

**The Corporation of the Township of Centre Wellington**

**By-law 2025-83**

A By-law to Govern the Procedures of Council and Committee Meetings and to Repeal By-law 2024-65

**Whereas** section 238 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25 (the “**Act**”), provides that every municipality shall pass a procedure by-law for governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings, for public notice of meetings and for electronic participation in meetings;

**And Whereas** Part VI.1 of the Act outlines the special powers given to the head of Council in designated municipalities with regards to committee and organizational structure, budgetary matters, vetoes, and other mayoral directives and decisions (“**Strong Mayor Powers**”);

**And Whereas** Schedule 1 of Ontario Regulation 530/22, as amended by Ontario Regulation 41/25, designates the Township of Centre Wellington as one of the municipalities for which its head of council may exercise Strong Mayor Powers;

**And Whereas** it is deemed advisable to amend By-law 2024-65 to include the use of Strong Mayor Powers;

**Now Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Centre Wellington hereby enacts as follows:**

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## **1. GENERAL**

### **1.1 Application and Interpretation**

- (a) This By-law establishes the rules of order for meetings of Council and Committee.
- (b) A word in this By-law expressed in the singular has a corresponding meaning when used in the plural.
- (c) Any future amendment(s) to the *Municipal Act, 2001* or other legislation as noted in this By-law may alter the provisions of the legislation referenced but shall not affect the validity of this By-law or any part thereof.
- (d) In an event of conflict between this By-law and any superior legislation, the provisions of the superior legislation prevail.
- (e) A specific statement or rule in this By-law has greater authority than a general statement or rule.
- (f) Any reference to a provision of this By-law may be referred to as "Section" notwithstanding that it may be a section, subsection, clause or paragraph.
- (g) If there is a conflict between two or more rules in this By-law, or if there is no specific rule on a matter, the Chair will rule and, in making a ruling, the Chair may consult the Clerk, rely on previous rulings and practices or refer to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

### **1.2 Principles of this By-law**

The principles of parliamentary law governing Meetings includes:

- (a) The Majority of Members have the right to decide.
- (b) The minority of Members have the right to be heard.
- (c) All Members have the right to information to help make decisions, unless otherwise prevented by law.
- (d) All Members have the right to an efficient Meeting.
- (e) All Members, Township staff and delegations have the right to be treated with respect and courtesy.
- (f) All Members have equal rights, privileges and obligations.

### **1.3 Suspension of Rules**

Rules of order provided for in this By-law may be suspended by a Two-Thirds vote of Council or Committee, with the exception of the following circumstances:

- (i) where required by law;
- (ii) in any contract or agreement binding the Township;
- (iii) amending this By-law;
- (iv) requirements for Quorum; and
- (v) any item within this By-law that is prescribed by the Act or any other legislation.

### **1.4 Administrative Authority of Clerk**

The Clerk is authorized to revise or correct By-laws, minutes and other records or documents relating to Council and Committee for technical, typographical or other administrative errors and omissions for the purpose of ensuring an accurate and complete record of proceedings and general housekeeping.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

### 2.1 Definitions in this By-law

- (a) **Act** means the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25 and its regulations, as amended or replaced from time to time.
- (b) **Acting Mayor** means the Councillor who is appointed in Ward order to serve two months each, on a rotational basis as described in Section 3.4, to act in place of the Mayor as required. The Acting Mayor is not considered the head of council for the purposes of, and as referenced in, the Act.
- (c) **Advisory Committee** means a Committee created by Council with a defined set of responsibilities providing advice to Council through a Managing Director and is comprised of members of the public and Council.
- (d) **Ad Hoc Advisory Committee** means a committee as defined in Section 5.2.
- (e) **Ad Hoc Committee** means a committee as defined in Section 5.3.
- (f) **By-law** means this By-law to Govern the Procedures of Council and Committee Meetings.
- (g) **CAO** means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Township.
- (h) **Chair** means the presiding officer at a Meeting.
- (i) **Clerk** means the Clerk of the Township, or their designate.
- (j) **Closed Meeting** means a Meeting or part of a Meeting that is closed to the public as permitted by the Act.
- (k) **Committee** means Committee of the Whole, Advisory Committee, Ad Hoc Advisory Committee, Ad Hoc Committee, or other committee as established by Council or the Mayor.
- (l) **Committee of the Whole** means a committee comprised of all Members of Council.
- (m) **Council** means the Township's elected representatives, comprised of the Mayor and Councillors.
- (n) **Councillor** means any Member of Council, other than the Mayor.
- (o) **Delegation** means any person, group of persons, or organization, who is neither a Member of Committee or Council or an appointed official of the Township and who is speaking to Committee or Council.
- (p) **Deputy Mayor** means a Member of Council appointed from within to act in the absence of the Mayor. The Deputy Mayor is not considered the head of council for the purposes of, and as referenced in, the Act when acting in the absence of the Mayor.
- (q) **Electronic Meeting** means Council and Committee meetings called and held in full or in part via electronic means (including but not limited to audio teleconference, video teleconference, or via the internet), and with or without in-person attendance. Members have the same rights and responsibilities as if they were in physical attendance including the right to vote, and shall count towards Quorum.
- (r) **Hybrid meeting** means a meeting that is conducted as both an in-person meeting and electronic meeting, where some members participate in-person and some members participate electronically. Members have the same rights and responsibilities as if they were in physical attendance including the right to vote, and shall count towards Quorum.
- (s) **Friendly Amendment** means the Motion under debate is amended with the consent of the mover and seconder, is keeping with the general intent and without the requirement for an amending Motion to be made.

- (t) **Majority** means for the purpose of voting, unless otherwise specified, more than half the total number of the Members of Council or Committee present at the vote and not prohibited by statute from voting.
- (u) **Majority Vote** means more than one half of the votes cast by Members present.
- (v) **Managing Director** means the most senior Staff of the Township as delegated by the CAO.
- (w) **Mayor** means the head of council as described in the Act for the Township.
- (x) **Mayor's Budget** means a proposed budget prepared by the Mayor for the Township in accordance with the Act.
- (y) **Mayoral Decision** means a decision issued by the Mayor in writing as prescribed in the Act.
- (z) **Mayoral Direction** means a direction issued by the Mayor to Staff in writing as prescribed in the Act.
- (aa) **Mayoral Veto** means a veto(es) exercised by the Mayor as prescribed in the Act.
- (bb) **Meeting** means a Meeting of Council or Committee where a Quorum is present and Members discuss or otherwise deal with any matter in a way that materially advances the business of Council or Committee.
- (cc) **Member** means a Member of Council, including the Mayor, or a Member of Committee, including the Chair.
- (dd) **Motion** means a proposal, moved by one Member and seconded by another Member to adopt, amend or otherwise deal with a matter before Council or Committee.
- (ee) **Motion to Defer** means a Motion to delay consideration of a matter until later in the same Meeting or at a future Meeting of Council or Committee.
- (ff) **Motion to Refer** means to direct a matter under discussion by Council and/or Committee of the Whole to Staff or another committee for further consideration or review.
- (gg) **Notice of Motion** means a written notice respecting a substantive matter not on the agenda, submitted to the Clerk, for inclusion on the agenda of a future Meeting.
- (hh) **One-Third** means one-third (1/3) of the Members of Council or Committee.
- (ii) **Point of Order** means a question by a Member calling attention to a possible violation of the rules or customary procedures of this By-law.
- (jj) **Point of Privilege** means a question by a Member who believes that another Member has spoken disrespectfully towards that Member or another Member, Staff or a delegation or who considers that his or her integrity or that of a Member or Township Staff or delegation has been impugned or questioned by a Member.
- (kk) **Provincial Priority** means any provincial priority prescribed by the Act.
- (ll) **Quorum** means a majority of the Members of Council or Committee.
- (mm) **Staff** means employees of the Township.
- (nn) **Township** means the Corporation of the Township of Centre Wellington.
- (oo) **Two-Thirds** means two-thirds (2/3) of the Members of Council or Committee.
- (pp) **Workshop** means a meeting of Council where the purpose is for Council to discuss issues in an informal venue. With the exception of procedure matters, no Motions are passed, and no matter is discussed which advances the business of the Township.

