

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 5, 2006**174. ELECTION SIGNS**
(matter requiring statutory public hearing)(Item 28, Committee of the Whole, Report No. 40)

MOVED by Regional Councillor Ferri
seconded by Councillor Carella

That the following recommendation of the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 5, 2006, be approved.

CARRIED UPON A RECORDED VOTE

YEAS

Councillor Carella
Mayor Di Biase
Councillor Di Vona
Regional Councillor Ferri
Regional Councillor Frustaglio
Councillor Meffe
Councillor Yeung Racco
Councillor Shefman

NAYS

Regional Councillor Jackson

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

1. That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services and City Solicitor, dated September 5, 2006, be approved;
2. That the following deputations be received:
 - a) Mr. Paul DeBuono, 9983 Keele Street, Suite 105, Vaughan, L6A 3Y5;
 - b) Mr. Adriano Volpentesta, 15 Stone Palace Way, Woodbridge, L4H 1M9; and
 - c) Ms. Deb Schulte, 76 Mira Vista Place, Woodbridge, L4H 1K8; and
3. That the written submission from Mr. Frank Greco, 10504 Islington Avenue, Box 772, Kleinburg, L0J 1C0, be received.

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services and City Solicitor recommends:

1. That the Sign By-law 203-92 be amended with respect to election signs, as follows:
 - i) Candidates in municipal, provincial, federal or school board elections will be required to pay a deposit (\$150. for Ward Councillor, \$300. for Regional Councillor or Mayor, Provincial, or Federal office, and \$50. for School Board Trustees). Should signs associated to their campaigns be erected in a fashion contrary to the By-law, the signs will be seized and a fee of \$20. per sign will be charged. If fees exceed the deposit amount, legal action may be commenced to collect unpaid fees.
 - ii) Election signs can only be erected 21 days prior to the election date anywhere in the City of Vaughan.

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- iii) Vaughan will prohibit election signs on all public road allowances within the City of Vaughan, and Vaughan will request an amendment to the Region's sign regulations to allow the more restrictive regulation to apply within Vaughan.
 - iv) Election signs that are confiscated shall be stored for a period of 7 days after which they will be discarded.
 - v) The By-law will be amended to enable charges to be laid against anyone causing or permitting signs to be erected in contravention of the By-law.
2. That comments from the public be received and further direction, if necessary, be provided.

Economic Impact

The imposition of a deposit respecting the erection of election signs will assist to defer the cost of confiscating illegal signs.

Purpose

Notice of a proposed by-law or amendment to a by-law respecting signs on public or private property requires publication of notice in a newspaper of a public meeting to consider the proposed by-law at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the proposed by-law is to be considered.

Background - Analysis and Options

Council, at its meeting of June 26, 2006, approved the above-noted amendments to the Sign By-law and directed that the City Clerk provide public notice for these amendments for a date in September 2006 (refer to Attachment 1).

Pursuant to the City's Notice By-law No. 394-2002, public notice was provided that amendments to the Sign By-law are to be considered at the Committee of the Whole meeting of September 5, 2006 and that members of the public could either attend the meeting to provide comments or submit their comments to the City Clerk. As of the time of writing this report, no comments have been received.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the Vaughan Vision through promoting service excellence, community safety, and developing collaborative solutions. Staff resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

Staff's recommendation addresses issues around illegal election signs and increased enforcement capabilities for illegal signage in the City.

Attachments

1. Council Extract, Item 2, Report No. 36 CW (WS)

Report prepared by:

Janice Atwood-Petkovski, Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services/City Solicitor

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