

Agenda

Governance Working Group

2nd Meeting of the Governance Working Group

May 3, 2021, 12:00 PM

Governance Working Group Virtual Meeting - during the COVID-19 Emergency
City Hall is temporarily closed to the public for in-person attendance at meetings.

Members

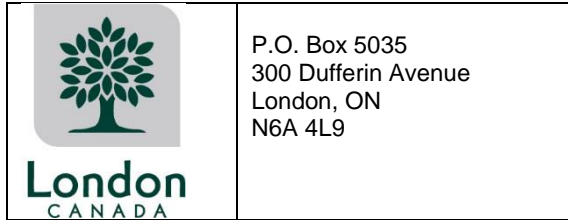
Councillors J. Morgan (Chair), S. Hillier, A. Kayabaga, S. Lewis, P. Squire, M. van Holst

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To make a request specific to this meeting, please contact abush@london.ca.

Pages

1. **Call to Order**
 - 1.1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest
2. **Consent Items**
3. **Items for Discussion**
 - 3.1. Operations of Council 2
 - 3.2. Council Member's Expense Account Policy 5
4. **Deferred Matters/Additional Business**
5. **Adjournment**



April 14, 2021

Chair and Members
Governance Working Group

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on April 13, 2021 resolved:

That the Governance Working Group BE DIRECTED to consider, in consultation with the Civic Administration, how the operations of council may be changed to potentially realize efficiencies in line with the corporate reorganization, while better serving London, including but not limited to: hours of council and standing committee meetings, standing committee structure, expense accounts, and support staff; it being noted that all Members of Council are encouraged to submit ideas for consideration. (4.4/7/SPPC) (2021-C06)



C. Saunders
City Clerk
/hw

From: van Holst, Michael <mvanholst@london.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:00 AM
To: SPPC <sppc@london.ca>
Subject: SPPC motion to discuss council

Dear Colleagues,

Now that we have determined the next city council will not consist of fewer members, it would be a good time to have the years delayed discussion about whether London would be better served by a council that meets more during the day than at night and/or is expected to put in more full-time than part-time hours.

For this reason, I request that you support the following motion.

That the governance committee be DIRECTED to consider how the operation of city council may be changed to better serve London.

Yours,
Michael van Holst

Ms. Cathy Saunders, City Clerk
Re: City Council Agenda April 13, 2021

Please add to the agenda under added communications:

This brief be referred to agenda item under "Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee #7 meeting item 4.4 Operation of Council.

Recommendations referred to Governance Working Group (minutes not available).

City Council should not be able to determine how they will operate! The discussion at SP&PC talked about full time and times of meetings. The city clerk made reference to subjects under review coming to Governance Working Group. (reference to video will clarify).

The record will show that a previous Council approved the hiring (handpicked) of a special team to examine proper compensation. Citizens were denied the opportunity to serve on same! The decision was made to pay "medium full time wage to Councilors" after some 18 months of meetings. City Council followed through on settling for whatever recommendation was made for future Council. From day one the "Experts" decided the need to pay more to attract better people!

A review of history will show many new Councilors had no knowledge of raise; benefits and expense accounts when elected. Also made no issue during campaign.

Because of that action the same could be said for working conditions including debating part time or full time councilors. You don't get to set your own conditions; normally the Employer does! That is us! The Compensation Task Force already decided full time or part time issue. Now it is up to each councilor carry out the role as deemed suited!

Two flaws of concern:

Your favor of ranked balloting was based on sacrificing the best candidate for more diversity! In municipal politics this doesn't work! You need to show us that getting rid of Board of Control has resulted in better governance?. You individually need to provide a profile how each of you (in your own words) has made serving all Londoners better? This should be data driven? Clearly define roles of staff (Experts)and councilors (policy setters).

Secondly, there is a lack of openness, transparency and data driven decisions! Still outstanding is a concern raised with Council; back in 2017 that had to follow a process to place a brief to the Governance Task Force.

Earlier this year a review of Strategic Priorities & Policy Committee meeting (July 24, 2017; 1:33:38) showed the following:

I never got to address because Chair of Governance Group had spoken to members and indicated it should go to Integrity Commissioner. Thus denying process dictated by Council. This is currently under review.

Should you fail to take out of councilors hands I would urge that all meetings be taped so that public can review holding each of you accountable.

We need a system that accurately holds councilors and staff accountable. You have several briefs and emails raising these concerns without a single question or response. Example Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee July 29, 2019

William H. Brock



P.O. Box 5035
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON
N6A 4L9

London
CANADA

April 24, 2019

Chair and Members
Governance Working Group

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on April 23, 2019 resolved:

That the Governance Working Group BE DIRECTED to undertake a fulsome review of the Council Member's Expense Account Policy, including the amount of the annual allocation, during its review in the first quarter of 2020; it being noted that the Corporate Services Committee received a communication dated April 4, 2019 from Councillor E. Pelosa with respect to this matter. (4.1/10/CSC)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Saunders', is written over the text of the resolution.

C. Saunders
City Clerk
/hw

April 4, 2019

Chair and Members of
the Corporate Services Committee

Re: Council Member's Expense Account Policy

The Governance Working Group is currently reviewing the Council Member's Expense Account Policy. Given that this Policy is under review, I respectfully request that the following recommendation be supported:

“That the Governance Working Group BE REQUESTED to include in their review of the Council Member's Expense Account Policy, the removal of home internet as a an eligible expense under the Policy.”

In support of this recommendation, when the Policy was initially implemented, household internet was considered a “luxury”. In 2013, 87% of Canadians reported having home internet and I would suggest that most households in London have internet service in their home, including the homes of Members of Council.

Members of Council are also provided with City issued smart phones that can be used as a ‘hot spot’ should internet services be required. In order to be accountable to the residents of the city with the respect to the appropriate use of taxpayers' money, and be responsible stewards of public funds, home internet should be removed as an eligible expense under the Council Member's Expense Account Policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Peloza
Councillor, Ward 12



London
CANADA

P.O. Box 5035
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON
N6A 4L9

April 24, 2019

C. Saunders
City Clerk

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on April 23, 2019 resolved:

That, the following actions be taken with respect to the 2nd Report of the Governance Working Group from its meeting held on March 25, 2019:

a) the following actions be taken with respect to the Municipal Council resolution dated December 19, 2018 regarding a communication from Councillor M. van Holst with respect to Council expense restrictions and debate at Standing Committees:

i) the discussion regarding the Council Members' Expense Account BE REFERRED to a meeting of the Governance Working Group (GWG) to be held in the first quarter of 2020; and,

ii) the City Clerk BE DIRECTED to report back to the May 6, 2019 meeting of the Governance Working Group (GWG) with proposed amendments to the Council Procedure By-law that would provide for non-members of a Standing Committee to participate in the debate regarding a matter before the Standing Committee; it being noted that the non-members would continue to not be permitted to vote on the matter at the Standing Committee meeting;

b) the matter regarding the process for public appointments to Boards and Commissions BE REFERRED to a future meeting of the Governance Working Group (GWG) when the Civic Administration submits a report on the processes other municipalities undertake to recruit and appoint members of the public to boards and commissions at the beginning of a Council term; and

c) clauses 1.1 and 1.2 BE RECEIVED for information. (4.5/12/SPPC)

B. Westlake-Power
Deputy City Clerk
/hw

cc: A. Bush, Administrative Assistant II