



## COUNCIL PROCEDURE BYLAW

NO. 2904

A Bylaw to establish the rules of procedure for council meetings.

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**Consolidated as of March 20, 2014**

TABLE OF CONSOLIDATION	
BYLAW	SUBJECT MATTER
Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 2927, 2013	Add Business Arising from Committee of the Whole/Public Hearing



**COUNCIL PROCEDURE BYLAW, 2013,  
No. 2904**

A Bylaw to establish the rules of procedure for council meetings.

The Council of the City of Langley, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

**1. Title**

This bylaw shall be cited as the “Council Procedure Bylaw, 2013, No. 2904.

**2. Definitions**

- (1) “Acting Mayor” means the member who, in accordance with section 11 of this Bylaw, is responsible for acting in the place of the Mayor when the office of the Mayor is vacant.
- (2) “City” means the City of Langley.
- (3) “Corporate Officer” means the appointed Corporate Officer for the City and his or her designate.
- (4) “City Hall” means the City of Langley City Hall located at 20399 Douglas Crescent, Langley, British Columbia.
- (5) “Closed Meeting” means a meeting or part thereof closed to the public.
- (6) “Committee” means a standing, select or other committee of Council, but does not include Committee of the Whole.
- (7) “Committee of the Whole” means the Committee of the whole Council.
- (8) “Community Spotlight” means an individual, group or organization providing information or updates on an event or activities.
- (9) “Council” means the Council of the City.
- (10) “Councillor” means a Councillor of the City.
- (11) “Delegation” means an individual group or organization making a request of Council, monetary or otherwise.
- (12) “Deputy Mayor” means the member who, in accordance with section 11 of this Bylaw, is responsible for acting in the place of the Mayor when the Mayor is absent or otherwise unable to act.

- (13) “Mayor” means the Mayor of the City.
- (14) “Motion” includes a resolution.
- (15) “Notice of Meetings” means the notice of Council, Committee of the Whole and committee meetings published in accordance with sections 7, 8 and 28, as applicable.
- (16) “Public Notice Posting Places” means the notice board at City Hall and optionally the City’s website.
- (17) “Select Committee” is a committee of which at least one member must be a Council member and includes advisory committees.
- (18) “Standing Committee” is a committee of which at least half the members are Council members and includes the Finance Committee and the Community Grant Committee.

### 3. **Application of Rules of Procedure**

The provisions of this Bylaw govern the proceedings of Council, Committee of the Whole, and all Council committees, as applicable.

4. In cases not provided for under this Bylaw, the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order apply to the proceedings of Council, Committee of the Whole and all committees of Council to the extent that those rules are:

- (1) applicable in the circumstances, and
- (2) not inconsistent with the provisions of this Bylaw or the *Community Charter*.

### 5. **Inaugural Meeting**

An inaugural council meeting shall be held on the first Monday in December following a general election of Council, unless a quorum of Council has not yet taken office in which case the inaugural council meeting shall be called by the Corporate Officer and held as soon as reasonably possible after a quorum has taken office.

### 6. **Time, Location and Adjournment of Meetings**

- (1) Regular council meetings shall take place within City Hall except when Council resolves to hold a meeting elsewhere.
- (2) Regular council meetings shall:
  - (a) be held on Mondays, in accordance with the schedule adopted by resolution on or before December 31 of the preceding year;
  - (b) begin:
    - (i) at 3:00 pm or later if a portion of the meeting is closed to the public pursuant to section 90 of the *Community Charter*;
    - (ii) at 7:00 pm if there is no public hearing scheduled; or

- (iii) immediately following a public hearing if there is a public hearing scheduled at 7:00 pm on the same night.
- (c) Regular council meetings may be cancelled by an affirmative vote of the majority of the Council members present.
- (d) Special council meetings may be held at the time and location specified in the notice for the special council meeting.

