



5 April 2011

City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor & Council

Fr: Joanne L. McMillin, City Clerk

Re: Closed Meeting Investigator - Agreement

Recommendation:

That Council of the City of Kenora hereby continues with the services of Paul Heayn as Closed Meeting Investigator, effective January 1, 2011 under the same terms and conditions set out in By-law Number 14-2008; and further

That once the new service agreement has been received, Council give three readings to a by-law authorizing the entering into of an agreement with Paul S. Heayn for Closed Meeting Investigator services.

Background:

The City's agreement with Paul Heayn and other area municipalities for Closed Meeting Investigator services expired at the end of December 2010, following two automatic one year renewals from the agreement start-up in 2008. The City of Thunder Bay legal team is lead on preparation of the agreement which I expected to receive in January or February and now that we are well into April the City should establish by resolution, our intent to continue with our Closed Meeting Investigator. I understand the Ombudsman's Office has been making inquiries with other municipalities and for the information of new Members of Council, if we do not appoint an investigator under Section 239.1 of the Act, investigations automatically default to the Office of the Ontario Ombudsman; however the preference would be to continue with Paul Heayn. Paul is a retired Treasurer from the City of Dryden and who currently works on contract with the Town of Ignace in the same capacity.

Paul has submitted a letter that his services as outlined in the original agreement will continue effective January 1, 2011 until such time as a new agreement is adopted. The retainer fee for this purpose which I believe remains unchanged is included in this year's budget at \$500.00. It is being recommended by participating municipalities that the agreement will be in effect for the term of this Council. I am happy to report that to-date we have had no investigations!

Budget:

Included in 2011 budget.

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:

N/A