Report to Community and Protective Services Committee

To: Chair and Members

Community and Protective Services Committee

From: Michael Schulthess, City Clerk

Subject: Appointment of Hearings Officers to Property Standards

Committee

Meeting on: March 21, 2023

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the City Clerk, the attached proposed by-law (Appendix 'A') **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting on April 4, 2023 to amend By-law No. CP-24, being "A by-law to provide standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property and to repeal By-law CP-16" to repeal and replace Schedule "A".

Previous Reports

February 21, 2023 – Corporate Services Committee – <u>Appointment of Hearings Officers</u> to Conduct Hearings under Various City of London By-laws

May 11, 2021 – Community and Protective Services Committee – <u>Property Standards</u> <u>By-law</u>

March 9, 2020 – Corporate Services Committee – <u>Appointment of Hearings Officers to Conduct Hearings under Various City of London By-laws</u>

June 19, 2018 – Corporate Services Committee – <u>Appointment of Hearings Officers to Conduct Hearings under Various City of London By-laws</u>

April 13, 2011 – Finance and Administration Committee – Appointment of Hearings Officers to Conduct Hearings under Various City of London By-laws

Background

The Municipal Council, at its meeting held on April 18, 2011, enacted "A by-law to establish the positions of Hearings Officer" to hear appeals under various City by-laws and to approve the "Rules of Practice and Procedure for Hearings Before a Hearings Officer", pursuant to Section 23.1 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001 and the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*.

Further, at its meeting held on May 25, 2021, the Municipal Council enacted CP-24 "A by-law to provide standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property and to repeal By-law CP-16 being a by-law prescribing standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property" This by-law is commonly referred to as the Property Standards By-law. This by-law updated Section 7: Establishment of a Committee, specifically related to:

- provision of the Property Standards Committee;
- appointment of Hearings Officers to the Property Standards Committee as a schedule to the by-law;
- · forthwith fill for vacancy; and
- establishing administrative direction on remuneration, election of a chair, majority quorum, secretary role and maintenance of records, committee adoption of rules and procedures, and notice of hearing.

Municipal Council, at its meeting held on March 7, 2023, appointed two additional Hearings Officers to assist with the number of appeals being received and to ensure appeals are addressed in a timely manner.

Discussion

Property Standards By-law appeals require a minimum of three Hearings Officers to hear the appeals and issue a final decision with reasons. In accordance with Section 7.3 of the Property Standards By-law, a person must be appointed under the Hearings Officer By-law to be a Property Standards Committee member. The purpose of this report is to appoint Margaret Buist and Gerry Macartney, in their capacity as Hearings Officers, to the Property Standards Committee.

Conclusion

The Civic Administration is committed to providing timely responses to appeals under the Property Standards By-law and is therefore recommending that the Municipal Council appoint Hearings Officers Margaret Buist and Gerry Macartney to the Property Standards Committee.

Recommended by: Michael Schulthess JD MPA CMO

City Clerk

Appendix 'A' – By-law to Amend CP-24 Property Standards By-law

Bill No. 2023

By-law No. CP-24-

A by-law to amend By-law No. CP-24, being "A by-law to provide standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property and to repeal By-law CP-16" to repeal and replace Schedule "A".

WHEREAS section 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, C.25, as amended, provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Official Plan for the City of London includes provisions relating to conditions of maintenance and occupancy of properties;

AND WHEREAS section 15.1 of the *Building Code Act* provides that the Council may pass a by-law with respect to prescribing standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property, and requiring property that does not conform with the standards to be repaired and maintained with the standards on the site to be cleared of all buildings, structures, debris or refuse and left in graded and levelled condition;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council on May 25, 2021, passed By-law No. CP-24, being "A by-law to provide standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property and to repeal By-law CP-16;"

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council deems it appropriate to amend Bylaw No. CP-24 with respect to the appointments of Hearings Officers to the Property Standards Committee;

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

- 1. That Schedule "A" to By-law No. CP-24 be repealed and replaced with the attached Schedule "A"
- 2. This by-law comes into force and effect on April 4, 2023

PASSED in Open Council on April 4, 2023.

Josh Morgan Mayor

Michael Schulthess City Clerk

First reading – Second reading – Third reading –

Schedule "A" Appointments of Hearings Officers to the Property Standards Committee

The following individuals who have been appointed as Hearings Officers pursuant to Bylaw A.-6653-121 serve on the Property Standards Committee:

- 1. Don Bryant
- 2. Margaret Buist
- 3. Gerry Maccartney
- 4. Christene Scrimgeour
- 5. Andrew Wright