

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (2)

DATE: Wednesday, March 08, 2023

TITLE: STOPPING HARASSMENT AND ABUSE BY LOCAL LEADERS ACT, 2022.

FROM:
DEPUTY MAYOR LINDA JACKSON

Whereas, On August 10, 2022, MPP Stephen Blais re-introduced Private Member's Bill 5, *Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act, 2022*, which would empower municipalities to direct their Integrity Commissioner to seek a determination by the Court as to whether a Member of Council has contravened the municipality's workplace violence or harassment policies. This Bill was carried on the first reading but has not yet reached the second reading; and

Whereas, in Vaughan, all elected officials are required to follow the [Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards](#) and refer to the [Complaint Protocol for the Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of Council and Local Boards](#). If a Council Member appears to have violated a section of the code, a complaint can be submitted to the [Integrity Commissioner](#); and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan expects its employees to conduct themselves in an ethical manner that reflects the City's commitment to the principles of honesty, transparency, integrity, trustworthiness, objectivity, diligence and professionalism in delivering services to the public and in their interactions within the workplace; and

Whereas, Vaughan's Code of Conduct is consistent with the City's values of Respect, Accountability and Dedication. City employees must follow standards of ethical and professional behaviour in the course of their work to ensure that public confidence and trust are maintained.

Whereas, at the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 17, 2023, a member of the public made a deputation seeking Council's support for Bill 5. As a result, Council directed that Legal Services and the Integrity Commissioner provide a report on Bill 5 at a future meeting for their information. This report was brought forward during the February 7, 2023, Committee of the Whole (1) meeting.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That, Council endorse this resolution in support of the passage of Bill 5 in the Ontario Legislature, and;
2. That, a letter of support from the City of Vaughan and a copy of this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, Vaughan Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP), and Orleans MPP Stephen Blais.

Attachments

1. [Bill 5](#)
2. [Committee of the Whole \(1\) – January 17, 2023, Communication C1](#)