## **7. Notice of Council Meetings**

- (1) A schedule of the date, time and place of regular council meetings shall be made available to the public and notice shall be given annually on or before December 31 , of the availability of the schedule in accordance with sections 94 and 127 of the *Community Charter*.
- (2) At least 48 hours before a regular council meeting or public hearing, the Corporate Officer must give notice of the meeting or hearing agenda, including confirmation of the time, place and date by:
  - (a) posting the notice at the Public Notice Posting Place and
  - (b) posting the agenda on the City's Internet website.

## **8. Notice of Special Meetings**

- (1) Except where notice of a special meeting is waived by unanimous vote of all Council members, a notice of the date, time and place of a special council meeting must be given at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting by:
  - (a) Posting a copy of the notice at the entrance to the Council Chambers at City Hall;
  - (b) Posting a copy of the notice at the Public Notice Posting Place; and
  - (c) Emailing a copy of the notice to each member of Council or by leaving a copy of the notice for each Council member in their respective mailbox at City Hall.
- (2) The notice under subsection (1) shall describe in general terms the purpose of the meeting and be signed by the Mayor or Corporate Officer.

## **9. Electronic Meetings – Special Council Meeting**

A special council meeting to deal with an urgent matter may be conducted by means of electronic or other communication facilities provided that:

- (1) the facilities must enable the meeting's participants to hear, or watch and hear each other;
- (2) the notice of Special meeting must include notice of the way in which the meeting is to be conducted and, the place where the public may attend to hear, or watch and hear the proceedings that are open to the public, and
- (3) a designated municipal officer must be in attendance at the place and time designated for the public to hear, or watch and hear the proceedings that are open to the public.

## 10. Electronic Participation – Regular Council Meeting

- (1) Up to 2 members of Council may participate electronically in a regular council meeting if:
  - (a) at least 2 business days before the meeting, those members notified the Corporate Officer of their intended absence; and
  - (b) at least a majority of the members of Council are physically present at the meeting.
- (2) A member of Council may participate electronically in no more than 2 consecutive regular council meetings unless the absence is because of illness or injury or is with the leave of Council.
- (3) A meeting at which there is electronic participation must not include any of the following:
  - (a) a public hearing to which section 890 of the *Local Government Act* applies; and
  - (b) hearings for heritage conservation matters under Part 27 of the *Local Government Act*.

## 11. Designation of Councillor to Act in Place of Mayor

- (1) At the inaugural meeting, for the entire term of office, Council shall from amongst its members designate Councillors to serve on a rotating basis as Deputy Mayor in the place of the Mayor when the Mayor is absent or otherwise unable to act or when the office of Mayor is vacant.
- (2) Following the Local General Election in 2014, subsection 1 will cease to be in effect and at the inaugural meeting and annually thereafter, Council shall from amongst its members designate Councillors to serve on a two month rotating basis each year as Deputy Mayor in the place of the Mayor when the Mayor is absent or otherwise unable to act.
- (3) If both the Mayor and the Council member designated under section 11(1) or 11(2) are absent or otherwise unable to act, the Council member who is next on the rotation shall be the Deputy Mayor.
- (4) Further to sections 11(1) and 11(2), in the event the Office of the Mayor becomes vacant, the Council may designate a member as Acting Mayor and such Acting Mayor shall continue in office until such time as another Mayor is elected or otherwise appointed.
- (5) Further to sections 11(1) and 11(2), in the event the Mayor is absent or unable to act for a minimum of six (6) months, the Council may designate a member as Acting Mayor and such Acting Mayor shall continue in office until such time as the Mayor returns, vacates the offices or the position of Acting Mayor is otherwise appointed.
- (6) Each Council member designated under section 11(1), 11(2), 11(3), 11(4) or 11(5) has the same powers and duties as the Mayor in relation to the applicable matter.

