

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 **WARD(S):** ALL

TITLE: CORRESPONDENCE FOR MEMBER'S RESOLUTION -
PROTECTING THE PEOPLE: VAUGHAN PUBLIC SAFETY

FROM:
Nick Spensieri, City Manager

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to fulfil recommendations from a Vaughan City Council-approved February 2023 Member's Resolution requesting correspondence be drafted and sent to federal and provincial elected officials on public safety. The recommendation further requests that City Council approve the drafts.

Report Highlights

- In February 2023, Vaughan City Council approved the Member's Resolution – *Protecting the People: Vaughan Public Safety*.
- The Member's Resolution's first recommendation asks the Ontario government to change the *Ontario Courts of Justice Act* to allow for expedited hearings (within 30 days or less) regarding motions for sanctions against residents of a condominium alleged to have made physical threats to other residents of the condominium or members of the condominium board.
- The Member's Resolution's second recommendation requests that the Federal Government put in place an expedited process under the *Firearms Act* to revoke a firearm license to any gun owner accused of threatening another resident of a condominium or members of a condominium board.
- The Member's Resolution further recommends that correspondence be drafted and sent to federal and provincial elected officials on public safety, and that City Council approve the drafts.

Recommendations

1. THAT Council approve the drafted correspondence from the Head of Council to the Prime Minister and Federal Attorney General (Attachment 1) and the Premier and Provincial Attorney General (Attachment 2).
2. THAT this report be fully endorsed during April 18, 2023, Committee of the Whole (2) meeting to ensure sending the correspondence (letters) is expedited.
3. THAT this decision be ratified by Council.

Background

During the February 7, 2023, Committee of the Whole (1) meeting, Vaughan City Council approved the Member's Resolution – *Protecting the People: Vaughan Public Safety*. This approval was ratified at the Feb. 22, 2023, meeting of City Council. Of note, the Member's Resolution recommends:

1. *That The Corporation of the City of Vaughan recommends that the province change the Ontario Courts of Justice Act to allow for expedited hearings (within 30 days or less) re: Motions for sanctions against residents of a condominium alleged to have made physical threats to other residents of the condominium or members of the Condominium Board;*
2. *That The Corporation of the City of Vaughan recommends that the federal government put in place an expedited process under the Firearms Act to revoke a firearm license to any gun owner accused of threatening another resident of a condominium or members of a Condominium Board; and*
3. *That staff draft a letter to be approved by Vaughan City Council to be sent to the Honorable Prime Minister of Canada and Federal Attorney General, and the Honorable Premier of Ontario and Provincial Attorney General requesting the aforementioned legislative changes be implemented forthwith to protect Vaughan residents from any further harm or loss of life.*

Previous Reports/Authority

February 7, 2023, Committee of the Whole (1) meeting Member's Resolution – [Protecting the People: Vaughan Public Safety](#)

Analysis and Options

None.

Financial Impact

None.

Operational Impact

None.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Efforts to safeguard the public are the responsibility of all government levels. Therefore, the drafted correspondence will go to senior Federal and Provincial elected officials. The letters will also be sent to York Region.

Conclusion

This City staff report seeks to fulfill recommendations outlined in the February 2023 Member's Resolution requesting correspondence be drafted and sent to federal and provincial elected officials on public safety.

For more information, please contact: Michael Genova, Chief, Communications and Economic Development ext. 8027.

Attachments

1. Head of Council correspondence to the Prime Minister and Federal Attorney General
2. Head of Council correspondence to the Premier and Provincial Attorney General

Prepared by

Michael Genova, Chief, Communications and Economic Development ext. 8027.

Approved by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Spensieri', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Nick Spensieri, City Manager