Township of South Stormont

ACTION REQUEST

Administration and Corporate Services



To: Council

From: Loriann Harbers, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

Date of Meeting: July 13, 2022

Subject: By-law No. 2022-052 Appoint Compliance Audit Committee

Recommendation:

That By-law No. 2022-052, being a by-law to adopt Terms of Reference and appoint Compliance Audit Committee members, be read and passed in open Council, signed and sealed this 13th day of July, 2022.

Background:

Pursuant to the Municipal Elections Act (MEA), it is mandatory that municipalities establish a Compliance Audit Committee to address applications received from an elector who is entitled to vote and believes that a candidate or registered third party has contravened a provision of the MEA relating to campaign finance and to consider reports from the Clerk citing apparent instances of over contribution to municipal campaigns.

SDG Clerks continue to work together on a wide variety of issues, including election matters. A joint approach pools resources and ensures qualified appointees to the Compliance Audit Committee. In developing the attached terms of reference, recommendations were made regarding recruitment and appointment. Ideal candidates are familiar with legal, municipal, election finance matters, specifically the MEA.

In 2018, SDG Clerks initiated a similar process and appointment. Those proposed for this term are returning and qualified based on requirements set out above.

Alignment with Community Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Corporate Capacity

Objective 1.3: Human Resources

Risk and Asset Management Considerations:

It is necessary under the MEA to establish a Compliance Audit Committee.

Options:

- 1. That Council adopt Compliance Audit Committee Terms of Reference and appoint the following members to the SDG Compliance Audit Committee:
 - Gilles Paradis, North Glengarry
 - Denise Labelle-Gelinas, South Stormont
 - Roger Cole, North Dundas

- Margaret MacDonald, North Stormont (alternate)
- David Benedict, South Stormont (alternate)
- 2. That Council instruct staff to establish an independent South Stormont Compliance Audit Committee.
- 3. Other.

Financial Impact:

Pursuant to the MEA, municipalities are responsible for all costs in relation to the Committee's operation, in addition to audit costs, if required.

In the event of an application, the affected municipality would be responsible for the associated costs.

Committee members will be compensated \$75 per meeting plus mileage to be paid by the member municipality requiring the service of the Committee.

Others Consulted:

SDG Clerks