## 12. Attendance at Public Meetings

- (1) In addition to applying to council meetings, this section also applies to the meetings of the following:
  - (a) Committee of the Whole;
  - (b) Committees;
  - (c) an advisory body established by Council;
  - (d) a municipal commission established under section 143 of the *Community Charter*;
  - (e) a body that under the *Community Charter* or another Act may exercise the powers of the District or Council;
  - (f) the Board of Variance;
  - (g) a parcel tax roll review panel established under section 204 of the *Community Charter*; and
  - (h) a body prescribed by Provincial regulation.
- (2) Meetings of Council must be open to the public except as provided in this section.
- (3) In accordance with section 90 of the *Community Charter*, a council meeting or a part thereof may or must be closed to the public, and shall be called a Closed meeting.
- (4) Despite section 12(3):
  - (a) the presiding member may order that persons that the presiding member consider to be acting improperly be expelled from a regular or special council meeting; and
  - (b) if the person who is expelled does not leave the meeting, a peace officer may enforce the order under subsection (a) as if it were a court order.
- (5) Before closing a council meeting or part of a council meeting to the public, Council must pass a resolution in a public meeting in accordance with section 92 of the *Community Charter*.

## 13. Attendance at Closed Meetings

- (1) Council may allow one or more City officers or employees to attend or exclude them from attending closed meetings, as it considers appropriate.
- (2) Council may allow a person other than a City officer or employee to attend a closed meeting if Council considers this necessary, and in the case of closed meetings under section 90(2) of the *Community Charter* if the Council considers it necessary and the person already has knowledge of the confidential information or is a lawyer attending to provide legal advice in relation to the matter.
- (3) The minutes of a closed meeting must record the names of all persons in attendance.

#### **14. Minutes of Meetings**

- (1) It is the responsibility of the Corporate Officer to ensure that minutes of council meetings and Committee of the Whole meetings, representing a summary of the proceedings, are prepared and certified as accurate.
- (2) The minutes of council meetings shall be signed by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor and the Corporate Officer.
- (3) The Corporate Officer may make minor amendments to approved minutes including but not limited to typographical errors, sequential numbering errors, grammatical errors or completing missing information.

#### **15. Quorum**

A quorum for conducting business at a council meeting shall be four Council members.

#### **16. Call to Order**

- (1) As soon after the time specified for a council meeting and if there is a quorum present, the Mayor shall take the chair and call the meeting to order.
- (2) If the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor do not attend the meeting within 15 minutes of the scheduled time for a council meeting, the Corporate Officer shall call the meeting to order and if a quorum is present, a chair shall be chosen to preside during the meeting or until the arrival of the Mayor or Deputy Mayor.

#### **17. No Quorum**

If there is no quorum present within 15 minutes of the scheduled time for a council meeting, the Corporate Officer shall record the names of the Council members present at the expiration of the 15 minutes and the Council shall stand adjourned.

#### **18. Agenda**

- (1) Prior to each Council meeting, the Corporate Officer shall prepare an agenda of all items to be considered by Council at the meeting.
- (2) All items, delegations and reports for the agenda of a meeting of Council, other than a special meeting, must be delivered to the Corporate Officer by noon on the Wednesday prior to the Council meeting. Any item not delivered complete and in an agenda-ready format by the deadline shall be held to the next meeting of Council unless:
  - (a) the item is approved as a late item by the Chief Administrative Officer prior to the distribution of the agenda to Council members; or
  - (b) by resolution of Council if the subject matter is of an urgent nature such that the item cannot be held to the next meeting of Council and information pertaining to the late item has been circulated to Council.

