COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

SEPTEMBER 18, 2006

2006 MUNICIPAL ELECTION ADVANCE VOTE DATES AND TIMES

Recommendation

The City Clerk and Returning Officer recommends:

That a by-law be enacted to establish the following advance vote dates and times of voting for the 2006 municipal election:

Saturday, November 4, 2006 - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Sunday, November 5, 2006 - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday, November 6, 2006 - 10:00 am to 8:00 pm Tuesday, November 7, 2006 - 10:00 am to 8:00 pm Thursday, November 9, 2006 - 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Economic Impact

Funds from the Election Reserve will be used for this purpose.

Purpose

To establish dates and time for advance votes for the 2006 municipal election.

Background - Analysis and Options

At a recent Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meeting Council expressed a desire to hold more advance vote days with at least one day where the polls are open until 8:00 pm. Vaughan's long standing practice has been to hold advance vote days on the Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday prior to voting day. Staff are recommending advance vote days for the upcoming election be held Saturday, November 4th to Thursday, November 9th inclusive, with polls closing at 6:00 pm on the weekend and 8:00 pm on weekdays.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 requires that at least 30 days prior to voting day, Council enact a by-law establishing one or more dates for an advance vote and the hours during which voting places shall be open on that date(s).

The increase in the number of advance vote days and the 8:00 pm close of polls on weekdays will provide further opportunity for electors to vote in the 2006 municipal election. It is anticipated that the additional advance vote days will result in an increase in voter turn out.

Attachments

N/A

Report prepared by:	
John D. Leach, City Clerk and Returning	Officer
Respectfully submitted,	
John D. Leach	Janice Atwood-Petkovski
City Clerk and Returning Officer	Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services/City Solicitor