



CITY OF KINGSTON
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report No.: 10-202

TO: Mayor & Members of Council
FROM: Carolyn Downs, City Clerk
RESOURCE STAFF: John Bolognone, Deputy City Clerk
Blair Johnson, Records & Information Officer
DATE OF MEETING: June 15, 2010
SUBJECT: Advance Voting Days, Budget Amendment, Sole Source
Rental of Vote Count Equipment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to request a Capital Budget amendment in the amount of \$45,000 in order to rent ten (10) touch screen vote tabulators for the 2010 municipal election. These machines will be similar to the ones purchased for the 2006 election, and will be used on advance voting days in an attempt to accommodate the needs of all electors. It is being recommended that these machines be procured through sole source vendor Premier Election Solutions, an Election Systems and Software Company. This is the same supplier from whom the City purchased the poll count vote tabulators in 2000 and the touch screen vote tabulators in 2006.

Secondly, it is being requested that a by-law be presented for approval to hold two advance voting days, being scheduled for Saturday, October 16 and Wednesday, October 20, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. It is planned to have one voting location in each of the twelve districts during these two advance voting days. Both touch screen vote tabulators and poll count tabulators will be used during these two days. Staff are further recommending that the aforementioned by-law be given three readings at the same meeting in order to allow staff time to proceed with acquisition of the equipment and allow for sufficient time for testing. The referenced by-law is attached as Exhibit "A" to this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT a by-law be presented, being "A By-law to Establish Advance Voting Days to be Held Prior to Final Voting Day – Saturday, October 16, and Wednesday, October 20, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m." and be given all three readings at the same meeting; and

THAT Council approve a Capital Budget amendment in the amount of \$45,000 to rent ten (10) touch screen vote tabulators; and

THAT staff be authorized to sole source this rental from Premier Election Solutions, an Election Systems and Software Company.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CITY CLERK	ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Carolyn Downs, City Clerk and Returning Officer	Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:

Cynthia Beach, <i>Sustainability & Growth</i>	N/R
Terry Willing, <i>Community Services</i>	N/R
Denis Leger, <i>Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services</i>	N/R
Jim Keech, <i>President and CEO, Utilities Kingston</i>	N/R

(N/R indicates consultation not required)

June 15, 2010

- Page 3 -

OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:

The Municipal Elections Act requires that at least one advance voting day be held prior to the Municipal Election final voting day. In 2006 three voting days were established. Two polling locations were established for Days 1 and 2. On Advance Voting Day 1, touch screen vote tabulators were used at the polling location. There were significant line ups at the polling locations on Day 1 even before the polls opened, and it was determined that using only the touch screen machines was not adequate for voting purposes. On Advance Voting Day 2, the touch screen vote tabulators were supplemented with the poll count tabulators. These were placed in the voting locations, and electors were able to choose whether they wanted to use the touch screen vote tabulators or mark a paper ballot. The poll count vote tabulators were not taken to the polling location on Day 2, and the ballots were placed directly into the ballot boxes. On final Voting Day, these ballots were counted at City Hall together with the institutional polls from the various nursing homes. On Advance Voting Day 3, poll count vote tabulators were used at each location, with one poll count vote tabulator being used per district, resulting in a total of 26 locations. Touch screen vote tabulators were not used on Advance Voting Day 3. In all instances the polls were open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Throughout the three advance days, which represented a total of 24 voting hours of voting time, approximately 11,000 electors voted. On final voting day, 27,644 electors voted. A Statement of Votes Cast is attached as Exhibit B to the staff report.

Based on these numbers, staff is recommending that the number of days of advance voting be reduced from three to two; however, a voting location will be placed in each district. The hours of voting will be increased from 8 hours a day, to 10 hours, and both touch screen vote tabulators and poll count vote tabulators will be used.

Staff have met with members of the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee to discuss the City's Municipal Election Accessibility Action Plan, whereat it was determined that having two advance voting days, that are well communicated to the community and which will accommodate voters with accessibility needs, was agreeable to the Committee members

Staff are also recommending that the City rent the equipment from Premier Election Solutions, an Election Systems and Software Company. Staff have worked with Premier for the past ten years and have developed an effective relationship. They understand the City's needs and staff are confident with the staff and the support received. The touch screen vote tabulators are the same as those purchased in the past, have been tested and tried, and are compatible with the poll count vote tabulators. Staff are not recommending purchasing the touch screen vote tabulators, as it is our belief, that this will be the last election in which poll count vote tabulators will be used which. This will allow the City to be properly positioned to review all options for the 2014 Municipal Election.

