



Staff Report for Council Meeting

Date of Meeting: March 24, 2021

Report Number: SRCFS.21.011

Department: Corporate and Financial Services

Division: Financial Services

Subject: **SRCFS.21.011 2020 Council and Committees
Remuneration and Expenses**

Purpose:

To present the annual statement of Council and Committee Members Remuneration and Expenses (as required by the Municipal Act, Section 284 (1)).

Recommendation(s):

- a) That this report to be received for information purposes.

Contact Person:

Shirley Tu, Manager Financial Reporting and Accounting, Extension 5450

David Dexter, Director Financial Services & Treasurer, Extension 3656

Report Approval:

Submitted by: Sherry Adams, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services

Approved by: Mary-Anne Dempster, City Manager

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), City Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and City Manager. Details of the reports approval are attached.

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Background:

Section 284 (1) of the Municipal Act requires that the Treasurer report to Council by the 31st March, a statement of total remuneration and expenses paid in the previous year to any member of Council or its committees in respect of his or her services as a member of Council or committees. In addition, Section 284 (2), of the Act also specifies that the statement should identify the By-law or Council resolution under which the remuneration and expenses were authorized to be paid. The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, provides that these statements are public records.

Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:

Appendix “A” of this report provides an itemized statement on the remuneration earned and expenses incurred by the Mayor, each Councilor and Committee members for the year 2020. All elected officials’ remuneration and expenses are within their total budget allocation as approved in By-law No. 2-20.

Members of Council receive an annual salary that is set by by-law with annual provisions for cost of living adjustments, as well as a benefits package. All such remuneration is taxable and subject to statutory deductions as required by applicable legislation. The Mayor and Regional Councilors also receive remuneration from the Region of York. This additional amount is paid to them directly by the City of Richmond Hill and subsequently recovered from the Region. All such remuneration is included in the schedule attached.

All members of Council are members of the OMERS retirement pension plan and subject to all rules, regulations, and contribution requirements of that plan, as amended from time to time. All of these additional benefits are subject to taxation, or taxable benefits treatment, and statutory deductions as required by all applicable federal and provincial income tax legislation. The Mayor is provided with a City-owned vehicle, while the members of Council are provided a monthly car allowance.

Each Member of Council is allocated an annual budget for municipal purposes which include expenses for constituency, communications, and support resources. While expenses from this budget are discretionary, they must comply with the Members of Council Expense Policy and be properly supported with documentation and are subject to review by the Director of Financial Services/Treasurer. These expenses are reflected on the schedule attached. Elected Officials are also provided an allocation to attend conferences or seminars to further their municipal knowledge, awareness, or leadership skills. Costs related to attending conferences or functions on behalf of all of Council may occasionally be funded from other funds and those would not be reflected in the schedule attached.

The Ward One Councilor will be carrying forward \$20,000 of unused 2020 budget into 2021 for a Buy Local initiative. The commitment has been reviewed and verified by the Treasurer to be in compliance with the Member of Council Expense Policy.

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The City provides all Members of Council with private offices at City Hall, access to office support services and equipment, cellular telephones/personal digital assistant (PDA), computer equipment, and basic telephone together with email and voicemail services.

Relationship to Council's Strategic Priorities 2020-2022:

Presentation of Council and Committee remuneration and expenses aligns with the Priority of "Fiscal Responsibility" that will endeavor to keep tax increases below the cost of inflation and will avoid unnecessary expenditures in order to emerge from COVID-19 in the strong financial position.

Climate Change Considerations:

Climate change considerations are not applicable to this staff report.

Conclusion:

Appendix "A" provides a statement on the 2020 remuneration and expenses of the Mayor, each Councilor, and Committee members. All Council and Committees' expenses have been made in accordance with By-law No. 2-20, and Council policies. Reporting on these items meets the requirements under Section 284 of the Municipal Act.

Attachments:

The following attached documents may include scanned images of appendixes, maps and photographs. If you require an alternative format please call the contact person listed in this document.

- Appendix "A" – 2020 Council and Committees Expenses

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Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SRCFS.21.011 2020 Council and Committees Remuneration and Expenses.docx
Attachments:	- SRCFS.21.011 Appendix A 2020 Council and Committees Expenses.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 17, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

David Dexter - Mar 16, 2021 - 10:37 AM

Sherry Adams - Mar 16, 2021 - 12:00 PM

MaryAnne Dempster - Mar 17, 2021 - 11:41 AM