### **3. DUTIES AND CONDUCT**

#### **3.1 Chair of Meeting**

- (a) The Chair of Council, Committee of the Whole or a Workshop is the Mayor and, in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor is Chair.
- (b) The Chair and vice chair of any other Committees are appointed by a vote of the Members of the Committee.

#### **3.2 Appointments to Committees**

- (a) As required by the Act, the Mayor has the power to establish, dissolve, assign functions, and appoint chairs and vice chairs to committees which is comprised entirely of members of Council. The Mayor may delegate some or all of these powers to Council through a Mayoral Decision.

#### **3.3 Duties of the Chair**

- (a) The Chair shall call a Meeting to order as soon as there is Quorum present following the time set for the Meeting.
- (b) The Chair shall preside over the Meeting so business can be carried out efficiently and effectively, and shall:
  - (i) maintain order and preserve the decorum of the Meeting;
  - (ii) rule on all procedure matters;
  - (iii) receive and submit to a vote all Motions presented by the Members that do not contravene the rules of procedure;
  - (iv) decline to put any Motions to a vote which do not comply with the rules of procedure, or which are not within the jurisdiction of Council or Committee;
  - (v) announce the result of the vote on any Motions presented for a vote;
  - (vi) expel or exclude from any Meeting any person whom the Chair feels has exhibited improper conduct at the Meeting;
  - (vii) adjourn or suspend the Meeting if they consider it necessary because of grave disorder;
  - (viii) close the Meeting when business is concluded or recess the Meeting;
  - (ix) after one issued warning, shall call by name any Member persisting in breach of the rules of procedure, order them to leave the Meeting and if the Member refuses to leave the Meeting, the Chair may request the CAO to contact security or police for assistance to remove the Member;
  - (x) shall decide all matters not covered by this By-law and may call upon the Clerk to provide advice regarding procedure whereupon the Clerk shall provide advice, following which the Chair shall announce the ruling;
  - (xi) shall call a vote on the question of sustaining the ruling of the Chair in response to a Member disagreeing and appealing the ruling of the Chair and may provide further explanation of the ruling prior to calling the vote and announce the results of the vote;
  - (xii) if necessary, may call a recess for a brief, specified time to consult the Clerk or CAO, or any other person deemed appropriate;
  - (xiii) if there is a threat or imminent threat to the health or safety of any person, or if there is a possibility of public disorder, recess the Meeting for a specified time;
  - (xiv) ensure all Members who wish to speak have had an opportunity to speak;

- (xv) ensure clarity, where required, by reading, or requesting the Clerk or other appropriate person to read Motions before voting;
- (xvi) vote on all matters unless disqualified from doing so by any statute;
- (xvii) adjourn the Meeting when all business is concluded;
- (xviii) authenticate, when necessary, by their signature, all By-laws and minutes; and
- (xix) recess the Meeting after two (2) hours has passed since the last recess, unless there is unanimous consent of the Members to continue.

### **3.4 Deputy Mayor & Acting Mayor**

- (a) At the earliest opportunity following a municipal election, in accordance with section 226 of the Act, Council shall appoint a Member(s) as Deputy Mayor, with the consent of the Mayor, to hold office for Council's term or until their successor is appointed.
- (b) When the Mayor is absent from a Meeting, the Deputy Mayor may exercise all the rights, powers and authority of the Mayor except as referenced in Part IV.1 of the Act.
- (c) In the event both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are absent from a Meeting, an alternate Acting Mayor is determined as follows:
  - (i) the alternate Acting Mayor is the following Member in ascending order as follows:
    - (A) Ward 1 – January & February,
    - (B) Ward 2 – March & April,
    - (C) Ward 3 – May & June,
    - (D) Ward 4 – July & August,
    - (E) Ward 5 – September & October,
    - (F) Ward 6 – November & December;
  - (ii) where a Member is not available to serve as alternate Acting Mayor under Section 3.4(c), the alternate Acting Mayor will be the next available Member in ascending order;
  - (iii) availability is to be provided in writing to the Clerk, and the Clerk's determination of an alternate Acting Mayor is final;
  - (iv) the Clerk provides, as required, notice by electronic mail to Members, CAO and Managing Directors when the Deputy Mayor and alternate Acting Mayor assume the duties of the Mayor; and
  - (v) the alternate Acting Mayor has all the rights, powers, and authority of the Mayor except as referenced in Part IV.1 of the Act.

### **3.5 Members**

All Members shall:

- (i) attend scheduled Meetings;
- (ii) carefully consider and make decisions about Meeting business, including seeking information and advice from Staff prior to and during a Meeting;
- (iii) vote on all Motions put to a vote unless disqualified from voting under any statute;
- (iv) respect the rules of order as set out in this By-law;

- (v) listen attentively, participating in a Meeting and not interrupting, unless to raise a Point of Order or Point of Privilege, as set out in this By-law;
- (vi) remain silent in their seats while Council or Committee votes until the Chair announces the result;
- (vii) refrain from using any offensive, disrespectful or unparliamentary language;
- (viii) respect and follow the decisions of Council or Committee;
- (ix) respect the confidentiality of matters discussed in Closed Meetings and not disclose the subject or substance of these discussions unless authorized to do so by Council or Committee;
- (x) address Members of Council, Committee and Staff by their appropriate title; and
- (xi) comply with the ruling of the Chair and the decisions of Council and Committee.

### **3.6 Attendees**

- (a) The Chair may expel or exclude any person who disrupts a Meeting, and request security and/or police assistance in doing so.
- (b) No persons, other than Members and Staff are permitted to approach the area where Council, Committee and Staff are seated, unless they are invited by the Chair.
- (c) Attendees will submit all material for Council through the Clerk.
- (d) Attendees are responsible for:
  - (i) maintaining order and not heckling or engaging in conversation, displaying placards or props or any behaviour that may be considered disruptive;
  - (ii) speaking respectfully at all times;
  - (iii) ensuring all personal digital devices are turned off or set to silent mode during a Meeting; and
  - (iv) using recording, broadcasting or streaming devices respectfully, and should the Chair direct it, moving or ceasing to use recording, broadcasting or streaming devices.

