



Town of Erin

Corporate Report

Department: Corporate Services

Business Unit: Legislative Services

**Presented/
Prepared By:** Lisa Campion, Director of Legislative Services
& Clerk

Report Number:
C2020-01

Meeting Date:
4/21/2020

Subject

Procedural By-law Amendment

Recommendation

Be it resolved that Council hereby receive report number C2020-01 "*Procedural By-law Amendment*" for information;

And that Council hereby approve the proposed by-law amendment as presented in Appendix A of this report.

Background

Bill 187 which received Royal Assent on March 19th, 2020 has authorized Councillors to participate remotely as a mechanism to obtain quorum during a state of emergency.

Staff have prepared proposed amendments to the procedural by-law to ensure that Council can continue to conduct business during a declared state of emergency.

The proposed amendments include but are not limited to the following provisions:

Members of Council or Committees may participate electronically in a Meeting that is either open or closed to the public and shall be counted in determining whether or not a quorum of members is present at any point in time;

Members must provide sufficient notice to the Clerk of their intent to participate electronically in a meeting to ensure the proper technology is enabled to make electronic participation available;

All votes during a meeting where some or all members are participating electronically shall be recorded votes;

Attendance at a Meeting by members of the public shall be in person unless an Emergency is declared by the Premier, Cabinet or the Head of Council under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, whereby attendance may be restricted by the Mayor to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all individuals.

In the event that members of the public are not permitted to attend a Regular Meeting of Council or Committee due to the emergency and electronic deputations by the public cannot be facilitated, the public will be requested to provide their comments in writing to the Clerk prior to the Meeting.

It is important to note that these provisions were drafted in accordance with the *Municipal Act 2001*, and the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020* and are time limited. Once an Emergency is terminated, the provisions will not be in effect. The legislative amendments provide that Councillors and Committee members may count towards a quorum which also means they are able to vote. Under normal circumstances, counting towards quorum and being able to vote while participating electronically is not permitted by the legislation.

Strategic Pillar

Service Excellence & Good Governance

Financial Impact

There is minimal cost implications of Councillors participating via teleconference. The remaining provisions have no financial impact.

Conclusion

That council hereby approve the proposed Procedural By-law amendments as presented in Appendix A.

Attachments

Appendix A: Proposed By-law to amend By-law number 16-21.

Lisa Campion

Director

Nathan Hyde

Chief Administrative Officer