

Recommendation:

That the Clerk/Planning-2021-35 report, dated October 19, 2021 regarding the procurement of an Internet-Telephone Voting System for the 2022 Municipal Election be received for information.

Overview:

In an effort to share best practices and find efficiencies the Clerks in the County of Peterborough have meeting virtually to discuss existing and emerging issues and information in an effort to work collaboratively wherever possible to address areas of mutual interest. In the 2018 Municipal Election the Clerks in the County and City worked very closely to share best practices and develop common Election Procedures where possible to ensure consistency and reduce voter confusion. We will be using this proven approach again in the 2022 Municipal Election.

The group issued a joint Request for Proposal (RFP) for an Internet/Telephone and Paper Ballot Voting System for seven (7) of the municipalities in the County of Peterborough; which included the Townships of Asphodel-Norwood; Douro-Dummer; Havelock-Belmont-Methuen; North Kawartha; Otonabee-South Monaghan; Selwyn and the Municipality of Trent Lakes. Of the seven municipalities, Trent Lakes and Havelock-Belmont-Methuen were interested in paper ballot voting and the other five (5) municipalities will strictly only be utilizing internet and telephone voting methods. The goal was to select a Company that would provide a system that will provide the voters with a fast, accurate and cost-effective voting experience. The system will produce the election results utilizing the latest technological and security systems to ensure confidentiality and the integrity of the voting process.

Conclusion:

The joint RFP was issued on August 23, 2021 using the County's Bids and Tenders system. The submission deadline was 12:00 noon, Monday, September 13, 2021.

Three submissions were received as follows:

Dominion Voting System- disqualified (could not meet the requirements of the RFP)

Voatz \$ 7,093.84 plus unknown financial variables

Simply Voting \$10,479.95

Upon review by all the Clerks, the submissions were shortlisted based on the criteria set out in the RFP: Voatz and Simply Voting. Upon further review and discussion all Municipalities are jointly looking at awarding the RFP to Simply Voting, as their submission met all the requirements in the RFP. In the 2018 Municipal Election all of the municipalities retained the services of Simply Voting and did not experience any issues with the Company and the services/support provided.

Financial Impact:

The cost of the internet-telephone voting system will be covered by the 2022 Municipal Election Budget.

Strategic Plan Applicability:

To ensure and enable an effective and efficient municipal administration.

Sustainability Plan Applicability:

N/A

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Internet-Telephone Voting System.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Oct 13, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Elana Arthurs