### **3.7 Rules of Debate and Questions from Members**

- (a) The Chair will provide each Member an opportunity to speak.
- (b) A Member may ask a question only for the purpose of obtaining facts relevant to the matter under discussion and necessary for a clear understanding.
- (c) All Members and Staff will address their questions and comments through the Chair.
- (d) The Chair is permitted to ask questions or comment in a general manner without leaving their position. The Chair who presides over any part of a Meeting may state relevant facts and the Chair's position on any matter before the Council or Committee without leaving the Chair, which may take place immediately prior to the vote, but it shall not be permissible for the Chair to move a Motion or debate a question without first leaving the Chair.
- (e) If during a Meeting of Council the Mayor desires to leave the Chair to move a Motion or to take part in the debate, the Mayor shall call on the Deputy Mayor to preside until the Mayor resumes the chair.
- (f) Members are encouraged to provide questions to Staff prior to the Meeting and address any answers received during the comments portion of the discussion.
- (g) When a Member is speaking, no interruptions are permitted except to raise a Point of Order or a Point of Privilege.

- (h) Comments are to be relevant to the matter of business at the Meeting.
- (i) Members shall express themselves succinctly without repetition.

### **3.8 Point of Order**

- (a) A Member may raise a Point of Order when such Member feels there has been:
  - (i) a deviation or departure from the rules set out in this By-law; or
  - (ii) a deviation from the matter under consideration and the current discussion is not within the scope of the proposed Motion.
- (b) Where a Member raises a Point of Order, the Chair shall:
  - (i) interrupt the matter under consideration;
  - (ii) ask the Member raising the Point of Order to state the substance of and the basis for the Point of Order; and
  - (iii) rule on the Point of Order immediately without debate by Council or Committee.
- (c) A Member may appeal the ruling of the Chair to Council or Committee which will then decide whether to uphold the decision or overturn the decision, without debate, by way of a Majority Vote of the Members present. If there is no appeal, the decision of the Chair is final.

### **3.9 Point of Privilege**

- (a) A Member may raise a Point of Privilege at any time if he or she considers their integrity, the integrity of Council or Committee as a Whole or Staff or a delegation has been impugned.
- (b) Where a Member raises a Point of Privilege, the Chair shall:
  - (i) interrupt the matter under consideration;
  - (ii) ask the Member raising the Point of Privilege to state the substance of and the basis for the Point of Privilege; and
  - (iii) rule on the Point of Privilege immediately without debate by Council or Committee.
- (c) A Member may appeal the ruling of the Chair to Council or Committee which will then decide whether to uphold the decision or overturn the decision, without debate, by way of a Majority Vote of the Members present. If there is no appeal, the decision of the Chair is final.
- (d) Where the Chair considers the integrity of any Member or Staff has been impugned or questioned, the Chair may permit that Member or Staff to make a statement to Council or Committee.

## **4. MEETINGS**

### **4.1 Inaugural Council Meeting**

- (a) The first Meeting of Council following a regular election shall be held at a date and time set by the Clerk in accordance with the Act. The Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber at the Township's office or at such alternate location as determined by the Clerk.
- (b) At the Inaugural Meeting of Council, each Member present shall make their declaration of office and sign Council's Code of Conduct. The Clerk may provide additional policies or procedures to Council as appropriate. Council shall not proceed with any regular business at this Meeting.

## **4.2 Regular Meetings**

- (a) Regular Meetings shall be held in accordance with the schedule/calendar adopted by Council, except when otherwise directed by a resolution of Council or Committee.
- (b) Notwithstanding Section 4.2(a), Meetings may be cancelled or postponed in accordance with Section 4.9.

## **4.3 Location and Schedule of Meetings**

- (a) Meetings of Council and Committee of the Whole will take place at the Township's office or at another location within the municipality or as provided for in the Act, as amended when notice is given.
- (b) Council shall approve a schedule of regular Meetings of Council and Committee of the Whole for each calendar year, which may be amended. The schedule of Meetings shall be posted on the Township's website and available from the Township's office.
- (c) The Meeting schedule of all other Committees is determined by its Committee, in accordance with each Committee's terms of reference and/or prescribed mandate.

## **4.4 Special Council or Committee Meetings**

- (a) A special Meeting may be called by the Mayor or Chair, or by the Mayor in consultation with the Clerk, at any time. A Special Meeting is limited to the business included in the Notice of Meeting.
- (b) As required by the Act, any member of Council intending to override a Mayoral Veto, may request a Meeting, the Clerk shall summon a special Meeting for this purpose upon receipt of a written petition of the majority of members of Council for the purpose mentioned in the petition.

## **4.5 Budget Meeting**

- (a) As required by the Act, the Mayor's Budget shall be circulated and considered by Council at a Meeting on or before February 1 of each year.
- (b) If the Mayor's Budget is not proposed to Council by February 1, then Council shall prepare and adopt a budget in accordance with the Act.
- (c) Upon receipt of the Mayor's Budget, Council may pass a resolution to make amendment(s) to the Mayor's Budget within thirty (30) days.
- (d) A Member of Council shall provide a Notice of Motion for the consideration of Council to the Clerk, in writing, for inclusion on an agenda of Council, for the purpose of giving notice for any proposed amendment(s) to the Mayor's Budget as described in Section 4.5(c).
- (e) At a subsequent Meeting where Council may pass a resolution as described in Section 4.5(d), the Member of Council who submitted the proposed Motion will introduce and subsequently move the Motion.
- (f) A Member of Council may request the notice provisions as described in Section 4.5(d) be waived which will require a Two-Thirds vote.
- (g) No Staff report will be prepared unless the Motion as described in Section 4.5(d) is referred to Staff for a report.
- (h) No delegations shall be permitted to speak on a Notice of Motion in this subsection.
- (i) It is the duty of the Member of Council in bringing forward a Motion as described in Section 4.5(d) to:
  - (i) prepare the proposed Motion in writing; and
  - (ii) submit the proposed Motion to the Clerk, where applicable, no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the Council meeting proceeding the date on which the matter is to be considered by Council.

