

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM23.34	ACTION			Ward: All
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Appointment of Fire Chief and General Manager, Toronto Fire Services - by Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie, seconded by Councillor Chris Moise

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie, seconded by Councillor Chris Moise, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to undertake reference checks and contract negotiations with the candidate identified in Confidential Attachment 1 for the position of Fire Chief and General Manager of Toronto Fire Services, and subject to and conditional upon satisfactory results of such checks, and effective the latter of January 2, 2025 and such date when the candidate enters into an employment contract, City Council appoint the candidate identified in Confidential Attachment 1 as Fire Chief and General Manager, Toronto Fire Services.
2. City Council direct the appropriate City officials to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the introduction in Council of the necessary bill to appoint the approved candidate as Fire Chief under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997.
3. City Council direct the information contained in Confidential Attachment 1 to remain confidential at this time, as it pertains to personal information about an identifiable individual.
4. City Council authorize the City Manager to announce the name of the candidate identified in Confidential Attachment 1, subject to and upon the candidate meeting the conditions set out in paragraph 1.
5. City Council authorize the public release of Confidential Attachment 1 subject to and upon the candidate meeting the conditions set out in paragraph 1.

Summary

The previous Fire Chief and General Manager of Toronto Fire Services, Matthew Pegg departed from the City on October 4th, 2024. As it's meeting on October 9, 10, and 11, City Council appointed Larry Cocco as Interim Fire Chief and General Manager of Toronto Fire Services until such time as a new Fire Chief and General Manager of Toronto Fire Services has been appointed.

Subsection 6(1) of the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 provides that, if a fire department is established for the whole or a part of a municipality or for more than one municipality, the council of the municipality or the councils of the municipalities, as the case may be, shall appoint a Fire Chief for the fire department. A Fire Chief is essential for maintaining the stability and continuity of the City's fire and emergency services. As the head of the Toronto Fire Services, the Fire Chief provides strategic leadership, overseeing fire prevention, suppression, and emergency response operations.

This motion provides authority to the City Manager to undertake reference checks and contract negotiations with the candidate identified in the Confidential Attachment. It is to the benefit of our residents, businesses and visitors to appoint a new Fire Chief and General Manager of Toronto Fire Services in a timely manner.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM23.34

Confidential Attachment 1