
City Council

MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE

MM36.4	ACTION			Ward: 6
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Famous People Players, a Non Profit Organization Assessed with Development Charges, be Permitted to Enter into an Agreement with the City for the Payment of Such Charges in Equal Installments - Councillor Grimes, seconded by Councillor Saundercook

•This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair. Council has added this Motion to the agenda for debate.

Recommendations

Councillor Grimes, seconded by Councillor Saundercook, recommends:

- 1 That, recognizing the significant public and community benefits, including employment opportunities, which Famous People Players brings to the City of Toronto, City Council hereby directs and authorizes the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer to negotiate and enter into an agreement in a form satisfactory to the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer and the City Solicitor that allows the Famous People Players to pay in equal installments without interest, the assessed development charges over a 36-month period, thus enabling staff to release the required building permits for the development of the site.

Summary

Famous People Players is an internationally renowned black light theatre company. Based in the City of Toronto, it also has sent its troupes around the world. It is a non-profit organization which employs people with physical and mental disabilities. Those individuals share duties in dining room management, arts administration, and theatrical and visual arts performances.

Since 1974, Famous People Payers has been at the forefront of offering employment and support services for people with disabilities in the City of Toronto. Famous People Players took a leadership role in recognizing the ability rather than disability of workers. FPP is truly an inspirational organization that has paved the way for others to follow.

For 15 years, Famous People Players has maintained its theatre location, at 110 Sudbury Street but has recently had to relocate. This charitable organization has arranged a lease at 643 Evans Avenue in Ward 6, in the former city of Etobicoke. Unfortunately, in spite of filing their application for the redevelopment of this site prior to May 1, 2009, the permits would not be approved until after the new development charge by law is in effect. This has resulted in development charges that the local charity, which contributes to Toronto's economy, does not have the resources to pay in a lump sum.

(Submitted to City Council on May 25 and 26, 2009 as MM36.4)