- (j) Council may pass a resolution to shorten the thirty (30) day amendment period as described in Section 4.5(c).
- (k) Within ten (10) days of the expiry of the Council amendment period in Section 4.5(c) or within the shortened period as described in Section 4.5(j), the Mayor may exercise a Mayoral Veto on any amendment(s) passed by a resolution of Council as described in Section 4.5(c) which, at such time, this resolution shall be deemed to not have been passed by Council.
- (l) As required by the Act, the Mayor may issue a Mayoral Decision to shorten the ten (10) day amendment period as described in Section 4.5(k) by providing a copy to the Clerk and to each Member.
- (m) Within fifteen (15) days of a Mayoral Veto being exercised for the purposes of Section 4.5(e), Council may override a Mayoral Veto of an amendment by vote with approval of at least Two-Thirds to be carried. For greater certainty, where multiple Mayoral Vetoes are exercised over multiple amendments for the purposes of Section 4.5(k), then each vote must be approved with at least Two-Thirds to be carried.
- (n) For greater certainty, the Mayor may vote on any call to vote for the purposes of overriding a Mayoral Veto in Section 4.5(m). The Mayor also cannot exercise a Mayoral Veto on Council's vote to override a Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.5(m).
- (o) Council may pass a resolution to shorten the fifteen (15) day period for Council to exercise an override of the Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.5(m).
- (p) The Mayor's Budget shall be deemed adopted by the Township with or without amendments by Council, where applicable, where one of the following occurs:
  - (i) Council does not pass a resolution with any amendments to the Mayor's Budget within the thirty (30) day period as described in Section 4.5(c) or the shortened amendment period as described in Section 4.5(j);
  - (ii) the Mayor does not exercise a Mayoral Veto over a resolution by Council to make amendment(s) to the Mayor's Budget within the period as described in Section 4.5(k);
  - (iii) the Mayor exercises a Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.5(k) and Council does not override the Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.5 (m); and
  - (iv) Council overrides a Mayoral Veto by vote as described in Section 4.5(m) which is deemed passed on the day the by-law for the resolution by Council was made to amend the Mayor's Budget.

#### **4.6 Mayor's Proposed Budget Amendment**

- (a) The Mayor may propose a budget amendment as permitted by the Act by providing a copy to each Member of Council and the Clerk while also making the proposed amendment publicly available.
- (b) Upon receipt of the proposed budget amendment from the Mayor, Council may pass a resolution to make amendment(s) to the same proposed budget amendment within twenty-one (21) days.
- (c) A Member of Council shall provide a Notice of Motion for the consideration of Council to the Clerk, in writing, for inclusion on an agenda of Council, for the purpose of giving notice for any proposed amendments to a proposed budget amendment from the Mayor as described in Section 4.6(b).
- (d) At a subsequent Meeting where Council may pass a resolution as described in Section 4.6(c), the Member of Council who submitted the proposed Motion will introduce and subsequently move the Motion.
- (e) A Member of Council may request the notice provisions as described in Section 4.6(c) be waived which shall require a Two-Thirds vote.

- (f) No Staff report will be prepared unless the Motion as described in Section 4.6(c) is referred to Staff for a report.
- (g) No delegations shall be permitted to speak on a Notice of Motion in this subsection.
- (h) It is the duty of the Member of Council in bringing forward a Motion as described in Section 4.6(c) to:
  - (i) prepare the proposed Motion in writing; and
  - (ii) submit the proposed Motion to the Clerk no later than 9:00 am on the Wednesday preceding the Council meeting proceeding the date on which the matter is to be considered by Council.
- (i) Council may pass a resolution to shorten the twenty-one (21) day amendment period as described in Section 4.6(b).
- (j) Within five (5) days of the expiry of the Council amendment period in Section 4.6(b) or within the shortened period as described in Section 4.6(i), the Mayor may exercise a Mayoral Veto on any amendment(s) passed by a resolution of Council as described in Section 4.6(b) which, at such time, this resolution shall be deemed to not have been passed by Council.
- (k) As required by the Act, the Mayor may issue a Mayoral Decision to shorten the five (5) day amendment period as described in Section 4.6(j) by providing a copy to the Clerk and to each Member.
- (l) Within ten (10) days of a Mayoral Veto being exercised for the purposes of Section 4.6(j), Council may override a Mayoral Veto of an amendment by a vote with approval of at least Two-Thirds to be carried. For greater certainty, where multiple Mayoral Vetoes are exercised over multiple amendments for the purposes of Section 4.6(j), then each vote must be approved with at least Two-Thirds support.
- (m) For greater certainty, the Mayor may vote on any call to vote for the purposes of overriding a Mayoral Veto in Section 4.6(l). The Mayor also cannot exercise a Mayoral Veto on Council's vote to override a Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.5(l).
- (n) Council may pass a resolution to shorten the ten (10) day period for Council to exercise an override of the Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.6(l).
- (o) For the purposes of this Section, a proposed budget amendment by the Mayor shall be deemed adopted by the Township, with or without amendments by Council, where applicable, where one of the following occurs:
  - (i) Council does not pass a resolution with any amendments to the proposed budget amendment by the Mayor within the twenty-one (21) day period as described in Section 4.6(b) or the shortened amendment period as described in Section 4.6(i);
  - (ii) the Mayor does not exercise a Mayoral Veto over a resolution by Council to make amendment(s) to a proposed budget amendment within the period as described in Section 4.6(j);
  - (iii) the Mayor exercises a Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.6(j) and Council does not override the Mayoral Veto as described in Section 4.6(l); and
  - (iv) Council overrides a Mayoral Veto by vote as described in Section 4.6(l) which is deemed passed on the day that the by-law for the resolution by Council was made to amend the proposed budget amendments by the Mayor.

#### **4.7 Emergency Council Meetings**

Notwithstanding any other provision in this By-law, the Mayor, at any time, may call or provide Notice of an Emergency Meeting of Council. An Emergency Meeting of Council is limited to business matters included in the Notice of the Meeting.

#### **4.8 Workshop**

The Mayor and/or CAO may convene a Workshop for Members of Council for the purpose of educating or training, for providing the Members with information and/or advice, or to solicit input from the Members. With the exception of procedural matters, no Motions are passed and no decisions are made at Workshops. Workshops are not generally livestreamed.

#### **4.9 Cancellation or Postponement of Meetings**

- (a) A regular, special or emergency Meeting of Council or Committee of the Whole or a workshop may be cancelled or postponed where Quorum cannot be achieved or where the Meeting is deemed no longer required by the Mayor in consultation with the Clerk.
- (b) The Clerk gives notice of the cancellation or postponement of a regular, special or emergency Meeting of Council or Committee of the Whole or a Workshop on the Township website. Where time is limited, a notice is posted on the main entrance of the Township's office.
- (c) Meetings of other Committees may be cancelled or postponed by the Clerk, Chair or other assigned person where Quorum cannot be achieved, in the event of an emergency or where the Meeting is deemed no longer required by the Chair in consultation with the Clerk.

#### **4.10 Notice of Meetings**

- (a) The Clerk gives Notice of a regular Meeting of Council or Committee of the Whole by:
  - (i) providing all Members with a regular agenda by each Wednesday preceding a Meeting day of Council or Committee of the Whole; and
  - (ii) publishing the agenda to the Township Website.
- (b) The Clerk gives notice of other Committees by:
  - (i) providing an agenda to Member of the Committee Members five (5) days prior to the Meeting; and
  - (ii) publishing the agenda to the Township Website.
- (c) The Clerk gives notice of Special Meetings of Council by:
  - (i) providing all Members with an agenda in person, or by electronic mail at least 48 hours prior to the Meeting; and
  - (ii) publishing the agenda to the Township Website.
- (d) The Clerk gives notice of emergency Meetings of Council by:
  - (i) providing all members with an agenda in person, or by electronic mail at least 24 hours prior to the Meeting and the general nature of the matters to be discussed; and
  - (ii) publishing the agenda to the Township Website.
- (e) The Clerk gives notice of a Workshop by:
  - (i) providing Notice to Council in person or by electronic mail indicating the date and time of the Workshop and the general nature of the matters to be discussed; and
  - (ii) publishing the agenda to the Township Website.
- (f) The Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor or Chair, may cancel any Meeting prior to its scheduled commencement and shall provide appropriate notice of the cancellation.

