



**CITY OF VAUGHAN
SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES (2)
MAY 24, 2005**

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CITY OF VAUGHAN

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING (2)

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2005

MINUTES

7:26 P.M.

Council convened in the Municipal Council Chambers in Vaughan, Ontario, at 7:26 p.m., for the purpose of considering WARD BOUNDARIES. Notice for the meeting had been provided.

The following members were present:

Mayor Michael Di Biase, Chair
Regional Councillor Mario F. Ferri
Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio
Regional Councillor Linda D. Jackson
Councillor Tony Carella
Councillor Bernie Di Vona
Councillor Peter Meffe
Councillor Alan Shefman
Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco

145. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Carella
seconded by Regional Councillor Ferri

THAT the agenda be confirmed.

CARRIED

146. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There was no disclosure of interest by any member.

147. WARD BOUNDARIES

MOVED by Regional Councillor Frustaglio
seconded by Councillor Di Vona

THAT the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated May 24, 2005, be approved; and

THAT the following deputations be received:

- a) Ms. Maria Tisbe, President, Brownridge Ratepayers' Association, 42 White Boulevard, Thornhill, L4J 5Z2; and
- b) Mr. Gino Muia, President, Glen Shields Ratepayers' Association, 75 Quaker Ridge Road, Concord, L4K 2E5.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY UPON A RECORDED VOTE

YEAS

NAYS

Councillor Tony Carella
Mayor Michael Di Biase
Councillor Bernie Di Vona
Regional Councillor Mario F. Ferri
Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio
Regional Councillor Linda D. Jackson
Councillor Peter Meffe
Councillor Alan Shefman
Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That the input from the public meeting be received.
- 2) That the Clerk be directed to publish a notice of Council's intention to pass a by-law at the meeting of June 27, 2005 to adopt revised ward boundaries: and
- 3) That the report of the City Clerk, dated May 24, 2005, be received.

Economic Impact

Not applicable

Purpose

To provide a report outlining the process followed to date respecting a Council directed ward boundary review for consideration as part of the public consultation on the matter.

Background - Analysis and Options

Responding to a need to address the growing population inequalities between the various wards, prior to the 2003 municipal election, Council directed that a ward boundary review be conducted for implementation in the 2006 municipal election. Staff reported on the matter to a Committee of the Whole (Working Session) on March 22, 2005, at which time, amongst other things, direction was given for a report to be brought forward addressing 5, 6 and 7 local ward configurations. This report was considered at a Special Committee of the Whole (Working Session) on April 4, 2005. In considering the necessity to equalize the ward populations, Council considered in detail a number of 5, 6 and 7 ward configurations for local representation and also reviewed the matter of regional representation that being the number of members of Council who also sit on York Region Council. In examining various options, Council was mindful of the cost of increasing the size of Council and the possibility that Council may expand should the City of Vaughan gain an additional representative on Regional Council as a result of the anticipated review of regional representation by the Council of the Regional Municipality of York. Subsequently, at a Special Committee of the Whole (Working Session) held on April 4, 2005, it was recommended in part "That a five ward option that addresses the current inequality in ward population be considered as an interim measure for 2006 election and that a review be undertaken prior to the 2009 election".

Ultimately, Council selected a revised 5 ward proposal for consultation with the public (5 Ward "D" – Attachment #1). A public meeting was scheduled and advertised in the "City Page". In addition, a "Ward Boundary Review" web site was created linked to the City's web site which included all the options considered by Council. Further all the registered ratepayers associations were given notice.

PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARY CHANGES (PREFERRED 5 WARD D)

The current ward boundaries were established in 1994 and were relatively equal in population at that time. Over time some wards have increased in population disproportionately such that Ward 1 now has approximately three times the population of Ward 3, currently the smallest of the five wards (Attachment #2). The proposed changes significantly address this imbalance and also better equalize the population between Wards 4 and 5. In addition, the proposed ward boundaries adhere to generally accepted principles employed when wards are established or revised. Specifically, existing communities have been respected and ratepayer association boundaries have also been recognized (Attachment #3). The boundaries are easily recognized utilizing for the most part major highways and arterial roads.

PROCESS

The Municipal Act empowers municipal councils to establish or revise wards. Public consultation is required as is publishing notice of Council's intention to pass a by-law to revise the ward boundaries. Upon passage of a by-law, there is a 45 day appeal period during which any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board. Once Council passes a by-law, within 15 days, notice of passage must be published including the last day for filing a notice of appeal. The new ward structure would come into effect for the 2006 municipal election.

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

Council has selected a preferred revised 5 Ward boundary configuration in response to a need to equalize the current ward boundaries. The required implementation process has been followed to date. It would be in order for Council to adopt the recommendation set out in this report to continue the process to implement revised ward boundaries for the 2006 municipal election.

Attachments

- Attachment #1 – Ward Review - 5 Ward "D"
- Attachment #2 – Ward Review – Current Wards
- Attachment #3 – Ward Review – Ratepayers 2004

Report prepared by:

John D. Leach, City Clerk

(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.)

148. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

MOVED by Regional Councillor Ferri
seconded by Councillor Shefman

THAT By-law Number 160-2005, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting on May 24, 2005, be read a First, Second and Third time and enacted.

CARRIED

149. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Carella
seconded by Councillor Di Vona

THAT the meeting adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

CARRIED

Michael Di Biase, Mayor

J. D. Leach, City Clerk