

Minute Item No. 5.1

CLK 6-2023

Records Retention By-law and Schedule

That Report CLK 6-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting Records Retention By-law and Schedule, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations, **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the draft Records Retention By-law (Appendix 1 of Report CLK 6-2023) **BE APPROVED**;
2. That By-law 2013-063 being the Records Retention By-law **BE REPEALED**; and
3. That the necessary By-law **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Council.

Minute Item No. 5.2

CLK 7-2023

Lobbyist Registrar Services

That Report CLK 7-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting Lobbyist Registrar Services, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations, **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Regional Council **APPROVE** the single sourcing of Lobbyist Registrar Services to Boghosian+Allen LLP, to provide Lobbyist Registrar Services for The Regional Municipality of Niagara for a term concluding on October 31, 2024 with an option to extend from November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2027;
2. That David Boghosian of Boghosian+Allen LLP, **BE APPOINTED** as the Lobbyist Registrar for The Regional Municipality of Niagara;
3. That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute the necessary agreement with Boghosian+Allen LLP, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal and Court Services; and
4. That the necessary by-law to appoint David Boghosian **BE PREPARED** and **PRESENTED** to Council for passage upon execution of the agreement.

Minute Item No. 5.3

HR 2-2023

Vehicle and Equipment Use Policy

That Report HR 2-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting Vehicle and Equipment Use Policy, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation, **BE APPROVED**:

1. That updated Policy C-HR-023 Vehicle and Equipment Use (Appendix 1 to Report HR 2-2023) **BE APPROVED**.

Minute Item No. 5.4

CAO 11-2023

Request for Write-Off of Interest Payment, Town of Lincoln

That Report CAO 11-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting Request for Write-Off of Interest Payment, Town of Lincoln, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation, **BE APPROVED**:

1. That Regional Council **APPROVE** the write-off of interest charges on the 2022 tax installment arrears by the Town of Lincoln in the amount of \$208,692.21.

Minute Item No. 5.5

CSC-C 18-2023

Referred Motion – Support for Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Municipal Code of Conduct Recommendations

That Correspondence Item CSC-C 18-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting Referred Motion – Support for Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) Municipal Code of Conduct Recommendations, **BE RECEIVED** and the following **BE APPROVED**:

WHEREAS Bill 5, known as the “Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act”, was an important piece of legislation to strengthen accountability for council members, but failed upon second reading in the Provincial legislature in May 2023;

WHEREAS Bill 5 was endorsed by over 170 municipalities in Ontario including the Niagara Region, recognizing the importance of aligning council conduct policies with workplace violence and harassment policies;

WHEREAS a safe and respectful work environment is a basic expectation for all Ontarians;

WHEREAS serving our communities in a leadership role is a privilege and a responsibility;

WHEREAS improving local public discourse will improve public confidence in local government and increase respect for our municipal institutions and the work we do;

WHEREAS democracy suffers when the public loses confidence in their representatives and institutions; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs launched consultation on strengthening municipal codes of conduct in March of 2021 without any further update.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Regional Council **SUPPORTS** the recommendations made by AMO that:
 - a) Codes of Conduct should be updated to include workplace safety and harassment policies;

- b) Codes of Conduct should have an escalating enforcement mechanism through administrative monetary penalties that recognize local circumstances;
 - c) Integrity Commissioners should have better, standardized training to improve consistency of decisions across the province;
 - d) In the most egregious cases, such as harassment or assault, municipalities should be able to apply to a judge to remove a sitting member if recommended by an Integrity Commissioner;
 - e) A member removed under this process should be unable to sit in another election during the term of office removed and the subsequent term;
2. That Regional Council **URGES** the Ontario Government to table and pass legislation to make these changes as soon as possible;
 3. That Regional Council **REINFORCES** that the time to act is past due as articulated and expressed by AMO; and
 4. That this motion **BE CIRCULATED** to AMO and Niagara members of provincial parliament and local area municipalities.

Minute Item 6.1

CSC-C-17-2023

Intent to Respond to City of Niagara Falls RFP for Enterprise Resource Planning Solution

That Correspondence Item CSC-C 17-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting Intent to Respond to City of Niagara Falls RFP for Enterprise Resource Planning Solution, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Minute Item 9.1

Confidential CSD 35-2023

A Matter Regarding a Proposed Acquisition of Land by the Municipality under s. 239(2)(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Regional Road 81 in the City of St. Catharines

That Confidential Report CSD 35-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting A Matter Regarding a Proposed Acquisition of Land by the Municipality under s. 239(2)(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Regional Road 81 in the City of St. Catharines, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein, **BE APPROVED**.

Minute Item 9.2

Confidential CSD 36-2023

A Matter Regarding Proposed Acquisitions of Land by the Municipality under s. 239(2)(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Regional Road 45, in the Township of Wainfleet

That Confidential Report CSD 36-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting A Matter Regarding Proposed Acquisitions of Land by the Municipality under s. 239(2)(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Regional Road 45, in the Township of Wainfleet, **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein, **BE APPROVED**.

Minute Item 9.3

Confidential CSD 37-2023

A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor Client Privilege and Respecting Litigation – Summary of Civil Lawsuits Commenced Against The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region), Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) and Niagara Regional Housing (NRH)

That Confidential Report CSD 37-2023, dated August 9, 2023, respecting A Matter of Advice that is Subject to Solicitor Client Privilege and Respecting Litigation – Summary of Civil Lawsuits Commenced Against The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region), Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) and Niagara Regional Housing (NRH), **BE RECEIVED** and the recommendations contained therein, **BE APPROVED**.