- (g) The failure of any person outlined herein to receive notice of a Meeting shall not affect the validity of the Meeting, nor any decisions, recommendations, or actions resulting therefrom.

#### **4.11 Notice of Meeting Closed to the Public**

Where a matter may be considered by Council or Committee for discussion in closed session, whenever possible, written notice will include:

- (i) the fact the Meeting will be closed to the public as provided by the appropriate legislation; and
- (ii) the general nature of the matter to be considered at the Closed Meeting.

#### **4.12 Invalidation of the Notice of Meeting**

If notice of a Meeting is substantially given, but varies from the form and manner provided in this By-law, the ability to hold the Meeting and the actions taken at the Meeting are not invalidated.

#### **4.13 Quorum**

- (a) Members will attempt to advise the Clerk at least three (3) business days in advance if they are unable to attend a Meeting.
- (b) If Quorum is not achieved within fifteen (15) minutes after the time appointed for a Meeting, the Clerk will record the names of the Members present and the Meeting is adjourned until the date of the next regular Meeting.

#### **4.14 Open & Closed Meetings**

- (a) All Meetings shall be open to the public, except as provided for in section 239 of the Act. Council or Committee may convene in a closed session in order to discuss the following matters:
  - (i) the security of the property of the Township or local board;
  - (ii) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees;
  - (iii) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Township or local board;
  - (iv) labour relations or employee negotiations;
  - (v) litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the Township or local board;
  - (vi) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
  - (vii) a matter in respect of which Council or Committee may hold a Closed Meeting under another statute;
  - (viii) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Township or local board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
  - (ix) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the Township or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
  - (x) a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the Township or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value;

- (xi) a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Township or local board; or
  - (xii) the Meeting is held for the purpose of educating or training the Members, providing no Member discusses or otherwise deals with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the Council or Committee.
- (b) Council or Committee shall convene into a Closed Meeting for the following purposes:
- (i) a request under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, if Council or Committee is the head of an institution for the purposes of that statute; or
  - (ii) an ongoing investigation respecting the Township, a local board or a Township-controlled corporation by the Ombudsman appointed under the *Ombudsman Act*, a municipal Ombudsman referred to in subsection 223.13(1) of the Act, or a closed meeting investigator referred to in subsection 239.2(1).
- (c) Educational or training sessions – a meeting of a Council or local board or of a committee of either of them may be closed to the public if the following conditions are both satisfied:
- (i) The meeting is held for the purpose of educating or training the members;
  - (ii) At the meeting, no members discusses or other wise deals with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the Council, local board or committee.
- (d) The Mayor or Chair shall report at an open Meeting following the Closed Meeting and summarize actions taken. Any matters discussed in a Closed Meeting requiring a decision of Council or Committee will be brought forward to an open Meeting.
- (e) No Member shall disclose or discuss, through any means including written, electronic or verbal communication to any individual or third party, any information that has been or will be discussed at a Closed Meeting or any records or documents disclosed thereat until Council or Committee has agreed to the disclosure of such information, records or documents or if directed to do so by a court.

#### **4.15 Preparation of Agendas**

- (a) The Clerk provides administrative processes to support the approval, preparation, notice, publication and distribution of the agenda, in consultation with the CAO.
- (b) Agenda for Meetings of Council and Committee of the Whole are generally made available to the public by the Wednesday immediately preceding the Meeting.
- (c) The Clerk prepares and makes available to the public an agenda for Advisory Committees no later than five (5) days preceding the meeting.

#### **4.16 Record of the Meeting**

- (a) The Clerk records the minutes of Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings without note or comment. The minutes shall include:
  - (i) the date, time and location of the Meeting;
  - (ii) the name of all Members in attendance;
  - (iii) the name of presenters and delegations at the Meeting;
  - (iv) all resolutions, decisions and other proceedings of the Meeting.
- (b) Minutes of each Meeting of Council are presented to a subsequent regular Meeting of Council for approval.

- (c) Minutes of Committee of the Whole Meetings are submitted at a subsequent scheduled Meeting of Committee of the Whole or Meeting of Council. The report from the Committee of the Whole, summarizing the recommendations is submitted to the next regular Meeting of Council for approval.
- (d) Minutes of Council and Committees will be posted on the Township's website following approval by Council.
- (e) Minutes of other Committees, as designated by Council, are submitted to a regular Meeting of Council for information purposes.

#### **4.17 Public Record**

All Communications the Clerk receives pertaining to a matter on the agenda of a public or open Meeting will form part of the public record. Personal information and opinion in communications are part of the public record unless the author of the communication requests the removal of their personal information when submitting it, or where confirmed by the Clerk.

#### **4.18 Recording, Broadcasting and/or Streaming**

All Council and Committee Meetings may be audio and/or video recorded, broadcast and/or streamed publicly by the Township with the exception of proceedings closed to the public provided for by the Act or this By-law. Workshops are not generally live-streamed.

#### **4.19 Electronic Meetings**

Electronic Participation

- (a) A regular, special or closed Meeting of Council or Committee, may be conducted by electronic means when it has been determined by the Clerk electronic participation will be required by all or some Members attending a meeting and will be counted for the purpose of establishing quorum.
- (b) Electronic participation would be available only for Meetings of Council or Committee taking place in the Council Chamber.
- (c) Whether participating in-person or electronically, the Clerk or designate shall be present electronically during any Meeting in which all or some Members are participating electronically.
- (d) The Mayor or Deputy Mayor shall not participate electronically at a meeting while acting as Chair of the Meeting.
- (e) Members shall register to electronically participate in a Meeting with the Clerk, in writing, no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the Wednesday preceding the meeting. If a member chooses electronic participation, they must continue with electronic participation for the duration of the meeting.
- (f) Members are encouraged to notify and provide same in writing to the Clerk in advance of any Meeting if they intend to bring forward motion/amendments.
- (g) Delegates wishing to address Council, by electronic means, shall submit a written request to the Clerk no later than one (1) business day prior to the meeting. If the meeting is on a Monday, the request must be submitted by noon on the Friday before the meeting. Requests to delegate may include a written submission of the delegate's intended remarks. The submission will be circulated to all Members of Council by the Clerk. All other rules in the Procedure By-law with respect to delegations shall apply.
- (h) Members of the public may be permitted to participate electronically in Statutory Public Meetings. Any member of the public wishing to speak may be able to join and speak at the Meeting by electronic means as determined by the Clerk.
- (i) An Electronic Meeting shall permit public presentations to attend electronically in accordance with rules and procedures outlined in Section 6.5.
- (j) Members shall participate electronically in any meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 4.14.

