

Gyles gets his job back

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By DECLAN FINUCANE Staff

Councillor Cliff Gyles has regained his seat as a full-time Ward 5 representative after bail conditions which prohibited him from participating in Mississauga and Peel committee meetings were dropped this week.

Gyles' lawyer Alan Gold told The News last night the bail conditions imposed Feb. 23 in Brampton court — which had restricted his client's professional duties to attending

only council and special council meetings at either level of government — were lifted Tuesday.

Gyles, who was charged in February with municipal corruption, breach of trust and frauds on the government, attended general committee meetings at the Region yesterday and at the City on Wednesday.

"He can attend at the premises (City and Region) to carry out his professional duties," said Gold. "He can participate in committee meetings."

Gold said initial bail conditions were handed down based on the crown attorney's assertion that its investigation into Gyles' professional activities was continuing.

Gold said that's no longer the case and he filed an application to have the work-related restrictions dropped.

"There was no opposition (to the application)," said Gold.

The change in bail conditions was not reflected in court records, however.

An Ontario Court of Justice clerk



GYLES

who sits as both a City and Regional councillor — could only participate in City and Regional council meetings and special council meetings, but not committee meetings.

told The News yesterday the initial bail conditions imposed by Justice of the Peace Leon Fayolle Feb. 23 remained in effect.

The conditions stated, among other restrictions, that Gyles —

He was also allowed to use his City Hall office.

Despite repeated attempts to contact him, Peel Crown Attorney Steve Sherriff refused to comment on the matter.

Gyles, 57, was released from jail Feb. 23 on \$75,000 bail after being

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Councillor allowed to go to all meetings

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charged four days earlier.

The charges stem from allegations he was paid to influence a rezoning of property in Malton.

Gyles was arrested inside his car near a Kennedy Rd./Hwy. 401 industrial area after a Mississauga businessman allegedly handed over \$15,000 in marked bills.

A subsequent search warrant at his Mississauga home turned up numerous similarly marked \$100 bills, according to Peel police.

Gyles was arrested after a month-long police investigation that started when a businessman told authorities he was asked for \$100,000 in exchange for "political influence and consideration on a pending property zoning application."

On the day Gyles was granted bail, Gold told reporters outside the Brampton courthouse his client welcomes the chance to be proven innocent at trial.

Gold said at the time he was planning a "vigorous" defence and that there was "a lot more to this story than has been made public."

The Municipal Act allows elected officials to keep their seats unless convicted of a criminal offence and sentenced to jail.

Gyles is scheduled to make another court appearance May 8.