

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020

Item 11, Report No. 54, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on November 17, 2020.

11. RESPECT AND RELIEF FOR WWII VETERAN JOHN HENRY ROYCE, KLEINBURG RESIDENT

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That the recommendations contained in the following resolution of Mayor Bevilacqua dated November 10, 2020, be approved; and
- 2) That City staff review and defer outstanding water bills due to financial hardships on a case-by-case basis until a high-water consumption relief program and policy is approved by Council, which will be retroactive to the beginning of this term of Council.

Member's Resolution

Submitted by Mayor Bevilacqua

Whereas, the City of Vaughan takes great pride in honouring, recognizing and respecting the many brave men and women who served and continue to serve this country; and

Whereas, the entire community is invited and encouraged to learn more about the City's 2020 Remembrance Day virtual event and exhibit at vaughan.ca/RemembranceDay and to view the digital Remembrance Day exhibit "*The War Effort Seen Through Their Eyes: Recollections and Mementos of the World Wars*"; and

Whereas, citizens can also pay tribute to veterans and soldiers by sharing personal thoughts of gratitude and remembrance on the City's virtual Poppy Wall. Digital messages will be collected until Wednesday, November 11 and then featured in an online display; and

Whereas, all Members of Council wish to recognize the heroism of Kleinburg resident John Henry Royce, a 97-year-old veteran of the Second World War. The family of Mr. Royce recently sent correspondence (dated November 4, 2020) to the Mayor's Office regarding a water bill received from Alectra Utilities amounting to approximately \$6,433.49 and requested steps be taken to provide relief; and

Whereas, it is incumbent upon all levels of government to ensure respect and relief are shown to Canada's veterans and all people more broadly. The City offers pocketbook relief in the form of the Elderly Home Assistance Program and the Seniors, Low-Income Seniors & Low-Income Disabled Persons' Property Tax Deferral Program, among other initiatives; and

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Whereas, the City remains committed to finding other ways to provide relief to all residents, including a current study underway for a comprehensive review of the existing rate structure for the delivery of water and wastewater services to residents and businesses, such as the costs to provide the service, future asset management reserve requirements and structure of the rate to ensure transparency, fairness and sustainability; and

Whereas, a component of the study is to consider the feasibility, cost and logistics of a high-water consumption forgiveness program; and

Whereas, staff will be reporting to Council in Q2 of 2021 with an update on the study, including an approach to address instances of accidental high-water consumption, including but not limited to, plumbing leaks.

It is therefore recommended:

1. *That City staff take the appropriate steps to ensure the \$6,433.49 (approximate) water bill from Alectra Utilities for Mr. John Henry Royce, resident of Pennon Road in Kleinburg, be entirely waived.*

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Meeting/Date	Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 – Committee of the Whole (2)
Title:	Respect and Relief for WWII Veteran John Henry Royce, Kleinburg Resident
Submitted by:	Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua
<p>Whereas, the City of Vaughan takes great pride in honouring, recognizing and respecting the many brave men and women who served and continue to serve this country; and,</p> <p>Whereas, the entire community is invited and encouraged to learn more about the City's 2020 Remembrance Day virtual event and exhibit at vaughan.ca/RemembranceDay and to view in the digital Remembrance Day exhibit <i>"The War Effort Seen Through Their Eyes: Recollections and Mementos of the World Wars"</i>; and,</p> <p>Whereas, citizens can also pay tribute to veterans and soldiers by sharing personal thoughts of gratitude and remembrance on the City's virtual Poppy Wall. Digital messages will be collected until Wednesday, Nov. 11 and then featured in an online display; and,</p> <p>Whereas, all Members of Council wish to recognize the heroism of Kleinburg resident John Henry Royce, a 97-year-old veteran of the Second World War. The family of Mr. Royce recently sent correspondence (dated Nov. 4, 2020) to the Mayor's Office regarding a water bill received from Alectra amounting to approximately \$6,433.49 and requested steps be taken to provide relief; and,</p> <p>Whereas, it is incumbent upon all levels of government to ensure respect and relief are shown to Canada's veterans and all people more broadly. The City offers pocketbook relief in the form of the <i>Elderly Home Assistance Program</i> and the <i>Seniors, Low-Income Seniors & Low-Income Disabled Persons' Property Tax Deferral Program</i>, among other initiatives; and,</p> <p>Whereas, the City remains committed to finding other ways to provide relief to all residents, including a current study underway for a comprehensive review of the existing rate structure for the delivery of water and wastewater services to residents and businesses, such as the costs to provide the service, future asset management reserve requirements and structure of the rate to ensure transparency, fairness and sustainability; and,</p> <p>Whereas, a component of the study is to consider the feasibility, cost and logistics of a high-water consumption forgiveness program; and,</p> <p>Whereas, staff will be reporting to Council in Q2 of 2021 with an update on the study, including an approach to address instances of accidental high-water consumption, including but not limited to, plumbing leaks.</p> <p><i>It is therefore recommended that:</i></p> <p><i>1. That City staff take the appropriate steps to ensure the \$6,433.49 (approximate) water bill from Alectra for Mr. John Henry Royce, resident of Pennon Road in Kleinburg, be entirely waived.</i></p>	

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua