Procedural By-Law Review – Public Input

Members of the Public were encouraged to submit input and feedback relating to the current procedural bylaw through a submission online. The submission portal was open from January 9th – January 31, 2022. Staff received two submissions.

Public Comments/Feedback

1. Public Meetings.

Administration (Planner/Staff) and Applicant (Developer) should not be allowed to consume public meeting time to reiterate their position.

The Public is allowed only two times in one year to speak or present before Council for 10 minutes at a time, or 20 minutes total on one topic in one year. Refer to Zoom public meeting Tridon Feb. 8 2021 (Zoom):

- Zoom Public meeting scheduled from 6 to 10 pm.
- The first two hours, 6 to 8 pm was consumed with reiteration of information from developer applicant (1 hour) and planner (1 hour) who are not representatives of the Public.
- Only two hours were left from 8pm to 10 pm for public input and delegations.
- 2. Refer to public meeting Tridon Feb. 8 2021:

It is my opinion that it was unfair procedure to the Public to "bundle" the 3 separate applications into one, thus allowing only 1 public meeting instead of the 3 public meetings that are allowed. All applications are due public meeting time.

- 3. Need a map outlining boundaries of electoral wards including populations and the names of Councillor Representatives.
- 4. Need an updated detailed flow chart to outline and clarify procedures and public time lines: including public notifications, council dates, and committee of whole projected time after public meeting.

Staff Comments

- 1. Public meetings are held under the Planning Act and there is currently no specific restrictions for Public Planning meetings in the current By-Law.
- 2. Planning Act outlines requirements for Public Meetings and combined application decisions do not relate to procedural By-Law.
- 3. This comment does not relate to the procedural bylaw.
- 4. Procedures and timelines for Planning Applications are outlined in the Planning Act. Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are set and notice provided per the Procedural By-Law and Notice By-Law.

- 5. Deferments: need more transparency including time lines for public.
- 6. Application information should have identifiable consistency in the title of the application throughout the procedure so that the public easily locate additional application documents when submitted by the applicant.
- 7. Need an unbiased Climate Change Professional (certified climatologist) to educate Council members when making any zoning changes for subdivision developments (similar to legal advice). Administration/Planning staff are not Climate Change Professionals therefore their input should be disregarded. As climate change is the #1 concern affecting the world this should be a priority and mandatory. All Councillors should be required to speak individually for at least 10 minutes on each zoning change amendment to demonstrate to the public their position on climate change ramifications locally. It is never too late to learn more about climate change. Ontario Newsroom
- 8. Developers should be discouraged from pre-approval advertising of proposed subdivisions.
- 9. Pre-approval endorsements from individuals or interest groups such as Chamber of Commerce, Real Estate Associations etc. should be discouraged.
- 10. Council meetings, whether in-person (town hall) or not, should be carried live on- stream with zoom dialogue capabilities. Committee of the Whole meetings should be live streamed for transparency.
- 11. All written submissions, petitions, including electronic messages (e-mail) from the Public to Council should be placed on the agenda, read at the next Council meeting, and not selectively "pulled" from a list by Councillors. This allows the Public to know that everyone has the opportunity and right to have their letter read at Council meeting.

- 5. Setting and Deferral of Meetings is provided in the Procedural By-Law.
- 6. Not a Procedural By-Law matter but is a takeaway for staff for review.
- 7. Not a Procedural By-Law matter.
- 8. Not a Procedural By-Law matter.
- 9. Not a Procedural By-Law matter.
- 10. Procedural By-Law provides for this. Current practice is to live stream regular council meetings, public meeting and Committee of the Wholes, recordings of meetings are available by request to the Clerk.
- 11. Procedural By-Law provides for notice and publishing of Council Agendas, Communication Items are listed on the Agenda and reviewed by Council prior to the meeting.

12. Monthly Agenda Calendar upgrade with more information: specific dates and times should be added each month to the calendar. For example: the date when the public can start to send in letters for next regular meeting and the date and time when the public has to stop sending in letters (deadline). (for example: the Tuesday before next regular meeting held twice a month on Mondays). As well any other deadlines and time frames, such as public meeting time lines, submission for delegation, etc. should be visible on the calendar.

12. Procedural By-Law provides that Council set meeting dates. The list of the set meetings approved by Council is available on the Minutes and Agenda's page. Procedural By-Law is linked and meeting dates are published to the Minutes and Agenda's page but is a takeaway for staff to review.

https://www.huroncounty.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Procedural-By-law-2020-053.pdf

Above is the Huron county procedural bylaw, updated in 2020, which the mayors and deputy mayors follow, and would make it easier for them if the SH, and all lower tier municipalities could use as reference for their own..

- 1. For language 2.8 proclamations, 2.9, 2.10, and 2.11 videotaping or audio, use of cell etc Items 225c) could be added for mayor, to support more leadership and development of strat plan, declaring an emergence
- 2. 226.1 a.. promote purposes of municipality, not self interests.. and positions of council are articulated rather than personal preference....(letters, positions should be shared with all of council, before mayor encouraged to write a letter of support, and make decision the selves..). Also like "refrain from advocating for particular vested groups.. (whether it is Pickleball, Churches,) Role of members is good language
- 3. 6. electronic meetings.. ? Consider Adit committee,, just for public involvement
- 4. 8.2 Use of 2 council meetings, monthly from 4-8 vs committee of whole....council meetings should be 3 hours..

Procedural bylaws are specific to municipalities and Council has authority to make changes.

- 1. Council historically has not made proclamations and no proclamations have been proposed in new by-law. Definition updates and changes have been proposed as part of the administrative review.
- 2. Roles are included in Procedural By-Law and changes proposed as part of the administrative review.
- 3. Council can establish Committees and electronic meetings per Procedural By-Law.
- 4. Council sets Council and Committee of the Whole meetings annually and per Procedural By-Law.

- 5. If all of the information is provided in the agenda ahead of time, and available to public there should not be a lot of questions to be answered at the meeting if there is then need to ask for staff report, not just an opinion.
- 6. If the plan is to use something like sole sources, then council should have opportunity or nudge to review their policy before meeting, vs having a recess to look it up.. and that policy should be available to public as well
- 7. 9.2. Advisory committees, vs Boards, vs AD Hoc and Special committees.. o language here for task forces, so just have committees
- 8. 11.3 Reporting would have all meetings recorded and reported, instead of individual councillors making deals about ball diamonds, and bringing to task force
- 9. 19.4 Education and training. like the clause that, any info does not advance the work of council. Do you need an item on 3 councillors and mayor opening and evaluating RFP and making a recommendation.
- 10. County also opens meeting with councillor issues.but if they have issues, like lights out that people and councillors are directed to fill out a service form.
- 11. General I SH bylaws re delegations.. questions and comments should take place at the time of the delegation, it is not deferred business, and not fair to the delegation that someone interprets their comments without them having a chance to further explain and staff should not have to write up a complaint to MPAC for example..

- 5. Agenda is published per Procedural By-Law.
- 6. The Procurement By-Law is on the website (Finance and Budget pages), Procedural By-law provides for a recess to be called.
- 7. Language has been updated as part of the administrative review.
- 8. Council sets process and establishes committees through Procedural By-Law.
- 9. Staff have proposed some changes as part of the administrative review and RFP's are regulated from the Procurement By-Law.
- 10. Council sets process through Procedural By-Law.
- 11. Council sets process through Procedural By-Law.

- 12. Comments and announcement. To be used for Information only? Seems to be used for complaints. There really is limited avenues for public input without committees that have public input, seems to be in the task forces, where certain members of the public are invited and present their case, and get funding, or have a rodeo committee, but when it comes to ball diamonds there are councillor discussions.. need to be consistent approach for input and communication to council.. and think it is now falling under the procedural bylaw,
- 12. Council sets process through Procedural By-Law. Staff have proposed some changes as part of the administrative review.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide input, and best practice, and feel free to contact if any questions