#### **4.20 Electronic Devices in Council Chamber**

- (a) Council, Staff and anyone situated in the gallery (including members of the media) shall turn all electronic devices to non-audible, silent, etc., during the entire Council or Committee Meeting.
- (b) Members of Council and Staff within the horseshoe of Council will limit the use of electronic devices during all Council or Committee Meetings.
- (c) At any time during the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair, use of electronic devices may be prohibited if there is audio or video interference.

### **5. ADVISORY AND AD HOC COMMITTEES**

#### **5.1 Advisory Committees**

- (a) Advisory Committees are created by Council with no defined ending and serve to make recommendations and/or to provide key information and materials to Council.
- (b) Each Advisory Committee shall have a Terms of Reference that sets out its purpose, guidelines for membership and how it will operate.
- (c) Advisory Committees are appointed by Council at the beginning of each term or as required.
- (d) Council shall make public and Member appointments to all Advisory Committees at a meeting of Council.
- (e) Appointment of a Member of Council to any Advisory Committee or to any other committees which are comprised of appointments from members of the public and Council, shall be recommended by the Mayor, after consultation with the Members and approved by Council.
- (f) Appointment of citizens to Advisory Committees shall be recommended by the Clerk in consultation with the Managing Director to Council and approved by Council.
- (g) A minimum of one (1) Member of Council will be appointed to an Advisory Committee in accordance with Section 5.1(e).
- (h) The Chair and Vice-Chair of Advisory Committees are appointed by the Members and cannot be a Member of Council.

#### **5.2 Ad Hoc Advisory Committees**

- (a) Council may appoint ad hoc advisory committees, with no defined ending and serve to make recommendations and/or to provide key information and materials to Council.
- (b) No Members of Council shall be appointed to ad hoc advisory committees.
- (c) Only the members of an ad hoc advisory committee shall participate in debate or ask questions at ad hoc committee meetings.

#### **5.3 Ad Hoc Committees**

- (a) As required by the Act, if the powers in Section 3.2 are delegated to Council through Mayoral Decision:
  - (i) Council may appoint Ad Hoc Committees, with a defined ending, to consider a specific matter and report to Council through the CAO or a Managing Director. These Ad Hoc Committees must be made up solely of Members of Council.
  - (ii) Only the members of an Ad Hoc Committee shall participate in debate or ask questions at Ad Hoc Committee meetings.

## **6. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Council**

The Clerk shall prepare an agenda for the use of the Members for Meetings of Council as follows:

- Call to Order (Roll Call if Electronic)
- Land Acknowledgement
- Addendums and Corrections to the Agenda
- Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
- Closed Session (if required)
- Reconvene in Open Session
- Matters Arising from Closed Session
- Public Meeting Under the Planning Act (if required)
- Presentations and Announcements
- Delegations
- Consent Items
- Consideration of Reports
- By-laws
- Notice of Motions
- Motions (where Notice has been given)
- Confirmatory By-law
- Adjournment

### **6.2 Committee of the Whole**

The Clerk shall prepare an agenda for the use of the Members for Meetings of Committee of the Whole as follows:

- Call to Order
- Land Acknowledgement
- Addendums and Corrections to the Agenda
- Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
- Closed Session
- Reconvene in Open Session
- Matters Arising from Closed Session
- Presentations and Announcements
- Delegations
- Consideration of Reports
- Information Items
- Adjournment

### **6.3 Addendums and Corrections to the Agenda**

- (a) The Clerk shall provide a summary of the additional items and advise of any corrections to the agenda.
- (b) Any changes will require the consent of Council or Committee.

### **6.4 Consent Agenda**

- (a) Introduction by Motion

The Clerk shall prepare one motion to approve all of the items contained in the consent agenda except where a Member has declared a pecuniary interest in which

case any such matter shall be introduced and voted upon separately. Prior to voting, Members shall be given the opportunity to ask questions regarding any matter on the consent agenda.

(b) Member Wishing to Debate and Pull for Separate Vote'

Any Member who wishes to debate and have a separate vote on any item(s) set forth in the consent agenda motion shall so advise the Chair, following which:

- i. the item(s) shall be separated from the consent agenda motion;
- ii. the main consent agenda shall be voted on;
- iii. amendments to the separated items(s) may be proposed during the course of debate; and
- iv. each separated item shall be voted on individually.

(c) Members of Council are encouraged to contact Staff prior to the meeting in the event an item is to be pulled from the consent agenda and a presentation is required.

### **6.5 Public Presentations**

- (a) A request from an outside organization or individual to make a presentation to Council or Committee shall be limited to a maximum of ten (10) minutes. The consent of Council or Committee of the Whole is required to extend a presentation beyond ten (10) minutes.
- (b) Presentations by an outside organization or individual shall not be permitted for the sole purpose of generating publicity or promotion.
- (c) Outside organizations or individuals shall provide the Clerk with written material for inclusion on the agenda by the agenda publication deadline.
- (d) Presentations by an outside organization or individuals shall not be added to an agenda as an addendum.
- (e) A maximum of two (2) public presentations will be permitted at a Meeting.

### **6.6 Other Presentations**

- (a) Presentations by Staff or invited third parties shall be limited to a maximum of ten (10) minutes.
- (b) Presentations recognizing achievements shall be heard at the beginning of a Meeting.
- (c) Where a Staff or third party presentation accompanies an item on an agenda, the presentation will be heard at the time the matter is under consideration.

### **6.7 Delegations**

- (a) An individual may make a delegation at a Meeting of Council or Committee of the Whole related to an item of business on the agenda.
- (b) An individual who is under eighteen (18) years of age must provide to the Clerk written permission from the individual's parent or guardian.
- (c) Individuals who register as a delegation will have their name and the purpose of their delegation published on an agenda.
- (d) For the purpose of Council and Committee agendas, delegations have until 11:00 am on the day of the Meeting to notify the Clerk they wish to register as a delegation or to submit written submissions on items on the agenda.
- (e) Delegations are limited to five (5) minutes. Council or Committee may extend the five (5) minute time period by a Majority Vote of the Members present by way of a Motion to be decided without debate.

