# IR17-6

February 27, 2017

To: His Worship the Mayor And Members of City Council

Re: Candidates Campaign Contributions and Expenses

### RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received and filed.

## **CONCLUSION**

*The Regina Municipal Election Expenses Bylaw No. 2007-34* requires any candidate whose name appears on the ballot in an election, within 90 days after the date of the election, to complete and submit to the Returning Officer a sworn statement of the candidate's compliance with the requirements of this Bylaw with respect to the spending limits and disclosure of contributions.

The Returning Officer shall then prepare a report to Council listing all the candidates and attaching all the Disclosure of the Election Contributions and Expenses forms and other related material filed by the candidates.

The purpose of this report is to meet the above requirements.

All information provided to the Returning Officer shall be available to the public after Council's receipt of the Returning Officer's report.

#### BACKGROUND

A Municipal/School Board election was held on October 26, 2016. The Election Coordinator for the election conveyed the City of Regina Bylaw #2007-34 to all candidates and they were requested to provide the required information to the Returning Officer within 90 days of the election. The deadline date communicated to all candidates throughout the campaign was January 24, 2017.

Communication to candidates with respect to the requirement to file expense forms included a link to the website with election information, verbal instruction to each candidate when they filed their nomination paper with the Election Coordinator, email reminders and telephone conversations.

#### DISCUSSION

Election contribution and expense disclosures have been received from 40 of the 50 candidates involved in the 2016 Election for the positions of Mayor and Councillor, including one submission received after the deadline date. The original copy of the submission from each of the candidates is attached as Appendix A.

A list of those candidates who did not submit the required disclosures is attached as Appendix B.

Candidates who fail to comply with this Bylaw would be subject to the penalty clause contained in *Section* 9(1),(3)&(3.1) of this bylaw, which states:

- (1) If a candidate who is elected fails to comply with this Bylaw, the candidate shall be subject to disqualification from council and ineligibility from nomination or election as provided by clause 120(1)(e) and subsection 120(2) of *The Cities Act*;
- (3) Any person who contravenes this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction:
  - (a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or, in default of payment, to imprisonment for not more than one year, or both;
  - (b) in the case of a corporation, to a fine not exceeding \$25,000 or, in default of payment, imprisonment of the directors of the corporation for not more than one year, or both.
- (3.1) Pursuant to section 68 of *The Local Government Election Act, 2015*, where a candidate fails to comply with the provisions of this Bylaw the returning officer shall not return the candidate's deposit and the deposit shall be forfeited.

## **RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS**

## Financial Implications

Each candidate was required to provide a deposit of \$100.00 during the submission of their nomination paper to the Nomination Officer. The deposit received from each of the 40 candidates that complied with this bylaw were refunded their \$100 deposit. The deposits were withheld from the 10 candidates that did not comply with this bylaw.

## Environmental Implications

None with this report.

## Policy and/or Strategic Implications

Ensuring legislative requirements are met helps achieve operational excellence.

Other Implications

None with this report.

Accessibility Implications

None with this report.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

All candidates were sent reminders between October 26, 2016 and January 24, 2017 advising them that in accordance to *The Regina Municipal Election Expenses Bylaw No. 2007-34* they are to submit their disclosure of election contributions and expense form to the Returning Officer by the January 24, 2017 deadline.

#### DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The recommendation contained in this report is within the delegated authority for City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Moll

Erna Hall, Deputy City Office of the City Clerk

Report prepared by: Amber Ackerman, Business Performance Consultant

4-7/

Jim Nicol, Chief Legislative Officer and City Clerk Office of the City Clerk and Governance Department