

MEMBER MOTION

Section 5.4.4 (b) of Procedure By-law

Meeting: Council Meeting

Meeting Date: July 12, 2023

Subject/Title: Member of Council Expense Policy Analysis

Submitted by: Ward 2 Councillor Scott Thompson

Whereas the Member of Council Expense Policy guides the expenditures that support Members of Council in performing their diverse roles and in representing their constituents; and

Whereas Members of Council are provided with the flexibility to allocate resources in the most efficient way to meet their own particular requirements; and

Whereas the responsibility for determining the appropriateness of expenses rests with the individual Elected Official; and

Whereas Members of Council are accountable to the public; and

Whereas the Member of Council Expense Policy makes clear the responsibility of each Member of Council to submit eligible expenses, ensure compliance with other City policies, submit all receipts and information, and to not exceed their annual budget; and

Whereas the Members of Council Expense Policy was last revised in February 2020; and

Whereas it appears there are limited mechanisms for the City to recuperate expenses that may be deemed ineligible or exceeding budget; and

Whereas Council has the obligation to protect the interests of City of Richmond Hill tax payers to ensure fairness, accountability, transparency and mitigate financial exposure to the City; and

Whereas reviewing the Member of Council Expense Policy demonstrate Council's commitment to the protection of public funds.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That:

Staff be directed to conduct a high level analysis on the areas in which Constituency accounts are spent since the Member of Council Expense Policy last revision, and report back by Q3 2023 with recommendations on how to improve the policy to best align with Council's intention of transparent and accountable allocation of public funds to conduct City business.

Moved by: Ward 2 Councillor Scott Thompson

Seconded by: xxx