- (f) Delegations of three (3) or more persons (representing a group or organization) shall be limited to a total maximum of ten (10) minutes.
- (g) Where a delegate has spoken at a Planning Public Meeting or Committee, a further delegation request by the delegate, or a related party, will not be permitted on the Council agenda unless the delegation is bringing forward new information. Only the new information will be heard at Council.
- (h) No delegation shall be made at advisory committee meetings unless invited. Opportunities to delegate will be afforded when the subject matter is brought forward to Council.
- (i) No delegation shall be made to Council or Committee on matters relating to litigation or potential litigation, including those matters which are before and under the jurisdiction of any court or administrative tribunals unless such matter is referred to Council by the said administrative tribunal or court.
- (j) No delegation shall speak on a matter not within the jurisdiction of the Council or Committee. The Mayor and Committee Chairs in consultation with the Clerk will determine if a matter is within the jurisdiction of the Council or Committee.
- (k) No delegation shall be made to a Notice of Motion on a Council or Committee agenda.
- (l) No delegation shall be permitted to speak on a Notice of Motion to reconsider.
- (m) No delegation shall be permitted at Workshops.
- (n) Delegations shall not be permitted to appear before Council or Committee for the sole purpose of generating publicity for an event.
- (o) Where the Clerk, in consultation with the Chief Administrative Officer, determines a person requesting to delegate is likely to engage in unreasonable or offensive conduct, make unreasonable or offensive statements or demands, repeatedly speak on a subject matter that is not within the jurisdiction of the Township, or otherwise misuse the privilege of addressing Council or Committee, the person will not be permitted to appear as a delegate at the meeting.
- (p) If a request to delegate has been denied as determined by the Clerk, they will:
  - (i) Notify the requester they will not be permitted to appear as a delegate and provide reasons for the decision, and
  - (ii) Inform the Members of the decision to deny the request.
- (q) A delegation shall only register themselves to speak and may not register other delegations.
- (r) If a delegation is unable to attend the Meeting for which they are registered, they may provide their written submission to the Clerk.
- (s) Members of Council or Committee of the Whole are permitted to ask individuals making a delegation questions for clarification only and to obtain additional relevant information.

## **6.8 Staff Reports**

- (a) In accordance with established administrative protocols, reports to Council or Committee are prepared by Staff, approved by the CAO, submitted in writing to the Clerk and distributed with the agenda for the applicable Meeting.
- (b) Reports prepared by Staff contain information and recommendations prepared in context of their professional, technical and administrative expertise independent of any particular political, constituent or stakeholder interest.
- (c) An information report is prepared for the information of Council and usually placed on the Consent Agenda.

## **6.9 Notice of Motion**

- (a) A Member of Council shall provide a proposed Motion to the Clerk, in writing, for inclusion on a regular agenda of Council, for the purpose of giving notice.
- (b) At a subsequent Meeting, the Member of Council who submitted the proposed Motion will introduce and subsequently move the Motion.
- (c) A Member of Council may request the notice provisions be waived which will require a Two-Thirds vote.
- (d) No Staff report will be prepared unless the Motion is referred to Staff for a report.
- (e) No delegations shall be permitted to speak on a Notice of Motion.
- (f) It is the duty of the Member of Council to:
  - (i) prepare the proposed Motion in writing; and
  - (ii) submit the proposed Motion to the Clerk prior to the publication deadline for the regular agenda of Council.

## **6.10 Notice of Motion for the Mayor**

- (a) As required by the Act, the Mayor may bring forward a motion at any time, if they determine it could potentially advance a Provincial Priority.
- (b) The Mayor shall solely determine if such a motion potentially advances a Provincial Priority.
- (c) Council shall consider any motion brought forward by the Mayor for the purposes of this Section at a Meeting.
- (d) All other motions brought forward by the Mayor that does not potentially advance a Provincial Priority shall follow the process described in Section 6.9.

## **6.11 By-laws**

- (a) All by-laws shall be passed in a single Motion by Council by Majority Vote, unless otherwise required by this By-law, the Act, or other legislation.
- (b) Council shall approve a by-law to conform all actions taken by Council at the conclusion of each Meeting of Council (a "Confirmatory By-law")
- (c) The following types of By-laws may be presented directly to Council without the requirement for a Staff report:
  - (i) those directed to be presented to Council by Committee of the Whole or Council;
  - (ii) appointment of Staff authorized by the CAO;
  - (iii) a by-law proposed by the Mayor as described in Section 6.12(a); and
  - (iv) general By-laws where the purpose and intent of the by-law has been clearly authorized by a previous resolution.

## **6.12 By-laws Advancing or Interfering with a Provincial Priority**

- (a) As required by the Act, the Mayor may propose by-law(s) for adoption that potentially advances a Provincial Priority.
- (b) Where the Mayor proposes a by-law pursuant to Section 6.12(a), the Mayor shall provide to the Clerk and each Member of Council a copy of the proposed by-law with written reasons. Such by-laws shall be voted on by Council and are approved by at least One-Third to be carried.

- (c) The Mayor shall solely determine if a by-law potentially interferes or advances a Provincial Priority for the purposes of this Section.
- (d) As required by the Act, the Mayor may exercise their Mayoral Veto where they are of the opinion that all or part of a by-law potentially interferes with a Provincial Priority by providing written notice to Council.
- (e) As required by the Act, the following timelines shall be in effect for a by-law approved by Council after the Mayor provides notice as described in Section 6.12(d):
  - (i) Where the Mayor elects to not exercise a Mayoral Veto, the Mayor shall issue a Mayoral Decision approving all or part of the by-law within two (2) days of Council voting in favour of the by-law or by any prescribed deadline as required by the Act;
  - (ii) Where the Mayor intends to exercise a Mayoral Veto, the Mayor shall issue a Mayoral Veto with reasons to the Clerk within fourteen (14) days from the day Council voted in favour of the by-law or any prescribed time period as required by the Act;
  - (iii) Upon receipt of the Mayoral Veto in Section 6.12(e)(ii) above, the Clerk shall provide a copy of this Mayoral Veto to each member of Council (except the Mayor) by the next business day and make this Mayoral Veto available to the public.
  - (iv) Within twenty-one (21) days of Council receiving a copy of the Mayoral Veto as described in Section 6.12(e)(ii) above, Council may override the use of a Mayoral Veto for part or all of a by-law by a vote with the approval of at least Two-Thirds to be carried.
- (f) For greater certainty, the Mayor may vote on any call to vote for the purposes of Section 6.12(b) and 6.12(e)(iv).
- (g) A by-law for the purposes of this Section 6.12(d) shall not be deemed to have been passed by Council until one of the following occurs:
  - (i) Where the Mayor does not issue a notice as described in Section 6.12(d), the earlier of the following:
    - (A) the day that the Mayor provides written approval as described in Section 6.12(e)(i); or
    - (B) two (2) days after the day Council voted in favour of the by-law or after a deadline as required by the Act.
  - (ii) Where the Mayor issues a notice as described in Section 6.12(e), the earlier of the following:
    - (A) the day that the Mayor provides written approval as described in Section 6.12(e)(i);
    - (B) fourteen (14) days after the day Council voted in favour of the by-law or after a deadline as required by the Act; or
    - (C) the day that Council overrides the Mayoral Veto as described in Section 6.12(e)(iv).

### **6.13 Majority Vote**

Unless this By-law, the Act, or other legislation states otherwise, a matter passes when a majority of the Members present at the Meeting vote in the affirmative.

