**COUNCIL MEETINGS BROADCASTING ON INTERNET**
**FUNDING REQUEST**
Item 5, Budget Committee Report No. 6

**Recommendation**

**The Budget Committee recommends:**

1) **That in an effort to promote further "Vaughan Vision 2007" in respect of:**

- **Service Delivery Excellence**
- **Community and Public Relations**
- **Technology and Innovations**

**staff is directed to contact Rogers Cable T.V. and to enter into negotiations for the delivery by Rogers of cable T.V. coverage of Committee of the Whole, Council, and Committee of the Whole Public Hearing, such delivery to be provided at no charge to Rogers subscribers or the City of Vaughan, as Rogers enjoys a monopoly position in the delivery of cable T.V. services within the City of Vaughan, and further, in the alternative staff will request a donation from Rogers Cable to cover the full costs of implementing the original recommendation;**

2) **That staff be directed to succeed in any such negotiations; and**

3) **That the report of the Commissioner of Economic/Technology Development & Communications, dated April 16, 2004, be received.**

Report of the Commissioner of Economic/Technology Development & Communications

The Commissioner of Economic/Technology Development and Communications, in consultation with the Director of Information Technology Services, and the Director of Budgeting and Long Term Planning, recommends:

a) That $100,000 be considered in the 2004 Capital Budget deliberations in order to implement the necessary solution for the broadcasting of all Committee of the Whole and Council meetings (open sessions) on the City's website.

**Purpose**

At the March 29th, 2004 Committee of the Whole meeting, Council identified the desire to enable the public to observe Council proceedings through the internet. The purpose of this item is to request consideration of necessary funding in the 2004 Capital Budget for the implementation of an internet audio/video broadcasting solution.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

City Council is committed to an open, publicly accessible governance process. Innovative methods are continually sought in order to increase public accessibility to the governance process and to enable Council to converse with the public more effectively.

Today's technology solutions enable cost-effective broadcasting of live audio/video content over the internet. Implementation of such solutions in public meeting areas will effectively enhance the public involvement in the governance process.

Based, on preliminary research of the internet audio/video broadcasting solutions, the related cost is $100,000.

**Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

This report is consistent with the following strategic priorities previously set by Council:

1.0     Service Delivery Excellence
6.0     Communications and Public Relations
7.0     Technology and Innovation

**Conclusion**

Cost-effective solutions can be implemented to broadcast open sessions of Council proceedings on the City's website.  The estimated related cost is $100,000.  This funding is being requested for consideration as part of the 2004 Capital Budget deliberations.

**Attachments**

None

**Report prepared by:**

Dimitri Yampolsky, Director of Information Technology (IT) Services – 8352