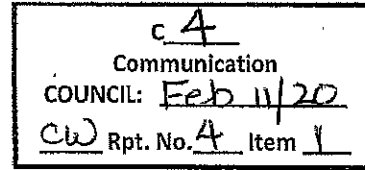


Subject:

FW: Item 1 COW Feb 4 2020



From: Carrie Liddy <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 10:04 AM

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Subject: Item 1 COW Feb 4 2020

Dear Honourable Minister Jones,

During the council meeting of Feb 4, 2020 and followed by researching the emergency plans of the City of Vaughan, it has become very apparent that Vaughan has not complied with the minimum requirements for public safety and emergency plans for the municipality.

Specifically, the Deputy Commissioner finances for the city put a resolution in front of council that Vaughan taxpayer pay a million dollars for a backup generator for a for-profit company that charges market rates and where the city has already paid millions to get this company to locate in Vaughan.

There is absolutely no justification for spending the million dollars, particularly since NONE of the necessary pieces of a availability plan have been put in place. Vaughan does not have a comprehensive emergency/disaster recovery plan. The availability (and associated risks of loss) of business functions of Vaughan have not been identified, and a risk (threat) analysis not been completed, and there's no cost analysis, there are NO recovery times and ranking of the critical functions of Vaughan. There is no cost benefit analysis of buying redundancy, for critical and loss of life functions of Vaughan and backup, group and shared resources and finally insurance plans for addressing the availability of critical functions.

Bottom line is that the residents of Vaughan are very vulnerable given h complete lack of planning and and a catastrophic disaster will mean loss of life and infinite loss of financial resources.

as an example: with the coronavirus being declared a pandemic, exactly what has Vaughan done to address this immediate and known threat, and why has the City not triggered pabs to address this? I remind you York Region was ground zero for SARS. Loss of life was a serious focus for the province following SARS, and the province has indeed taken steps to address the immediate threats to the people of ONtario for the coronavirus.

However, the lessons learned have not reached Vaughan. There has been ZERO discussion by council and no steps have been taken to prepare Vaughan residents for the immediate threat.

This is but one example, where Vaughan Council has failed the residents of Vaughan

I am asking that your Ministry audit the city and instruct them to put emergency/disaster recovery plans in place that follow the minimum practices of the provincial government.

Thank you

Dear Council,

I listened to the entire discussion on the proposed spending of a million dollars for a generator for a private for profit company. The Deputy Commissioner strenuously argued a case, complete with false and misleading "time constraints" on the spending of a million dollars of taxpayer money under the auspices of "emergency planning".

I commend Councillors Jackson and Racco for asking the proper questions and at least deferring this ridiculous and unaccountable use of taxpayer money.

I am appalled at the complete lack of understanding of what Vaughan HAS a mandatory duty to do , as municipality with regards to emergency planning.

Provincial legislation addressing minimum municipal requirements:

Municipal Responsibilities

3.1 All municipalities have the following emergency response responsibilities:

3.1.1 Have a Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) to direct the municipality's response in an emergency.

3.1.2 Establish an emergency operations centre to be used by the MECG in an emergency.

3.1.3 Designate a municipal emergency information officer.

3.1.4 Formulate, annually review, and update as required, a municipal emergency response plan.

3.2 To facilitate provincial coordination when necessary during an emergency, municipalities are expected to provide early notification and updates to the PEOC of any potential emergency situation.

I managed to find the emergency plan on the Vaughan website, and find it completely lacking in anything of value.

Having been the primary resource to write and train federal lead departments agencies on disaster recovery and continuity planning and emergency planning , I can say without a hesitation that Vaughan does NOT have a plan and by far is not even come close to complying with provincial mandated policy.

Disaster recovery, emergency preparedness is mandatory in Ontario. In 2006 and forward, the province spent millions on developing plans and instituting training programs and has multitude of resources available to properly develop plans. NONE of this is apparent in the Vaughan plan.

Let me VERY quickly outline what Vaughan HAS TO DO, none of which has been done.

1) Develop a threat risk model and identify risks,

- threat assessments must be done, and specific economic (with intangible loss being a loss) and risk loss identified

-identifying what can planned for, what has to be redundant or duplicated,

-what backup is necessary, and

-what has to be insurance as loss where backup and redundancy is either not available or where the business case shows the economic loss does not exceed the value of the backup.(how does spending a million dollars on a for-profit company's back-up generator meet any requirements of loss)

2) complete a continuity risk and availability analysis (aka business resumption criteria, resources and risk analysis) that identifies all business functions of Vaughan, what business functions are mandatory, critical, can wait, and are not a necessary function of Vaughan.

3) develop specific availability time frames for each of the above identified business functions

4) quantify the loss of each function eg. lose of life has absolute value and lose of buildings and lose of things such as for profit businesses backup generators have zero value to taxpayers

5) identify solutions for MANDATORY and critical functions where values are absolute for loss of life and for business functions cost per time frame exceed the amount of money to provide redundancy or/and backup.

6) put solutions in place (redundancy, backup, shared resources) , using cost benefit analysis (again with loss of life having infinite value) and purchase insurance for the remaining business functions that are MANDATORY , critical and have economic value that exceeds the lose value over specific time frames (budlings, assets such as contributory assets)

7) develop a comprehensive plan, including criteria and authority for declaring a disaster/emergency, what type, what portion (if not all) of the emergency plans are triggered, complete with call lists, immediate tasks, followed by tasks allocated for each minute, each hour after declaration, then days, and months and finally plans for full recovery

8) test, reevaluate, test again and continue this at a minimum annually

NONE of the above has been done

Instead, the Deputy Commissioner finances, asks for a million dollars to pay for a generator for a for profit company under the auspices of "emergency planning"

This is very obviously an unreported lobbying effort, as at a minimum, meetings have taken place, with the for-profit company, and given there are NO Notations on the lobby registry for the for-profit violations have occurred.

I have copied the Integrity Commission, who also has a mandate for the Lobbyist registry, however, it is up to her to follow through.

Given the above, COUNCIL must vote no to giving the for profit company a million for a back-up generator that has NO even remote connection to emergency planning.