

Staff Report

Report To: Council

Report From: Jamie Eckenswiller, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

Meeting Date: March 4, 2025

Subject: Delegation of Authority to Appoint Municipal Law Enforcement Officers

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of staff report 'Delegation of Authority to Appoint Municipal Law Enforcement Officers, Council direct staff to bring forward a bylaw to delegate Council's authority to appoint municipal law enforcement officers to the Clerk.

Highlights:

- Delegating authority to appoint municipal law enforcement officers will help streamline an administrative process.
- Many municipalities have adopted similar delegation to ensure an efficient and timely appointment process.

Previous Report/Authority:

None.

Analysis:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's authorization to bring forward a bylaw that delegates the Council's authority to the Clerk for the appointment of municipal law enforcement officers. This delegation of authority aims to streamline the appointment process, enhance administrative efficiency, and ensure timely enforcement of municipal regulations.

Currently, the appointment of municipal law enforcement officers is a function that rests solely with the Council. This process, while thorough, can often lead to delays and administrative bottlenecks, particularly when swift action is necessary to address enforcement issues. By delegating this authority to the Clerk, the municipality can

benefit from a more agile and efficient process, while still maintaining appropriate oversight and accountability.

The proposed delegation of authority to the Clerk is based on several key considerations:

Administrative Efficiency

Delegating the authority to appoint municipal law enforcement officers to the Clerk will expedite the appointment process, reducing delays and allowing the municipality to respond more quickly to enforcement needs.

Consistency and Oversight

The Clerk, as an established administrative officer, will ensure that appointments are made consistently and in accordance with established criteria and standards.

Best Practices

Many municipalities have adopted similar delegations of authority, recognizing the benefits of a more streamlined and efficient appointment process. This proposal aligns with best practices in municipal governance.

In light of the benefits outlined above, it is recommended that Council authorize the drafting and presentation of a bylaw that delegates the authority to appoint municipal law enforcement officers to the Clerk. This delegation will enhance administrative efficiency, ensure consistent and timely enforcement, and align with best practices in municipal governance.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Climate and Environmental Implications:

None.

Communication Plan:

This report is being communicated through the posting of Council agendas on the West Grey website.

Consultation:

None.

Attachments:

None.

Recommended by:

Jamie Eckenswiller, AOMC, AMP
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

Submission approved by:

Michele Harris, Chief Administrative Officer

For more information on this report, please contact Jamie Eckenswiller, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk at clerk@westgrey.com or 519-369-2200 ext. 229.