



CITY OF ST. ALBERT ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

TITLE: BALLOT QUESTION AMENDMENT

On August 22, 2017 Mayor Crouse provided notice in accordance with Section 23 of Procedure Bylaw 22/2016 that he intended to bring forward the following motion:

In order for Council to debate the motion, the motion must be formally moved.

PROPOSED MOTION(S):

That the question on the ballot be amended as follows:

Moved by Mayor Crouse

The City has in its 10 year capital plan three major capital projects. A branch library, an additional surface of ice attached to Servus Place and more aquatic space attached to Servus Place (planned to commence in 2016, 2018 and 2022 respectively). These projects are at the preliminary planning stages and the capital costs are still to be determined as well as any ongoing operating cost and associated tax increases.

The City is asking for residential input on which, if any, project to proceed with.

1. Are you in favour of the City proceeding with further planning of a branch library?

Yes _____ or No _____

2. Are you in favour of the City proceeding with further planning of a 6th sheet of ice?

Yes _____ or No _____

3. Are you in favour of the City proceeding with further planning of additional aquatic space?

Yes _____ or No _____

BACKGROUND:

As per section 236 of the MGA, council may include a vote on a question on the ballot for a general municipal election, for a by-election, or for a stand-alone vote to be held between general elections.

Electors to vote on a question

236(1) A council may provide for the submission of a question to be voted on by the electors on any matter over which the municipality has jurisdiction.

(2) A vote of the electors under subsection (1) does not bind council.

Section 44 of the *Local Authorities Election Act* requires Council to determine the wording for a vote on a question. However, if Council does not determine wording for a question to be presented to electors, the returning officer must do so.

Form of ballot

44(1) If there is to be a vote on a bylaw or question, the elected authority by resolution

(a) must determine the wording to be used on the ballot, and

(b) may determine the form of the ballot.

(2) If the elected authority does not determine the form of the ballot under subsection (1), the returning officer must do so.

Report Date: September 5, 2017

Author(s): Chris Belke

Committee/Department: Legislative Services

General Manager: N/A

City Manager: Kevin Scoble