

Reimbursement of Legal Expenses for a Former Member of Council

Date: April 15, 2021

To: Executive Committee

From: City Solicitor and City Clerk

Wards: All

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to authorize the reimbursement of legal fees to a former Member of City Council under the Indemnification for Members of Council Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Clerk and the City Solicitor recommend that:

1. City Council authorize the reimbursement of legal fees paid to Fenton, Smith Barristers in the amount of \$6,889.47 as requested by a former Member of City Council.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The reimbursement of fees will be paid from the 2021 approved Council General Expense budget. There are no additional financial impacts to the City Budget.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial implication information.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on July 16, 2008, City Council adopted a policy for the Indemnification of Members of Council:

COMMENTS

The City Clerk received a request for reimbursement under the Indemnification of Members of Council policy by a former Member of City Council.

The former Member incurred fees totaling \$6,889.47 for legal representation by Fenton, Smith Barristers in relation to a police investigation relating to the performance of their official duties. The police terminated their investigation without laying any charges.

Under Council policy, Members (including former Members) may be reimbursed for such legal expenses to a maximum of \$25,000, where the reimbursement of funds is warranted upon consideration of all the circumstances.

The City Clerk and the City Solicitor have reviewed the invoices submitted and deem them to be eligible and warranted for reimbursement under the applicable policies.

The City Solicitor has reviewed the invoices supplied by the requester and attests to the reasonableness of the fees charged.

Under Council's policy, City officials are required to report to the Executive Committee and seek Council authority to reimburse eligible expenses.

CONTACT

Cory Lynch, Solicitor, Municipal Law, Legal Services
Cory.Lynch@toronto.ca, 416-397-5331,

Grace Young, Acting Deputy City Clerk, Strategic Integration & Excellence.
Grace.Young@toronto.ca, 416-392-9903

SIGNATURE

Wendy Walberg
City Solicitor

John D. Elvidge
City Clerk