



Report Number: C2019-0783

Meeting: Special Meeting of Council

Meeting Date: 2019 June 10

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: EMERGENCY ACTION FOR BUDGET REDUCTIONS AND TAX RELIEF

Sponsoring Council Member(s): JEROMY FARKAS

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council leads by example in reducing expenses by adopting a 15% reduction (and subsequent freeze) in their respective office expense accounts for the duration of the One Calgary 2019 – 2022 Service Plans and Budget;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council further leads by example and reconsiders its decision on January 14, 2019 (Council Member Remuneration Calculation - C2019-0058) and:

1. immediately adopts a 7.5% reduction in base yearly pay, with no further increases to be permitted until the 2021 Council term (or such a time that an increase is recommended by an independent citizen committee);
2. immediately freezes the Elected Officials Pension Plan and Supplementary Pension Plan for Elected Officials, with benefits accrued to date to be honoured, but not grow based on increases in salary or future contributions, until the 2021 Council term (or such a time that a change to the plans or resumption is recommended by an independent citizen committee);

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council requests Management Exempt Staff to voluntarily accept a 5% reduction in base pay;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council requests each bargaining unit to voluntarily accept a 2.5% reduction in base pay;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council takes emergency action for budget reductions and tax relief for Calgary businesses and:

1. withdraws \$50 million from the Opportunity Calgary Investment Fund;
2. reconsiders its decision on May 27, 2019 (PFC2019-0590) regarding the use of the \$70.9 million (\$44 million from the Fiscal Stability Reserve and \$26.9 million from the 2017 and 2018 Phased Tax Program funding not required due to appeal resolutions), for “strategies related to short term mitigation measures or potential long term solutions for businesses in Calgary”;
3. directs Administration to prepare a package of \$35 million in budget reductions and deferred spending applicable to the 2019 budget year, for debate and adoption no later than the July 29th Combined Meeting of Council;
4. directs Administration to pool the sum of 1, 2, and 3, and apply up to \$155.9 million as a credit to non-residential property tax accounts, capping assessment-related tax increases at -10% for 2019, on a basis proportional to the non-residential tax accounts’ increases above the previous year (not related to property upgrades and expansions) by June 28, 2019; and
5. directs Administration to commit the remaining funds for property tax relief as may be determined by Council at a later time.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council directs Administration to engage every City employee through a survey, for their cost savings ideas to be compiled and presented verbatim to Council for consideration no later than the July 29th Combined Meeting of Council;

LASTLY BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council commits to seeking further long-term budget reductions for the benefit of both residential and non-residential property tax accounts, as part of the One Calgary 2019-2022 Service Plans revisions in November 2019.