

CITY OF HAMILTON M O T I O N

City Council: September 27, 2023

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR M. WILSON.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....

Feasibility of Securing Injunctions to Prohibit Annual Unsanctioned Events in Ward 1

WHEREAS unsanctioned events occur annually in the Ward 1 neighbourhoods of Ainslie Wood and Westdale, in close proximity to McMaster University;

WHEREAS these unsanctioned events occur in and around the date of March 17th to coincide with St. Patrick’s Day and in the autumn season as what is known as Fake Homecoming;

WHEREAS the organization of these unsanctioned events is executed by an anonymous social media account that cannot be attributed to any individual(s);

WHEREAS the unsanctioned events have seen the damage and destruction of public and private property by those in attendance including the overturning of a vehicle on Dalewood Avenue South in October 2021;

WHEREAS the residents in the neighbourhoods of Ainslie Wood and Westdale have expressed concerns for their safety and security as a result of these annual unsanctioned events;

WHEREAS residents living within the neighbourhood of Ainslie Wood South are particularly inconvenienced by these unsanctioned events as the area is secured and residents are unable to leave their homes due to the size of the attending crowds;

WHEREAS the annual cost to Hamilton residents generated from having Hamilton Police Services and a multi-disciplinary team of City divisions including Municipal By-Law Enforcement, Hamilton Paramedic Services, Hamilton Fire, Public Health, Waste and Transportation Services plan for and execute measures in response to the unsanctioned events is significant;

WHEREAS the Town of Wasaga Beach’s order to prohibit an unsanctioned annual event in the form of a car rally was legally upheld in August, 2023;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton’s Legal Services be directed to review the feasibility of securing injunctions to prohibit these annual unsanctioned events known as St. Patrick’s Day and Fake Homecoming and report back in Q4 of 2023; and
- (b) That City of Hamilton Municipal By-Law Enforcement amass information detailing the full cost and incident reports on these unsanctioned events and any information required to inform an injunction order that would prohibit unsanctioned events in Ward 1.