Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – February 13, 2024

Report – Governance Committee of Council – February 8, 2024

Moved by Councillor

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Item No. 2 Post-employment Benefits for Councillors' Staff

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 8, 2024, the Governance Committee of Council submitted the following to Council:

1. That the Councillors' Ward Allowance (CWA) Fund Policy be amended as follows:

    A. Delete Section 5.4 regarding Councillors' Assistants in its entirety and replace with the new Section 5.4, attached as Attachment A.

    B. Delete Appendix D – Councillors' Assistant Agreement and Code of Conduct for Councillors' Assistants and Special Project Personnel and replace with the new Appendix D, attached as Attached B.

    C. To allow contractor services as an eligible expense under the 'Staffing' category.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – February 13, 2024

Report – Governance Committee of Council – February 8, 2024

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 8, 2024, the Governance Committee of Council passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the Councillors' Ward Allowance (CWA) Fund Policy allows Councillors to hire staff to assist with the operation of their office;

AND WHEREAS some Councillors have expressed a desire to provide their staff with a title other than "Councillor's Assistant" as prescribed in the (CWA);

AND WHEREAS on October 21, 2020, the Public Service advised that in comparison to other major Canadian cities, the City of Winnipeg was the only one that does not provide a pension or post employment benefits for Councillors' office staff;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Financial Officer has advised that a Group Registered Retirement Savings Plan with equal employee and employer contribution rates of between 3% to 6% of the employee's annual salary, could be quickly established;

AND WHEREAS the budget currently includes annual funding ($5,288 per ward included in the preliminary 2024 budget) for the sole purpose of off-setting the costs of the employer contribution to a post-employment benefit and therefore, no additional budget is required;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governance Committee of Council recommend to Council:

1. That the Councillors' Ward Allowance (CWA) Fund Policy be amended as follows:

    A. Delete Section 5.4 regarding Councillors' Assistants in its entirety and replace with the new Section 5.4, attached as Attachment A.

    B. Delete Appendix D – Councillors' Assistant Agreement and Code of Conduct for Councillors' Assistants and Special Project Personnel and replace with the new Appendix D, attached as Attached B.

    C. To allow contractor services as an eligible expense under the 'Staffing' category.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.