



VISION: We will be a vibrant, dependable and clean city where services are delivered innovatively and effectively.

MISSION: To provide effective operations of the city through collaboration of members, management and staff.

City Hall, Hamilton
Staff, Legislative & Governance Committee
17 May 2016
10:00am

Present: Councillor Larry Scott (Chair)
Councillor Nicholas Swan

In Attendance: Ed Benevides - the Secretary
Patrick Cooper - the City Engineer
Lindell Foster - the Human Resources Manager

Apologies: Rt. Wor. Charles Gosling, JP
Councillor Henry Ming

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1. **Confirmation of Notice:** the Secretary confirmed that the notice periods were met in accordance with the new meeting guidelines.
 2. **Role of the Chairman** - Councillor L. Scott was acknowledged as the Chair.
 3. **Open Meeting** - Councillor L. Scott opened the meeting at 10:00am.
 4. **Apologies** - the Secretary confirmed apologies from the Mayor and Councillor H. Ming.
 5. **Public Participation** - the Secretary confirmed there was no public participation.
 6. **Correspondence:** the Secretary confirmed no correspondence had been received. The Secretary commented that he had received a letter from a lawyer regarding a past case and did not have it added on the agenda. He will bring it forward under Any Other Business.
 7. **Minutes of Previous Meeting dated 19 April 2016**

Proposed: Councillor N. Swan

Seconded: Councillor L. Scott

The Minutes were accepted as read.

8. Matters arising from Previous Meeting dated 19 April 2016

(i) **Follow-up with Councillor Johnson re: Written submission requesting to change the meeting time for the General Council meetings** - this matter was dealt with in the Corporation Board meeting dated 6 April 2016 - action item completed.

(ii) **Letter to Mr. Graham Nesbitt of the BIU confirming their withdrawal of the 21-Day Strike Notice** - the CoH still has not received anything in writing from the BIU confirming their withdrawal of the 21-Day Strike Notice. This matter can be taken off of the agenda because the HR has received a confirmation in a recording.

ACTION: The HR Manager to have the Labour Department to ask the BIU to confirm their withdrawal of the 21-Day Strike Notice.

(iii) **Contact Various Organisations re: Joint approach regarding the Liquor License Legislation** - this matter was discussed in the Infrastructure Committee meeting dated 13 April 2016. It was decided that this topic be kept with the Infrastructure Committee.

9. Status Update:

(i) **BIU Negotiations** - meeting is being held Wednesday 18 May 2016. There have been no changes in the negotiations.

10. Recommendations for Review:

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board decline the request from Councillor Johnson to change the meeting time for the General Council meetings and that the meeting remain as is, a 12:30pm start.

11. Any Other Business

(i) **Review Suggested Change in Meeting Schedule for Council Meetings** - this was a recommendation from the Mayor for the committee to consider. The issue seems to be when the first Wednesday of the month falls on the first or the second of the month. It would work if the Wednesday, Thursday or the Friday was the first of the month. But if the first is on a Monday then it would be a third way through the month and it would delay business, i.e. committee meeting dates would have to change. The Mayor had originally suggested the first Wednesday after the first Sunday of the month but that would push everything back by two (2) weeks in some cases, when looking for approvals, etc.

Councillor Swan asked the rationale for this consideration. It was noted that the Mayor said that in some businesses a large percentage of business is scheduled at the beginning or the end of a month and there could be a conflict with the Board meetings and the members' personal commitments. The Secretary suggested that if the first Wednesday of the month falls in the first four days of the month then that the meeting could get moved to the Thursday.

Councillor Swan suggested that this discussion continue when the Mayor is available to be in attendance to hear his rationale. This matter is to be deferred and placed on the agenda for the next Staff, Legislative and Governance committee meeting in June.

ACTION: The Secretary to ask the Mayor to prepare some rationale for consideration regarding his request for changing the schedule for General Council meetings.

The other part of the Mayor's suggestion is to cancel the August General Council meeting and the committee meetings in July. Alternatively, cancel the committee meetings for August and the General Council meeting in September. The Secretary suggested having the last General Council meeting in July, no committee meetings in July; skip the August General Council meeting and then start the committee meetings in August. The Mayor was looking to have break for the Council during the year. There was continued discussion.

Councillor Swan commented that he does not like the thought of stopping business and suggested keeping the meeting schedule as is. He recommended having a full discussion at the next General Council meeting scheduled for 8 June 2016 leaning towards not having a break and to continue the meetings as scheduled.

The City Engineer suggested having truncated Council meetings, just handle essential business and anything that can be deferred, do so. The meetings can be held on "decision only" material.

There was no further business to be discussed.

12. Motion to move to a Restricted Session

Proposed: Councillor N. Swan

Seconded: Councillor L. Scott

The public session was adjourned at 10:15am.