noting it would be more appropriate to prepare for 2026.

Councillor Parrish spoke to the process; impacts of seat changes at the Regional level and the potential to set up a committee to deal with all matters related decisions about the election process. Members of the Committee discussed the potential membership of such a subcommittee.

Mayor Crombie spoke to the Terms of Reference of the Governance Committee and the determination of ward boundaries. Mayor Crombie noted she was not in favour of Ranked Choice Voting until the Province supports and provides funding for education on the program.

In response to Councillor Saito, Ms. Rusnov spoke to the process of Ranked Choice Voting; how the votes are reallocated for Mayor and Members of Council only; confirmed the trustee portion of a ballot would not be counted if redistributed and that we are waiting for the Subcommittee at the Region to determine the number of seats before reviewing ward boundaries. Councillor Saito spoke to challenges with the timelines.

John Magill, Citizen Member spoke in support of the process at a later time due to the additional challenges and limitations associated with the COVID-19 Pandemic, timing and technical concerns. In response to Mr. Magill, Councillor Parrish clarified that any changes reviewed after 2022 will not take effect until the 2022-2026 term of Council.

Councillor Ras spoke to provide clarity, noting if we choose to do a boundary review at the Region it will be in effect for 2026. Further Councillor Ras suggested that a committee be established to review all matters such as Ranked Choice Voting, ward boundaries, electronic voting in depth during the next term of Council.

Sandy Milakovic, Vice-Chair spoke to concerns with respect to timing to establish and prepare a subcommittee to make a recommendation prior to May 2021.

Councillor Parrish withdrew her motion to establish an ad hoc Committee to review ranked choice voting.

RECOMMENDATION GOV-0006-2020

Moved By Mayor Crombie

That the Memorandum dated September 9, 2020 from Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk, entitled “Establishing an Ad Hoc Ranked Choice Voting Review Subcommittee of Governance Committee” be received.

YES (6): Mayor Crombie, Councillor K. Ras, P. Saito, G. Carlson, J. Magill, and S. Milakovic

NO (1): C. Parrish

Carried (6 to 1)

8.2 Proxy Voting at Council Meetings

Diana Rusnov, Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk provided background information on the subject matter. Councillor Saito spoke to a previous decision at Regional Council; the process, and noted City Councillors lose their vote if absent from a City Council meeting. Councillor Saito further noted that the Province allows proxy voting at the Regional and Municipal levels.

Mayor Crombie spoke in support of extending the period of electronic voting from August 2021.

Councillor Ras and John Magill, Citizen Member spoke in support of proxy voting.

Councillor Parrish noted that she is not in favour of proxy voting at the municipal level. Members of the Committee engaged in a discussion with respect to establishing parameters for the process. Direction was given to staff to prepare a report on the process, including criteria and return to the Governance Committee for review.

RECOMMENDATION GOV-0007-2020

Moved By Councillor K. Ras

That staff prepare a report regarding Proxy Voting at City Council meetings which outlines specific guidelines for Members of Council and that the report be brought to the Governance Committee for further review at the November 16, 2020 meeting.

YES (5): Mayor Crombie, Councillor K. Ras, P. Saito, J. Magill, and S. Milakovic

NO (2): G. Carlson, and C. Parrish

Carried (5 to 2)

8.3 Additional Agenda Deadlines

Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk spoke to the subject matter; timelines in the Council Procedure By-law and deadline for late reports.

Members of the Committee engaged in a discussion with respect to concerns about late agenda items and in support of maintaining the 24 hour rule to ensure adequate preparation time before meetings.

Paul Mitcham, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer spoke in support of the 24 hour rule; the exception of the State of Emergency orders and further that consultation between the Mayor and City Manager take place under special circumstances.

RECOMMENDATION GOV-0008-2020

Moved By Mayor Crombie

That the verbal update with respect to maintaining the requirement that distribution of agendas be made 24 hours in advance of the commencement of Committee meetings, as per the Council Procedure By-law 0139-2013, be received.

YES (7): Mayor Crombie, Councillor K. Ras, P. Saito, G. Carlson, C. Parrish, J. Magill, and S. Milakovic

Carried (7 to 0)

8.4 Status of Governance Committee Work Plan Items

No discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION GOV-0009-2020

Moved By Councillor K. Ras

That the status of the Governance Committee Work Plan items, updated for the September 28, 2020 Governance Committee meeting, be received.

YES (7): Mayor Crombie, Councillor K. Ras, P. Saito, G. Carlson, C. Parrish, J. Magill, and S. Milakovic

Carried (7 to 0)

9. MATTERS RELATED TO THE COUNCIL PROCEDURE BY-LAW

9.1 Members of Governance Committee to discuss matters in the Procedure By-law such as: Notice of Motions, Consent Agenda for Advisory Committees, Consent Agenda Approvals for Motions from Members of Council

Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk provided clarity on the subject matters; spoke to adding definitions for Notice of Motion versus Motions in the Council Procedure By-Law and requested direction for each matter. Mayor Crombie spoke in support of providing clarity surrounding rules regarding walk on motions as well.

Ms. Rusnov will provide definitions and clarity on Motions, Notice of Motions, Walk on Motions and the rules for when each is appropriate to the Mayor and Members of Council.

Councillor Carlson spoke to a request to add Consent Agenda as a standing item on Heritage Advisory Committee agendas. Councillors Saito and Ras spoke in support of adding a Consent Agenda on all committee agendas.

Councillors Parrish and Saito raised concerns with Motions of other Councillors being approved on "Consent Agenda" and the recorded mover. Ms. Rusnov advised the best practice is to hold items where Councillors wish to ensure they are recorded as movers. Members of the Committee engaged in a discussion with respect to the matter. Direction was given to Ms. Rusnov to share details with the Mayor and Members of Council on this matter moving forward.

Councillor Saito spoke to the options for allowing the "Public Question Period" to be moved on agendas to accommodate the public. Ms. Rusnov provided clarity, noting it can be moved. Ms. Rusnov to provide the Mayor and Members of Council with clarity on the rules for "Public Question Period" in the Council Procedure By-Law.

Sandy Milakovic, Vice-Chair requested that a copy of the Committee reports be shared with members following adoption at Council.

RECOMMENDATION GOV-0010-2020

Moved By Councillor K. Ras

That the Council Procedure By-law 0139-2013, be amended to permit the addition of a "Consent Agenda" as a standing item for all Committees.

YES (7): Mayor Crombie, Councillor K. Ras, P. Saito, G. Carlson, C. Parrish, J. Magill, and S. Milakovic

Carried (7 to 0)

10. INFORMATION ITEMS - Nil

11. OTHER BUSINESS - Nil

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

November 16, 2020

13. ADJOURNMENT

2:47 PM (Councillor K. Ras)