



December 8, 2022

MEMO TO: Mayor and Members of Council

COPY TO: Executive Leadership Team
City Treasurer

FROM: Stephen M.A. Huycke, Director of Legislative Services/City Clerk

SUBJECT: **Strong Mayor Powers and 2024 Capital and Operating Budgets**

Background:

The December 13, 2023 Council Agenda includes the following Mayoral Decisions, whereby the Mayor submits for Council's consideration proposals for the City's 2024 Capital and 2024 Operating budgets:

- Mayoral Decision 20-23 – To submit a proposed 2024 Capital Budget
- Mayoral Decision 21-23 - To submit a proposed 2024 Operating Budget
- Mayoral Decision 22-23 - To submit proposed 2024 Rate Supported Operating Budgets
- Mayoral Decision 23-23 - To submit a proposed 2024 Village of Richmond Hill Business Improvement Area Budget

As previously advised, under Part VI.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001 (the "Strong Mayor Powers"), approval of the City's budget is no longer vested in Council. Under the Strong Mayor Powers, the Mayor prepares a proposed budget for the City, and submits the same for Council's consideration. Within 30 days after receiving the budget, Council can pass resolutions amending the proposed budget. If Council passes resolutions amending the Budget, the Mayor may veto any amendment within 10 days of the end of the period of time within which Council can pass amendments. Council may override a veto within 15 days of the expiry of the time for the Mayor to veto any amendment by a two-thirds vote of the total Members of Council. These various processes mean that a budget may not be considered adopted for up to 55 days after submitted to Council. Council is permitted to shorten the period of time in which amendments can be made and the Mayor is also permitted to shorten his 10-day veto period.

Should Council not want to amend the proposed budget, it is recommended that resolutions shortening the amendment period be passed to provide certainty on when the budget is deemed adopted. For each of the Mayoral Decisions noted above, Council can adopt the following resolution:

"That Council, in accordance with the provisions of Subsection 7(4) of Ontario Regulation 530/22, does hereby shorten the 30-day period to pass resolutions making amendments to

[the proposed 2024 Capital Budget – or - proposed 2024 Operating Budget] to adjournment of the Council meeting on December 13, 2023.

The December 13, 2023 Council agenda includes these recommendations, which can be adopted on consent.

Recommendation(s):

That the memorandum of the City Clerk dated December 8, 2023, in respect to Strong Mayor Powers and 2024 Capital and Operating Budgets, be received for information.