(1) ELECTION OF CHAIR OF YORK REGION (13.4)

Discussion on the matter ensued including clarification of the methodology of election of a Regional Chair.

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea

Whereas the Chair of the Region of York is one of the most powerful politicians in the Province of Ontario; and,

Whereas the Chair position directly impacts residents of York Region whether it be through Policing, Regional Planning, Roads, Public Housing, Public Transportation, Water and Sewer Services, Emergency Services or any other Regional services; and,

Whereas the current process whereby the Region of York Council appoints their own Chair deprives York Region residents of the opportunity of learning what the platform and/or agenda of the individual(s) running for the Chair's position; and,

Whereas the City of Markham is committed to accountability and transparency and believes that the Regional Chair should be directly accountable to the residents of York Region through the democratic process;

Now therefore be it resolved:

1) That the City of Markham indicate its support for Bill 42 – the Municipal Amendment Act (Election of Chair of York Region); and,

2) That the City of Markham encourage the Province of Ontario to pass enabling legislation to provide for the election of the Chair of York Region by general vote beginning with the 2018 Municipal Election; and further,

3) That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Ted McMeekin, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Patrick Brown, leader of the Official Opposition, Andrea Horwath, Leader of the NDP, all York Region MPPs and every municipality within York Region.

Carried by a recorded vote (10:3)

YEAS: Councillor Alan Ho, Councillor Don Hamilton, Councillor Karen Rea, Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong, Regional Councillor Jim Jones, Regional Councillor Joe Li, Councillor Colin Campbell, Councillor Logan Kanapathi, Councillor Alex Chiu. (9)

NAYS: Councillor Valerie Burke, Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Deputy Mayor Jack Heath. (3)

ABSTAINED: Councillor Amanda Collucci (Counts as a nay). (1)