EXISTING POLICY/BY LAW:

Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended

NOTICE PROVISIONS:

None.

ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

The use of touch screens during the 2010 Municipal Election will allow for blind and visually impaired electors to vote independently and are adjustable for electors in wheelchairs and walkers.

June 15, 2010

- Page 4 -

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Staff are recommending approval of a \$45,000 Capital Budget amendment. This represents approximately \$12,000 to rent the touch screen vote tabulators, with the balance to be used to purchase computers that are required at the advance polling locations. The computers, which are not being purchased until August, will serve a dual role. Once they have served their purpose in the municipal election, they will then be provided to the Members of Council for their use following the election.

CONTACTS:

John Bolognone, Deputy City Clerk (613-546-4291 ext. 1610)

Blair Johnson, Records & Information Officer (613-54-4291 ext. 1316)

Lana Foulds, Financial Planning Coordinator (613-546-4291 ext. 2209)

OTHER CITY OF KINGSTON STAFF CONSULTED:

None.

EXHIBITS ATTACHED:

Exhibit "A" – By-Law 2010-117, being A By-law To Establish Advance Voting Days To Be Held Prior To Final Voting Day – October 25, 2010 – For The 2010 Municipal Election (October 16, 2010 and October 20, 2010)

Exhibit "B" – Statement of Votes Cast

BY-LAW NO. 2010-117

A BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH ADVANCE VOTING DAYS TO BE HELD PRIOR TO FINAL VOTING DAY – OCTOBER 25, 2010 - FOR THE 2010 MUNICIPAL ELECTION (October 16, 2010 and October 20, 2010).

PASSED: June 15, 2010

WHEREAS Section 43(1) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended, provides that a municipal Council shall pass a by-law establishing one or more dates for an advance vote, and the hours during which voting places shall be open on those dates;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Kingston hereby enacts as follows:

1. Advance Voting Days shall be held on the following dates, between the hours set out below:

DATE	HOURS
Saturday, October 16, 2010	10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 20, 2010	10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

2. This By-Law shall come into force and take effect on the date of its passing.

GIVEN ALL THREE READINGS AND PASSED June 15, 2010

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Statement of Votes Cast
City of Kingston Election 2006

Report 10-202
Exhibit B

DISTRICT	POLL	# OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS	(Touch Screen) ADVANCE DAY 1&2	(Poll Count) ADVANCE DAY 3	(Poll Count) FINAL VOTING DAY	TOTAL
Countryside	1	2284	42	130	657	829
Countryside	2	2658	57	183	1064	1304
Countryside	3	1892	28	152	666	846
Loyalist-Cataraqui	1	5281	113	362	1710	2185
Loyalist-Cataraqui	2	4873	113	219	1414	1746
Collins-Bayridge	1	2946	85	246	1161	1492
Collins-Bayridge	2	3745	104	254	1270	1628
Lakeside	1	4489	127	266	1723	2116
Lakeside	2	3950	110	379	1659	2148
Portsmouth	1	4185	162	225	1080	1467
Portsmouth	2	4814	155	268	1401	1824
Trillium	1	5247	212	434	1411	2057
Trillium	2	3196	100	325	899	1324
Cataraqui	1	3825	133	306	941	1380
Cataraqui	2	3246	131	145	767	1043
Kingscourt-Strathcona	1	2526	71	201	1077	1349
Kingscourt-Strathcona	2	3677	271	124	1041	1436
Williamsville	1	3646	124	258	984	1366
Williamsville	2	3651	98	80	495	673
Sydenham	1	3835	69	230	1027	1326
Sydenham	2	4921	54	300	796	1150
King's Town	1	3262	120	186	672	978
King's Town	2	4086	111	236	821	1168
Pittsburgh	1	4209	62	198	995	1255
Pittsburgh	2	3536	92	239	1457	1788
Pittsburgh	3	1282	48	105	456	609
Institutional Poll*				1541		1541
	TOTAL	95262	2792	7592	27644	38028

*Institutional Poll - represents votes cast on Advance Voting Day 2 that were placed in ballot boxes and votes cast on Final Voting Day at institutions