## 19. Delegations

- (1) The Council may allow an individual or a delegation to address Council at a meeting on a subject provided a written request from the individual or the delegation has been received by the deadline in accordance with section 18.
- (2) The Council may allow a Community Spotlight delegation to address Council at a meeting on a subject provided a written request from the individual or the delegation has been received by the deadline in accordance with section 18 or at the invitation of Council.
- (3) A maximum of three (3) delegations and a maximum of two (2) Community Spotlight delegations are permitted at each regular Council meeting.
- (4) Where a written request has not been received by the Corporate Officer as prescribed in subsection (1), an individual or delegation may address the meeting, if approved by unanimous vote of the Council members present.
- (5) Each delegation must be limited to 5 minutes and each Community Spotlight must be limited to 10 minutes for presentation unless a longer period is agreed by a majority of those Council members present.
- (6) Council must not permit a delegation to address a meeting of the Council regarding a bylaw in respect of which a public hearing has already been held, where the public hearing is required under an enactment as a prerequisite to the adoption of the bylaw.
- (7) The Corporate Officer may schedule delegations to a later Council meeting or advisory body as deemed appropriate to the subject matter of the delegation.
- (8) The Corporate Officer may refuse to place a delegation on the agenda if the issue is not considered to fall within the jurisdiction of Council.
- (9) If the delegation wishes to appeal the Corporate Officer's decision under subsection (6), the information must be distributed under a separate cover to Council for their consideration. A majority of Council must support the delegation being placed on a future agenda.

## 20. Order of Business

- (1) The agenda for all regular council meetings shall contain the following items where there are items pertaining to them and in the order in which they are listed unless otherwise resolved by Council:
  - (a) Public Hearing;
  - (b) Adoption of agenda;
  - (c) Committee of the Whole;
  - (d) Adoption of the Minutes;
  - (e) Business Arising from Committee of the Whole/Public Hearing;



- (f) Awards, Petitions, Delegations and Community Spotlights;
  - (g) Mayor's Report;
  - (h) Bylaws
  - (i) Committee Reports;
  - (j) Administrative Reports
  - (k) New and Unfinished Business; and
  - (l) Adjournment.
- (2) The agenda for all special council meetings may contain whatever items are listed for consideration at that meeting.

## **21. General Rules of Conduct and Debate**

- (1) Every Council member in speaking to any motion shall address themselves to the Mayor.
- (2) Debates shall be strictly relevant to the motion before the Council and the Mayor shall warn speakers who violate this rule.
- (3) Council members shall address the presiding member by that person's title of mayor, acting mayor or councillor followed by the name of the person referred to and other non-presiding members by the title councillor followed by the name of the person referred to.
- (4) If more than one Council member speaks, the presiding member must call on the Council member who, in the presiding member's opinion, spoke first.
- (5) No Council member shall speak until recognized by the presiding member and no Council member shall speak more than once on the same motion without the permission of Council, except in explanation of a material part of their speech which may have been misconstrued, and in so doing must not introduce new matters. A reply shall be allowed to a Council member who has made a substantive motion to Council, but not to a Council member who has moved an amendment, the previous questions, or an instruction to a committee. No Council member shall speak to any question, or in reply for longer than a total time of 5 minutes without the permission of Council.
- (6) A question of privilege (motion relating to the rights and privileges of the Council as a whole or an individual Council member) may be raised at any time and shall be ruled on immediately by the presiding member before resumption of business.
- (7) Points of order to correct a breach in the rules of procedure shall be raised at the time the breach occurs. The presiding member shall preserve order at the meeting and decide points of order which may arise, subject to an appeal by the other members of the Council then present.

## **22. Motions**

- (1) Motions shall be phrased in a clear and concise manner so as to express an opinion or achieve a result.

- (2) No motion shall be debated unless it is seconded.
- (3) After a motion has been seconded it shall be deemed to be in the hands of Council but the mover may, with the permission of the seconder, withdraw the motion at any time before the decision or amendment.
- (4) When a question is under consideration, no motion shall be received unless it is a(n):
  - (a) Subsidiary Motion (related to the main motion)
    - (i) to postpone indefinitely;
    - (ii) to amend;
    - (iii) to refer to a committee;
    - (iv) to postpone to a future meeting;
    - (v) to close debate and take the vote immediately; or
    - (vi) to lay on the table (set aside temporarily for consideration later in the same meeting)
  - (b) Privileged Motions (related to matters of immediate importance)
    - (i) to raise a question of privilege (dealing with the welfare of the assembly or the individual);
    - (ii) to recess (take a short break) or
    - (iii) to adjourn.
  - (c) Incidental Motions (related to matters of procedure)
    - (i) to raise a point of order; or
    - (ii) to suspend the rules.
- (5) Any Council member may require the motion under discussion to be read at any time during debate, but not so as to interrupt a Council member while speaking.
- (6) The presiding member may make a motion, second a motion or debate a motion while presiding.

