

Municipality of East Ferris

Report to Council

Report No.: CLERK-2021-02 Date: February 9th, 2021
Originator: Monica L. Hawkins, Clerk
Subject: Report of Integrity Commissioner - Pertaining to complaint from a resident of the Municipality of East Ferris regarding the Code of Conduct of Members of Council and a Member of the Planning Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives this report and the attached reports from the Integrity Commissioner, Mr. David King, dated November 16th, 2020 and January 25th, 2021 for information purposes.

BACKGROUND

In April 2020, the Municipality's Integrity Commissioner, Mr. David King, received a complaint alleging that a Member of the Planning Advisory Committee contravened the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the entire Council of the Municipality of East Ferris and a member of the Planning Advisory Committee contravened the *Municipal Council Code of Conduct*.

The investigation was done by Integrity Commissioner in two phases. The first phase was the investigation of the Conflict of Interest, under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, regarding the member of the Planning Advisory Committee. The second phase was the investigation of the contravention of the *Municipal Code of Conduct* pertaining to all members of Council and a member of the Planning Advisory Committee.

Results:

The Integrity Commissioner has completed the investigations and his results are as follows:

Pertaining to the investigation of a Conflict of Interest by a member of the Planning Advisory Committee (phase 1), "I find the Respondent's interest to be so remote or insignificant that it cannot be reasonably regarded to influence him."

Pertaining to the contravention of the *Municipal Council Code of Conduct* by all members of Council and a member of the Planning Advisory Committee (phase 2), "I find no contravention of the Municipality of East Ferris Council Code of Conduct by John O'Rourke during the March 27, 2019 PAC meeting, or by any members of Council during the May 14, 2019 Council meeting."

The Integrity Commissioner's Reports dated November 16th, 2020 and January 25th, 2021 are attached as appendices to this Report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Municipality of East Ferris has expended the following amounts:

Phase 1: Complaint pertaining to a Conflict of Interest by a member of the Planning Advisory Committee - The cost of this phase was \$23,280.26 including taxes.

Phase 2: Complaint pertaining to the contravention of the *Municipal Council Code of Conduct* by all members of Council and a member of the Planning Advisory Committee - The cost of this phase was a \$9,534.37 including taxes.

The total incurred for the investigation was \$32,814.63.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives this report and the attached reports from the Integrity Commissioner, Mr. David King, dated November 16th, 2020 and January 25th, 2021 for information purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

I concur with this report and recommendation.



Monica L. Hawkins, AMCT
Clerk

Jason Trottier, HBBA, CPA, CMA
CAO/Treasurer