

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 2, 2011
FROM:	MARTIN HAYWARD CITY TREASURER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
SUBJECT:	REVISION OF COUNCIL POLICY 26(4) PROCEDURES ON THE TREATMENT OF PROPERTIES THAT DO NOT SELL AT MUNICIPAL TAX SALES

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the City Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, a by-law to revise Council Policy 26(4), Procedures on the Treatment of Properties that do not sell at Municipal Tax Sales (Appendix "A") **BE INTRODUCED** at the Council meeting of November 7, 2011.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Board of Control Report, "Procedures for the Treatment of Properties That Do Not Sell at Municipal Tax Sales", September 29, 2004
 Approval of Policy 26(4) by Municipal Council, October 4, 2004
 Board of Control Report, "Amendment to Council Policy 26(4)", November 14, 2007
 Approval of "Amendment of Council Policy 26(4)", November 19, 2007
 Board of Control Report, "Revision of Council Policy 26(4)", April 9, 2008
 Approval of "Amendment of Council Policy 26(4)", April 14, 2008

BACKGROUND

The current policy for dealing with properties that do not sell at a tax sale was originally formulated in 2004. Since that time, City staff have gone through the process of attempting to deal with a number of properties that have environmental contamination issues and other concerns that make them not marketable at a tax sale. After working with the policy for several years, it has been concluded that certain revisions to the policy would be in order. The revisions being recommended should both clarify and shorten the process.

The basic elements of the recommended changes are as follows:

- 1) Have the same basic procedures apply to all properties after a failed tax sale regardless of level of environmental concerns to simplify and clarify the process;
- 2) Issue "requests for proposal" rather than "expressions of interest" in order to clearly evaluate the proposals against weighted criteria and thus conclude with a recommendation of the successful proponents in a fair, transparent and competitive process.

SUMMARY

In summary, it is recommended that a by-law be introduced to revise Council Policy 26(4) in order to make the procedure for dealing with properties after a failed tax sale more efficient.

PREPARED BY:	CONCURRED BY:
JIM LOGAN DIVISION MANAGER TAXATION AND REVENUE	MIKE TURNER DEPUTY CITY TREASURER
RECOMMENDED BY:	
MARTIN HAYWARD CITY TREASURER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	

Copy: G. Barrett
 J. Freeman
 R. Gasparetto
 Y. Jiwani
 O. Katolyk
 M. Losee
 D. Munteer
 A. Van Rossum
 B. Warner

APPENDIX "A"

Bill No.
2011

By-law No. A.-

A By-law to amend Council Policy 26(4),
Procedures on the Treatment of Properties that Do
Not Sell at Municipal Tax Sales.

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

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

1. Council Policy 26(4) is deleted and replaced with Schedule "A" attached.
2. This by-law shall come into force and effect on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council November 7, 2011

Joseph Fontana
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First reading - November 7, 2011
Second reading – November 7, 2011
Third reading – November 7, 2011