

Pilon, Janet

Subject: General Issues Committee Meeting - Last minute Agenda revisions

From: Andrew Smith

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 10:16 AM

To: Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Re: FW: General Issues Committee Meeting - Last minute Agenda revisions

Thank you for your response. I fail to see how this is so urgent when the decision re: termination of employment doesn't come into play at the end of May? That is over three months away - there is plenty of time between now and then. Who reviews these agenda decisions for the public interest? I do not accept that this is such an emergency and I would like to lodge a formal protest for the record. Thank-you, Andrew

On Thu, Jan 13, 2022 at 10:10 AM Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca> wrote:

Hello Andrew,

The GIC agenda was updated at approximately 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, which would have been past the deadline for delegations or written submissions. However, in urgent cases and in situations that are as rapidly changing, as I'm sure you understand COVID-19 has done, the City must, on occasion, act quickly in order to protect the overall health and well being of the general public and its employees; sometimes adding items to an agenda at the last minute.

While I appreciate your comments, there is no further information that I would be able to provide to you regarding this matter.

Thank you.

Stephanie Paparella
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk
71 Main Street, West, First Floor
Hamilton, ON
L8P 4Y5

Phone: 905-546-2424 Ext. 3993

Email: Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca

From: Andrew Smith

Sent: Thursday, January 13, 2022 10:02 AM

To: Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Re: FW: General Issues Committee Meeting - Last minute Agenda revisions

Dear Stephanie,

Thank you for your response. I have left a voicemail with your extension as I would like to speak to someone regarding this item. My specific question is - when was the Agenda actually updated? Was it past the deadline for public input (noon the prior day).

What was voted on yesterday is a significant issue with huge implications for the public, and not only for the 400 odd staff that are now facing termination - to have it run through council without democratic input from the impacted citizens is completely against what Canada stands for as a free and open society where all proposals should be able to withstand public scrutiny.

I am very disappointed in the way this went forward and I would like some answers.

Thanks & Best Regards,

Andrew Smith

On Thu, Jan 13, 2022 at 9:45 AM Paparella, Stephanie <Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca> wrote:

Good morning Andrew,

I was unable to respond to your inquiry below yesterday, as I was in the General Issues Committee meeting.

The urgency in presenting the Amendment to the Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Verification Policy report at the January 12th General Issues Committee was in response to our inability to secure adequate supply of rapid tests. There is an increasing concern as to the efficacy of administering tests twice weekly and Council's approval of proposed recommendations, was required.

Thank you.

Stephanie Paparella
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Phone: 905-546-2424 Ext. 3993

Email: Stephanie.Paparella@hamilton.ca

From: Andrew Smith

Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 9:29 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: General Issues Committee Meeting - Last minute Agenda revisions

Hello,

I am on the phone right now hoping to speak to someone in the Clerk's office.

When was the agenda for the General Issues committee meeting revised?

It seems that there were items of Public interest (City Covid19 vaccination policy) that were added after the opportunity to request to delegate or add correspondence to the record had passed?

This is a very important item and the Public needs to have input on it - it seems like it was snuck into the City's agenda at the last second to try to avoid public scrutiny.

I would like a specific answer as to when the General Issues Committee meeting agenda was revised and whether there was enough time for the public to become aware and provide correspondence for the record.

Thank-You.

Andrew Smith