### **23. Reconsideration**

- (1) The Mayor may, at any time within 30 days after its adoption, require Council to reconsider and vote again on a matter that was the subject of a vote, provided the matter has not had the approval of the electors, the assent of the electors or already been reconsidered under this section.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) and section 29, a Council member may, at the next council meeting,

- (a) move to reconsider a matter on which a vote, other than to postpone indefinitely, has been taken; or
  - (b) move to reconsider an adopted bylaw after an interval of at least 24 hours following its adoption.
- (3) A Council member who voted affirmatively for a motion adopted by Council may at any time move to rescind that motion.
- (4) Council must not discuss the main matter referred to in subsection (2) unless a motion to reconsider that matter is adopted in the affirmative.
- (5) A vote to reconsider must not be reconsidered.
- (6) Council may only reconsider a matter that has not:
  - (a) had the approval or assent of the electors and been adopted;
  - (b) already been reconsidered under section; or
  - (c) been acted on by an officer, employee, or agent of the City.
- (7) On a reconsideration under this section, the Council
  - (a) Must deal with the matter as soon as convenient; and
  - (b) On that reconsideration, has the same authority it had in its original consideration of the matter, subject to the same conditions that applied to the original consideration.
- (8) If the original decision was the adoption of a bylaw or resolution and that decision is rejected on reconsideration, the bylaw or resolution is of no effect and is deemed to be repealed.
- (9) A bylaw, resolution or proceeding that is reaffirmed under subsection (2) or (8) is valid and had the same effect as it had before reconsideration.

#### **24. Notice of Motion**

- (1) Any member who during a meeting wishes to bring before Council any new matter, other than a point of order or of privilege, shall do so by way of a motion.
- (2) If any member present at the time such motion is presented, and before debate thereon, calls for notice of motion, then the motion shall be placed on the agenda of the next regular council meeting.
- (3) Any member may give notice of a motion which they intend to present to Council by giving a copy of the motion to the Corporate Officer during a meeting of Council and upon it being acknowledged by the presiding member, it shall appear in the minutes of that meeting as notice of motion and be placed on the agenda of the next regular council meeting or a subsequent meeting if additional time or information is required.

#### **25. Voting**

- (1) In accordance with section 123 of the *Community Charter*, a Council member present at a council meeting at the time of a vote who abstains from voting is considered to have voted affirmatively.
- (2) If the votes of the Council members present at a council meeting at the time of a vote are equal for and against a question, the question is defeated and the presiding member must declare this result.
- (3) The following procedures apply to voting at council meetings:
  - (a) when debate on a matter is closed the presiding member must put the matter to a vote of Council members;
  - (b) when the Council is putting the matter to a vote, a Council member must not:
    - (i) cross or leave the room;
    - (ii) make a noise or other disturbance, or
    - (iii) interrupt the voting procedure unless the interrupting Council member is raising a point of order.
  - (c) after the presiding member finally puts the question to a vote, Council members must not speak to the question or make a motion concerning it;
  - (d) the presiding member's decision about whether a question has been finally put is conclusive;
  - (e) whenever a vote of Council on a matter is taken, each Council member present will signify his or her vote by raising their hand; and
  - (f) the presiding member must declare the result of the vote.
- (4) Unless otherwise provided by statute or this Bylaw, a motion on a bylaw or resolution, or any other question before Council, is decided by a majority of the Council members present at the meeting, including the Mayor.
- (5) The names of those who voted against a motion or question shall be entered in the minutes and the presiding member shall read the names aloud to ensure accuracy of the minutes.