## **7. MOTIONS**

### **7.1 General**

- (a) After a Motion has been moved and seconded, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of Council or Committee. A Motion or amending Motion may be withdrawn with the consent of the Mover and Seconded at any time before amendment or decision.
- (b) Council or Committee shall not debate any Motion until it has been moved and seconded. Once a Motion has been seconded, it may upon request, be read or stated by the Chair or Clerk at any time during the debate.
- (c) A friendly amendment is an amendment to a Motion under debate that is perceived by all Members as an enhancement to the original Motion and often only as clarification of intent and without the requirement for an amending Motion to be made.
- (d) If the Chair is of the opinion an amending Motion is contrary to the main Motion, the Chair shall apprise the Members immediately. A Member of Council or Committee may appeal the ruling of the Chair. If appealed, the Chair will take an immediate vote on the Motion without debate.
- (e) When a Motion is under consideration, no other Motion shall be received unless it is a Motion:
  - (i) to refer the Motion to Committee, Council, or Staff. A Motion to Refer:
    - (A) is open to debate,
    - (B) is amendable, and
    - (C) shall preclude amendment or debate of the preceding Motion.
  - (ii) to amend the Motion. A Motion to Amend:
    - (A) is open to debate,
    - (B) shall not propose a direct negative to the main Motion,
    - (C) shall be relevant to the main Motion,
    - (D) is subject to only one further amendment, and any amendment more than one must be to the main Motion, and
    - (E) if more than one, shall be put in the reverse order to that in which they were moved, and shall be decided or withdrawn before the main Motion is put to the vote.
  - (iii) to defer the Motion to another time. A Motion to Defer:
    - (A) is not open to debate,
    - (B) is not subject to amendment, and
    - (C) applies to the main Motion and any amendments thereto under debate at the time the Motion to Defer is put forth.
  - (iv) to adjourn the Meeting. A Motion to Adjourn:
    - (A) is not open to debate,
    - (B) is not subject to amendment, and
    - (C) shall always be in order.
  - (v) to call a vote on the Motion. A Motion to Call a Vote on the Motion:
    - (A) cannot be amended,

- (B) cannot be proposed when there is an amendment under consideration,
  - (C) when resolved in the affirmative, shall be forwarded by voting on the Motion, without debate or amendment,
  - (D) when resolved in the negative, shall be followed by resumption of debate, and
  - (E) shall always be in order.
- (f) Once all Motions relating to the main Motion have been dealt with, and once the main Motion is put, there shall be no further discussion or debate and the Motion shall be immediately voted on.

## 7.2 Reconsideration of a Council Resolution

- (a) Council may reconsider an entire resolution that was decided during any term of Council. A reconsideration of a portion of a resolution shall not be permitted. Such reconsideration can either amend the previous decision or rescind it subject to the following rules:
  - (i) no resolution shall be reconsidered more than once during the term of Council, and
  - (ii) a Motion to reconsider shall not be reconsidered.
- (b) A Member who voted in favour of a previous resolution may bring a Motion to reconsider at the same Meeting at which the question to be reconsidered was dealt with and shall require the support of a majority of the Members present.
- (c) A Member who voted in favour or who was absent from the vote or was not a Member of Council at the time of the vote may bring a Notice of Motion to reconsider at a Meeting subsequent to that at which the question to be reconsidered was dealt with and shall require a Two-Thirds vote to be carried.
- (d) No delegations shall be permitted to speak on a Notice of Motion to reconsider.
- (e) A resolution that was decided by Council cannot be reconsidered if action has been taken in implementing the resolution, resulting in legally binding commitments that are in place on the date the Motion to reconsider is considered by Council.
- (f) Council may only reconsider resolutions.
- (g) If the resolution resulting from a reconsideration warrants, a related by-law may be amended or repealed accordingly.

## 7.3 Motion Containing Two or More Matters

When a Motion under consideration concerns two or more matters, upon the request of any Member, they may be taken separately. Such a request may also be made by the Chair.

## 7.4 Voting

- (a) After a Motion is put to a vote by the Chair, no Member shall speak to it nor will any other Motion be made until after the vote is taken and the result has been declared.
- (b) All Members of Council or Committee will vote on all Motions. A failure by any Member to announce their vote openly and individually, including an "Abstention", is deemed to be a vote in the negative.
- (c) Each Member present and voting indicates his or her vote by show of hands or electronically, and no vote is taken by ballot or any other method of secret voting.
- (d) The following represents the required number of votes for a majority Vote or Two-Thirds vote.

Number of Members Present	Majority Vote	Two-Thirds Vote
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7	4	5
6	4	4
5	3	4
4	3	3
3	2	2

**7.5 Tie Vote**

Any Motion on which there is a tie vote is deemed to be lost.

**7.6 Recorded Vote**

- (a) Any Member may request a recorded vote immediately preceding or following the taking of a vote. All Members present at the Meeting shall vote unless they are disqualified from voting with respect to that item following which:
  - (i) the Clerk shall call on Members by name according to Ward number, starting with the Member who requested the recorded vote, the vote will always end with the Chair;
  - (ii) each Member present that is not disqualified from voting shall announce their vote openly, in the order set out above; and
  - (iii) the Clerk shall announce and record the result of the vote, and record how each Member voted.
- (b) Notwithstanding a recorded voted, a record or notation of a Member’s opposition to an issue is not recorded in any minutes of the meeting.

**7.7 Adjournment**

- (a) All Meetings of Council shall automatically adjourn three (3) hours after commencement if still in session, unless otherwise decided by a Two-Thirds vote of the Members present.
- (b) A Meeting authorized to continue past three (3) hours, shall be automatically adjourned one (1) hour later, unless the Meeting is authorized to continue for further one-hour periods, with each period requiring the unanimous consent of all Members present.
- (c) All Meetings of the Committee of the Whole shall automatically adjourn four (4) hours after commencement if still in session, unless decided by a Two-Thirds vote of the Members present.
- (d) A Meeting of the Committee of the Whole, with the exception of Meetings related to the budget that are authorized to continue past four (4) hours, shall be automatically adjourned one (1) hour later, unless the Meeting is authorized to continue for further one-hour periods, with each period requiring the unanimous consent of all Members present.
- (e) At a Meeting of Council, where a Meeting has adjourned automatically or by a Motion by any Member, prior to the adjournment being effective, the Members shall consider the By-laws and Confirmatory By-law if such items have not already been addressed.
- (f) A Motion to adjourn may be made by any Member who has been recognized by the Chair. The Motion must be moved and seconded. A Motion to adjourn shall not be made during a vote on any other Motion.

**8. PROCEDURE BY-LAWS FOR OTHER BOARDS, COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS**

**8.1 General**

Where a local board, committee, commission or body of the Township has not adopted a procedure by-law, such local board, committee, commission or body may adopt this By-law with necessary modifications including the requirement that all Meetings be open to the public, subject to the same exceptions applicable to Meetings as set out herein.

**9. SHORT TITLE**

**9.1 Procedure By-law**

This By-law, other than in this By-law itself, shall be referred to as the "Procedure By-law".

**10. REPEAL**

**10.1 Repeal of By-law 2024-65**

By-law 2024-65 and all previous By-laws relating to meeting procedures of Council and Committee are hereby repealed.

**Read a first, second and third time and finally passed** this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.



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Mayor – Shawn Watters



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Clerk – Kerri O'Kane