

Monday, January 30 at 9:00 AM
Council Chambers

For consideration by Council
on February 13, 2017

The meeting of the Special Committee of the Whole was held on Monday, January 30, 2017 in Council Chambers, 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket.

Members Present: Mayor Van Bynen
Deputy Mayor & Regional Councillor Taylor
Councillor Vegh
Councillor Kerwin
Councillor Twinney
Councillor Hempen
Councillor Kwapis
Councillor Broome
Councillor Bisanz

Staff Present: R.N. Shelton, Chief Administrative Officer
E. Armchuk, Commissioner of Corporate Services
I. McDougall, Commissioner of Community Services
P. Noehammer, Commissioner of Development and Infrastructure Services
S. Niezen, Records and Projects Coordinator
H. Leznoff, Council/ Committee Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Van Bynen in the Chair.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None.

Presentations

1. The Records and Projects Coordinator addressed the Committee with a Powerpoint Presentation regarding Internet Voting and Ranked Ballots.

The Records and Projects Coordinator provided an overview and analysis of two alternative voting methods, internet voting and ranked ballots. She advised of two options for the 2018 Municipal Elections – Option 1 being a hybrid approach of traditional voting using paper ballots and tabulators combined with remote internet voting and Option 2 being the status quo with potential enhancements such as vote anywhere or mobile voting options.

Members of Council queried the Records and Projects Coordinator regarding estimated costs and implementation of internet voting and raised concerns regarding security and authentication of the online voting process, impact on voter turnout, equipment rental and voting platform procurement. Discussion ensued with respect to the potential for other options such as an “all in” internet voting approach, as was conducted in the Town of Ajax.

Moved by: Councillor Vegh
Seconded by: Councillor Kerwin

That the Powerpoint Presentation regarding Internet Voting and Ranked Ballots be received.

Carried

Items

2. Corporate Services Report- Legislative Services 2017-02 dated January 26, 2017 regarding Internet Voting and Ranked Ballots.

An alternate motion was presented and discussion ensued.

Moved by: Councillor Hempen
Seconded by: Councillor Twinney

a) THAT Corporate Services Report- Legislative Services 2017-02 dated January 26, 2017 regarding Internet Voting and Ranked Ballots be received and the following recommendations be adopted:

- i) THAT Council endorse Option 1, as outlined in this report for use in the 2018 municipal election;
- ii) AND THAT a by-law be brought forward for consideration by Council to authorize the use of alternative voting equipment (tabulators) and an alternative voting method (internet voting) in the 2018 municipal election in accordance with Section 42 (a) and (b) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996;
- iii) AND THAT staff bring back a report on ranked ballots in 2019 immediately following the 2018 municipal election.

Motion Lost

An alternate motion was presented and further discussion ensued.

Moved by: Councillor Broome
Seconded by: Councillor Bisanz

THAT the matter of internet voting for the 2018 Municipal Election be referred to staff and a report be brought back within 30 days regarding another option for internet voting, with specific comparison to the Town of Ajax.

Carried

An alternate motion was presented with respect to ranked ballots.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor & Regional Councillor Taylor
Seconded by: Councillor Kerwin

THAT staff report back on Internet Voting and Ranked Ballots in 2019 immediately following the 2018 Municipal Election.

Carried

Adjournment

Moved by: Councillor Broome
Seconded by: Councillor Bisanz

THAT the meeting adjourn.

Carried

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Tony Van Bynen, Mayor

Esther Armchuk, Acting Town Clerk