## 26. Bylaws

- (1) A proposed bylaw may be introduced at a council meeting only if a copy of it has been delivered to each Council member at least 24 hours before the council meeting unless all Council members unanimously agree to waive this requirement.
- (2) Council must not vote on the reading or adoption of a bylaw at a closed meeting.
- (3) Subject to section 135 of the *Community Charter*, a bylaw must be given three readings, all of which may be given at one council meeting.

- (4) There must be at least one day between third reading and adoption of a bylaw, notwithstanding which, Council may adopt an Official Community Plan, Zoning Bylaw or Heritage Designation Bylaw at the same meeting at which the plan or bylaw received third reading providing subsection (6) of this Bylaw does not apply.
- (5) Any amendment to a bylaw shall be made by a motion of Council after the bylaw has received second reading and before it received third reading. If the bylaw has been amended the motion at third reading shall be “to give the bylaw third reading as amended”.
- (6) Where a bylaw requires the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, a minister or the Inspector of Municipalities, or the approval or assent of the electors, the approval or assent must be obtained after the bylaw has received third reading and before it is adopted.
- (7) A bylaw introduced at a council meeting must:
  - (a) be printed;
  - (b) have a distinguishing name;
  - (c) have a distinguishing number; and
  - (d) be divided into sections.
- (8) Unless otherwise specified by statute, every bylaw shall be passed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Council present.
- (9) The Corporate Officer may consolidate one or more of the City’s bylaws.
- (10) Once a bylaw is adopted, the presiding member at the meeting at which it was adopted and the Corporate Officer must sign the bylaw and it must be sealed with the Corporate Seal.
- (11) It is the responsibility of the Corporate Officer to maintain and keep in safe custody all bylaws of Council.

## **27. Committee of the Whole**

- (1) At any time during a council meeting, Council may, by resolution go into Committee of the Whole.
- (2) The Mayor may act as the presiding member in Committee of the Whole.
- (3) For certainty, the rules and procedures of the Council under sections 12 through 23 of this Bylaw, inclusive, shall be observed in Committee of the Whole as far as they may be applicable.
- (4) Notwithstanding subsection 3, the following rules on conduct and debate apply to Committee of the Whole meetings:
  - (a) a motion does not require a seconder;

- (b) a Council member may speak any number of times on the same question provided they do not speak longer than a total of 10 minutes on any one question.
  - (c) any person who has an interest in a matter being considered by Council at a Committee of the Whole meeting may be afforded an opportunity to be heard in person or through a representative provided they first identify themselves by stating their name and address and the names and addresses of the person or persons they represent.
  - (d) no person shall address Committee of the Whole on one matter for longer than five minutes unless the time limitation is waived by a majority of the Council members present.
  - (e) Notwithstanding subsection (d), the presiding member shall always have the discretion to waive the time limitation for any person addressing Committee of the Whole when land use and development applications are being considered.
- (5) Committee of the Whole may consider reports and bylaws if
- (a) they are printed and the Council members each have a copy, or
  - (b) A majority of Council members present decide without debate to waive this requirement.
- (6) A motion for Committee of the Whole to rise and report to Council must be decided without debate.

## 28. Committees

### (1) Standing committees

- (a) The Mayor must establish standing committees for matters the Mayor considers would be better dealt with and must appoint persons to those committees. At least half of the members must be Council members. The Mayor shall be an ex officio member of the each standing committee.
- (b) Standing committees must consider, inquire into, report and make recommendations to Council about all of the following matters:
  - (i) matters that are related to the general subject indicated by the name of the committee;
  - (ii) matters that are assigned by Council; and
  - (iii) matters that are assigned by the Mayor.

### (2) Select committees

Council may establish and appoint select committees to consider or inquire into any matter and to report their findings to Council. At least one member of a select committee must be a Council member.

