

REPORT 1 - 2024

To: MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Governance Committee presents its first report for 2024 and recommends:

GOV-0001-2024

That the deputation and associated presentation from Jonathan Giggs, Resident regarding Election Rebates be received for information.

(GOV-0001-2024)

GOV-0002-2024

That the report from the City Solicitor dated January 22, 2024 entitled "Powers and Duties of the Acting Head of Council" be received for information.

(GOV-0002-2024)

GOV-0003-2024

1. That changes to the Use of City Resources during an Election Campaign Corporate Policy and Procedure, policy number 02-04-01, be made as outlined in the corporate report dated December 20, 2023 from Diana Rusnov, Director, Legislative Services and City Clerk, to reflect:
 - a. That Councillor's newsletters, including e-newsletters, cannot be sent after a by-law declaring a by-election to fill a vacant seat on Council has been passed. Once the nomination period closes, those sitting members of Council who have not submitted their nomination to run in a by-election are permitted to send out Councillor's newsletters and e-newsletters. Those Councillors who have submitted their nomination to run in a by-election are not permitted to send out Councillor newsletters or e-newsletters until after the final day of voting. City Resources, including Councillor newsletters and e-newsletters, cannot be used to endorse or campaign on behalf of a candidate running in a municipal, provincial or federal election/by-election.
 - b. That the term "Ward-specific business" be added to the Use of City Resources during an Election Campaign Corporate Policy and Procedure and be defined as activities that advance ward specific business or address issues and include things such as town halls, public meetings etc. that are related to community matters. For context, Ward-specific business is not celebratory in nature and does not include such things as Ward barbeques, skating parties, meet and greets, celebrations, other social community events etc.
 - c. That Ward-specific business as defined in the Use of City Resources during an Election Campaign Corporate Policy and Procedure be permitted during a campaign period for a general election or by-election, but no campaigning be allowed at Ward-specific business.

- d. That “Ward-specific events” as defined in the Use of City Resources during an Election Campaign Corporate Policy and Procedure be restricted:
 - i. For all members of Council beginning when the nomination period opens and ending the day nominations close (Nomination Day), and;
 - ii. For members of Council that submit their nomination to run in a by-election the restriction on Ward-specific events includes the period following nomination day until after the last day of voting.
 - e. That no new Official City Openings/Events be scheduled for the time between when a by-law requiring a by-election to fill a vacant seat on Council is passed until after the last day of voting. Only those Official City Openings/Events that were scheduled prior to the by-law requiring a by-election being passed will be permitted. No campaigning is allowed at Official City Openings/Events.
 - f. That the definition of campaign period be amended to more clearly reflect the campaign period for a by-election by stating that “Election Campaign Period means for a municipal election or by-election the period that commences on the date a Candidate’s nomination paper is filed. The Election Campaign Period concludes on December 31 of the election year for a regular election and 45 days after voting in the case of a by-election, or otherwise in accordance with applicable legislation.”
 - g. When a Mayoral seat is declared vacant, no new Council-led initiatives that require new funding be initiated or approved until after the final day of voting. The exception to this is if staff identify the need for emergency funding and the City Manager has approved that the request for funding be made to Council.
 2. That the Acting Head of Council By-law 0222-2022, be amended to:
 - a. Add the provision that if a Member of Council is a candidate or expressed their intent to be a candidate in a municipal by-election or in a provincial or federal election or by-election, that Member of Council shall forfeit their turn as Acting Head of Council, effective when a Mayoral vacancy is declared until after the last day of voting, and on the day the writ is issued for a provincial or federal election or by-election until after the last day of voting.
 - b. Members of Council need to submit a declaration to the Clerk stating that they do not intend to run in a municipal by-election or in a provincial or federal election or by-election prior to an Acting Head of Council assignment.
 - c. If a sitting Member of Council forfeits their turn as Acting Head of Council, the schedule is to be adjusted accordingly and the other Members of Council will continue to be Acting Head of Council for the period of time established and in the rotation as set out in the Acting Head of Council by-law excluding the member of Council that is running.
 3. That two provisions be added to the Mississauga Code of Conduct for Members of Council stating that when a seat on Council is declared vacant until after the last day of voting:
 - a. Members of Council must inform the Clerk in writing that they are eligible to be the Acting Head of Council.

- b. Councillors serving as Acting Head of Council shall not endorse a candidate running in a municipal, provincial or federal election/by-election using their title as Acting Mayor.

(GOV-0003-2024)

GOV-0004-2024

That the Roles of the Chair Document be approved, as presented on the January 29, 2024 Governance Committee agenda.

(GOV-0004-2024)

GOV-0005-2024

That the status of the Governance Committee Work Plan items, updated for the January 29, 2024 Governance meeting, be approved.

(GOV-0005-2024)

GOV-0006-2024

That the following amendments be made to the Council Procedure By-law 0044-2022, as amended:

1. That the 24 hours deadline to submit questions for Public Question Period be reinforced, with the exception of those who are submitting questions related to items on the additional agenda, or those who ask their question in person.
2. That a deputation can only be made one time on a subject matter, and once the committee has heard it and they have made a decision, the matter is closed.
3. That Resolution 0007-2023, be rescinded to allow Notices of Motion to be used only for Council agendas.

(GOV-0006-2024)