

Mary and Ferdinando Torrieri
[REDACTED] Kilmuir Gate
Woodbridge, Ontario [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

May 25, 2020

Todd Coles
City Clerk
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1

Council meeting of Wednesday May 27, 2020

INDEMNIFICATION BY-LAW AMENDMENTS (REFERRED) (By-law number 067-2020 and By-law number 068-2020)

Dear Mr. Coles:

We have just read an article that was published in The Toronto Star on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, regarding a pending proposal to amend the existing indemnification by-law with respect to the provincial Municipal Conflict of Interest Act. As the article suggests, there is absolutely no need to amend this by-law.

As stated in the Toronto Star article, Mr. Ferri, himself, is facing a conflict of interest complaint, which may entail that the city could potentially be responsible for some of his legal costs. Therefore, the fact that he is asking for a change to the by-law which would govern the expenditure of possible legal costs means that he is, **at best, in a conflict of interest** with respect to this by-law review. Is this the action of someone who “always acts with integrity and good faith” as he is quoted as saying in the article?

As quoted in the same article, we totally agree with and respect what the integrity commissioner, Suzanne Craig said: “In the GTA, there is no other indemnification bylaw that goes as far as the one being proposed by the city of Vaughan.” Why are we any different than any other municipality in the GTA? Vaughan taxpayers should not be burdened with potentially increased expenses.

We hope that you will convey our objection to the proposed change in the by-law at the council meeting.

Thank you in advance for your attention and cooperation to this issue.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Mary Torrieri

[REDACTED]
Ferdinando Torrieri

cc: Mayor Bevilacqua and all Councillors