

Bill No. 473
2014

By-law No. A.- _____

A by-law to repeal and replace Council Policy 28(2) being the "Council Members' Expense Account" Policy.

WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council wishes to take the necessary steps to repeal and replace the existing Council policy pertaining to the Council Members' Expense Account to include hosting costs for educational forum, set annual limits for certain expenditures; provide for the quarterly posting of Council Members' expenses on the City of London's website; and to require the return of certain goods and equipment at the conclusion of a Council Members' holding of office;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. Council Policy 28(2) is hereby repealed and replaced with a new Council Policy 28(2) attached hereto as Schedule "A".
2. This by-law shall come into force and effect on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council on October 14, 2014.

J. Baechler
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First Reading – October 14, 2014
Second reading – October 14, 2014
Third reading – October 14, 2014

Schedule "A"

28(2) Council Members' Expense Account

The following policy is established to allocate an annual sum of \$15,000.00 to each Member of Council to support Councillors in performing their diverse roles and representing their constituents. The allocation is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) This policy does not apply to:
 - (i) the Head of Council;
 - (ii) any travel-related expenses that are not eligible for reimbursement under Council Policy 28(1) related to Travel and Business Expenses;
 - (iii) travel expenses incurred by any Member of Council who has been nominated by the Municipal Council to represent it as a member of a committee or of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities or the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; it being noted that the latter expenses will be subject to Council approval of a source of financing;
 - (iv) elected officials' salaries and related payroll costs;
 - (v) expenses related to telephone, mobile devices and computers issued by the Corporation; noting that the standards for the aforementioned equipment are established by the City Clerk in consultation with Information Technology Services and are reflected in Council Policy 5(29);
 - (vi) City of London business cards, letterhead and envelopes;
 - (vii) a limited general supply of pens, pencils, erasers, highlighters, markers, scribble pads, message pads, post-it notes, paperclips, tape, staples, etc.
 - (viii) expenses for goods or services of a personal nature;
 - (ix) election-related expenses, including expenses incurred to produce or distribute campaign literature or materials, in accordance with Council Policy 5(28);
 - (x) expenses incurred by delegates who the Mayor may, from time to time and at his/her discretion, request to attend meetings with federal, provincial or municipal organizations, or of the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO) and the Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) on his/her behalf; and,
 - (xi) any donations or grants as these items are covered under the City of London Municipal Granting program.
- (b) The annual allocation shall be subject to annual Budget approval;
- (c) The allocated sum may be used by Members of Council for any of the following purposes:
 - (i) any conference, seminar or workshop having a direct relationship to municipal concerns or interests; such expenses to be in accordance with Council Policy 28(1) Travel and Business Expenses;
 - (ii) educational courses which would assist the elected official in the completion of their Council-related duties and responsibilities;
 - (iii) gifts and souvenirs for protocol and City of London promotional purposes up to a maximum value of \$1200 annually;
 - (iv) the expenses of a spouse or companion when claiming business hosting expenses, at the discretion of the elected official, when such an expense is considered to be necessary for the advancement of the interests of the

City and is in accordance with Council Policy 28 (1) Travel and Business Expenses;

- (v) office and computer equipment, furniture and supplies exceeding corporate issue, subject to the following conditions:
- A) purchases of single items exceeding \$750.00 (excluding HST) in value will require the pre-approval of the Expense Review Officer (or designate) and it must be demonstrated that such purchases are necessary in order to effectively represent and serve the constituents;
 - B) purchases of single items exceeding \$750.00 (excluding HST) in value will be returned to the City Clerk upon the completion of the term to determine appropriate Corporate reuse or redistribution, should the Councillor not be returning for an additional term;
 - C) notwithstanding part B), above, out-going Councillors may purchase a piece of equipment, originally purchased with "City" funds, using personal funds payable to the City, at present-market value;
 - D) purchases of single items exceeding \$750.00 (excluding HST) in value in the final year of the term will require the submission of a request for approval to the Corporate Services Committee on an exception basis, and will remain subject to all conditions described above;
- (vi) publication of newspaper notices to extend Seasons Greetings, advertise ward or neighbourhood meetings, extend congratulations to community organizations, convey Council actions on matters of public interest up to a maximum value of \$1,000 annually;
- (vii) expenses related to ward matters and the operation of a "ward office", including such expenses as: neighbourhood or constituent meetings, notices, lease of constituency office space within the ward, printing, etc.;
- (viii) expenses related to the hosting of educational forums related to the business of the Municipal Council, for the benefit of the public (eg. Speaker's fees and travel expenses, venue rental for the forum, etc.);
- (viii) expenses relating to normal "wear and tear" of the primary vehicle, as recorded with the City Clerk, used for City business such as: gas receipts, oil changes, tires, brakes, parking and other fluid changes/fills.
- (ix) contracting of temporary, part time office assistants subject to the following conditions:
- Members of Council will be responsible for the contracting and supervision of office assistants who will be under a purchase of service agreement with the Council member.
 - Members of Council shall arrange for their assistants to submit an invoice for work performed at the agreed upon rate. All invoices will be approved by the contracting Council Member prior to submission to the City Treasurer for payment. All payments will be subject to the availability of funding in the Council Member's Expense Account;
 - temporary office assistants contracted by members of Council will not be provided with access to the City Hall computer system, but could be provided with access to any offsite service provided by an outside service provider, at the discretion of the Council member;
 - office assistants working for Members of Council will be provided keys and security card access from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, to the office of the Council member for which they are providing services; and,
 - the Code of Conduct policy for Members of Council will be followed in supervising these assistants including the protection of confidential information.
- (x) community event ticket purchases, for the individual Councillor.

- (d) For expenses not included in (c), above, elected officials may, at their discretion, submit a request through the Corporate Services Committee for approval of an expense, on an exception basis;
- (e) No goods or services shall be purchased in excess of what the Council Members require to complete their term of office, and all expense claims will require the submission of original, detailed receipts and clear explanation of the City/Ward-related purpose.
- (f) The City Treasurer will provide an annual report to the Municipal Council detailing elected official remuneration and all expenses incurred against each elected official's expense account, such report to be prepared on or before March 31st of each calendar year; and,
- (g) All elected official expense information is considered to be public information, with the exception of any detail that is subject to the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, or any other relevant legislation, and shall be posted by the City Clerk, or designate, on the City of London website, on a quarterly basis.

ADOPTED DECEMBER 4, 2001, AMENDED MARCH 3, 2003, JULY 25, 2005, FEBRUARY 6, 2006; MARCH 26, 2007, MARCH 30, 2009, OCTOBER 24, 2011 (By-law No. A.-6736-297); APRIL 11, 2012 (By-law No. A.-6801-105); JULY 24, 2012 (By-law No. A.-6851-228) | JULY 24, 2012 (By-law No. A.-6852-229) [28(2) AUG 1999]