- (3) Council members who are not members of a committee may attend the meetings of a committee but shall not be allowed to vote nor may they take part in any discussion or debate except by permission of the presiding member.
- (4) At the first meeting after appointment annually by the Mayor or the Council, as the case may be, each committee shall establish a regular schedule of meetings.
- (5) The presiding member of a committee may call a meeting of the committee in addition to the scheduled meetings or may cancel a meeting.
- (6) A member, other than a Council member, of a select committee who is absent, except for reasons of illness or with leave granted by the select committee, for three consecutive meetings shall have his or her appointment terminated and his or her position deemed vacant.
- (7) Quorum shall be a majority of the voting members appointed to compose any committee.
- (8) The deadline for submissions by staff and the public to the Committee Clerk of items for inclusion on the agenda for a committee meeting is 10 days prior to the meeting date.
- (9) Notice of Meetings

The Committee Clerk must give notice of the meeting, including confirmation of the time, place and date by:

- (a) Providing notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda to each member of the committee at least 72 hours prior to the time of the meeting; and
- (b) posting the agenda on the City's Internet website.

## **29. Appeal**

- (1) Wherever Council has delegated specific powers, duties and functions in a City bylaw to a staff member, this part will apply.
- (2) If a person wants Council to reconsider a decision made by a City employee or Committee to whom Council has delegated its powers, duties or functions, that person must submit a written request to the Corporate Officer. The reconsideration will be scheduled for a Council meeting as soon as all information necessary for the reconsideration can be prepared and distributed to Council.
- (3) The written request for reconsideration must contain the reasons why the person wishes to have the matter reconsidered.
- (4) The person requesting the reconsideration is entitled to receive a copy of any report which is submitted by City staff in response to the request for reconsideration in advance of the Council meeting at which the reconsideration will take place.
- (5) The person requesting the reconsideration may appear before Council at the Council meeting at which the reconsideration is taking place in order to present his or her position to Council.

- (6) When deliberating over the reconsideration, Council has the same authority that it delegated to the staff member.

### **30. General**

If any provision of this bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

### **31. Repeal**

Council Procedure Bylaw, 2004, No. 2537 and its amendments are repealed.

READ A FIRST AND SECOND this fourteenth day of January, 2013.

NOTICE WAS PLACED this twenty-fifth day of July and this thirtieth day of July, 2013

READ A THIRD TIME as amended this eighth day of July, 2013.

FINALLY ADOPTED this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CORPORATE OFFICER**





## EXPLANATORY MEMO

### COUNCIL PROCEDURE BYLAW, 2013, No. 2904

#### **PURPOSE:**

A thorough review of the Council Procedure bylaw was recently undertaken and a new bylaw drafted as a result. The general language has been updated throughout to provide clarity as necessary. Other changes to the bylaw include:

- Incorporation of the recent change to the term of the Deputy Mayor from 6 months to 2 months effective December, 2014;
- Revision of the Order of Business section to streamline both the meetings and minutes by consolidating items where they were previously discussed multiple times and to remove topic headings where there is no business to be discussed.
- Adoption of the Agenda has been added to the Order of Business section where new items and notices of motion/motions will be raised. Not only will this help to streamline the meeting but allow staff to create agenda item “markers” on the webstream which cannot be done without some notice of the item.
- Addition of a new section including basic rules on motions for information and clarity.
- Changing the start time of closed meetings to 3:00 pm or later to allow for an earlier start time when required.
- Addition of an “Acting Mayor” with the provision to serve the remainder of the term in the event the office is vacant.

#### July 8, 2013

- In addition to the above, since second reading additional changes have been made to the bylaw to add definitions and wording to accommodate “Community Spotlight” delegations and wording changes have been made to section 11 to clarify the position of and occasions for appointing an “Acting Mayor”.

Third reading should be given “as amended” if the changes are acceptable to Council.