

The Corporation of the Town of Ajax By-law Number 20-2025

Being a by-law to govern the proceedings of Council and Standing Committees of
Council

Whereas Section 238 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended requires Council to pass a procedure by-law governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings;

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ajax hereby enacts as follows:

1. That "Appendix A" to this By-law be approved as the rules and procedures governing the proceedings of Council & Standing Committees.
2. That, for the purposes of compliance with Section 270 of the Municipal Act, 2001, the Town of Ajax Public Notice Policy (P138) shall constitute the Town's policy for the circumstances in which the municipality shall provide notice to the public and, if notice is to be provided, the form, manner and times notice shall be given.
3. The short title of this By-Law is the "Procedural By-Law," "Procedure By-law" or the "Rules of Procedure".
4. That By-law #76-2024 is hereby repealed.
5. That this By-law shall come into force and take effect immediately upon final passing.

READ a first and second time this
Twenty-fourth day of March, 2025.

READ a third time and passed this
Twenty-fourth day of March, 2025.

Shaun Collier
Mayor and CEO

Jaclyn Grossi
Clerk

Appendix 'A' – Rules & Procedures Governing Council & Standing Committee

Table of Contents

1. Definitions.....	4
2. Application / Suspending the Rules.....	6
3. Principles of the Procedure By-law.....	7
4. Duties	7
Council	7
Mayor/Standing Committee Chair	7
Clerk.....	8
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).....	9
Department Heads	9
Meeting Attendees	9
5. General Rules.....	9
Appointment of Deputy Mayor	9
Quorum	10
Remote Participation at Meetings.....	10
Recording and Broadcasting Meetings.....	11
Appointment of Alternate Member to Upper Tier Council	11
Closed Session Meetings / Openness and Transparency	12
Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest.....	12
Minutes.....	13
Delegations at Council & Standing Committees	13
Presentations	14
Conduct of Delegates & Presenters	15
Petitions.....	15
Administrative Corrections to Official Records	16
Location of Meetings	16
Regular Schedule of Meetings	16
6. Council	16
Inaugural Meeting of Council.....	16
Order of Business at Regular Meetings.....	17
Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands.....	17
Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest.....	17
Adoption of Minutes.....	17
Question Period.....	17
Delegations, Presentations, and Public Meetings	18
Correspondence	18
Reports.....	18
Regional Councillors' Reports	18
Business Arising from Notice of Motion.....	19
By-laws.....	19
Notice of Motion	19

New Business/Announcements	19
Confirming By-law	19
Adjournment	20
7. Council Information Package	20
8. Standing Committees	20
9. Community Affairs and Planning Committee (CAP)	21
Mandate	21
Chair	21
Order of Business at Regular Meetings	21
Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands	21
Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest	21
Adoption of Minutes	22
Public Meetings	22
Presentations/Reports	22
Adjournment	22
10. General Government Committee (GGC)	22
Mandate	22
Chair	22
Order of Business at Regular Meetings	22
Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands	23
Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest	23
Adoption of Minutes	23
Consent Agenda	23
Discussion & Presentations	23
Closed Session	23
Adjournment	24
11. Scheduling and Notice of Meetings	24
Agendas	24
Statutory Notice Requirements	24
Notice - Regular Meetings	24
Special Meetings	24
Emergency Meetings	25
Rescheduling of Meetings	25
Cancellation of Meetings	25
12. Rules of Debate	26
General Rules of Debate	26
Points of Order	26
Points of Privilege	26
13. Motions	27
Motions without Notice	27
Motions to Amend	28
Motions to Reconsider	28
Single Motion	29

14. Voting	29
Recorded Vote	29
Tied Vote	29
Dividing a Question	29
One Third Vote	30
15. Vetoes	30

1. Definitions

In this Procedure By-law,

- 1.1. "The Act" means the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001 c.25 as amended;
- 1.2. "Advisory Committee" means an ongoing Committee implemented by Council by way of by-law and comprised of residents, experts, Councillors and/or Staff;
- 1.3. "Alternate Member" means a Member appointed by Council to temporarily serve on the Upper Tier Council as set out in Section 5.18 of this by-law;
- 1.4. "Chief Administrative Officer" or "CAO" means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Ajax, or their designate;
- 1.5. "Clerk" means the Clerk of the Town of Ajax, or their designate;
- 1.6. "Committee Report" means a report of all actions taken by a Committee with respect to a particular agenda;
- 1.7. "Council" means the Council of the Town of Ajax;
- 1.8. "Chair" means the Chair of a Standing Committee or Council who presides over a meeting;
- 1.9. "Closed Session" means a meeting, or portion thereof, closed to the public, and has the same meaning as "In-Camera";
- 1.10. "Community Affairs and Planning Committee" or "CAP" means a Standing Committee of Council comprised of all members of Council;
- 1.11. "Confirming by-law" means a by-law passed for the purpose of giving general effect to a previous decision or proceeding of Council;
- 1.12. "Consent Agenda" means the portion of an agenda that may be approved by a single motion, without debate;
- 1.13. "Day" includes any day in a calendar year, including weekends and holidays;
- 1.14. "Department Head" means a Town employee who is the head of a department of the Town;
- 1.15. "Deputy Mayor" means the member appointed to act from time to time in place and stead of the Mayor;
- 1.16. "General Government Committee" or "GGC" means a Standing Committee of Council comprised of all members of Council;
- 1.17. "In-Camera" means a meeting, or portion thereof, closed to the public, and has the same meaning as "Closed Session";
- 1.18. "Integrity Commissioner" means the individual appointed by the municipality who reports to Council and who is responsible for performing in an independent manner the functions assigned by the municipality with respect to the Codes of Conduct, the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* (the "MCIA"), and the application of any procedures, rules and policies of the municipality and local boards governing the ethical behaviour of members of council and of local boards;
- 1.19. "Main Motion" means any motion which brings business before Council and/or Committee. Main motions yield to all secondary motions;
- 1.20. "Majority" means more than half, or;

If 7 members present: 4
If 6 members present: 4
If 5 members present: 3
If 4 members present: 3

- 1.21. "Mayor" means the head of Council, as defined in the Act;
- 1.22. "Majority vote" means an affirmative vote by the majority of members present and voting at a Meeting;
- 1.23. "Member" means a member of Council or a Standing Committee;
- 1.24. "Meeting" means any regular, special, or other meeting of Council or a Standing Committee where a quorum of members is present and members discuss or otherwise deal with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the Council or Standing Committee, as defined in the Act;
- 1.25. "One Third Vote" means a vote conducted in accordance with Section 284.11.1 of the Act requiring a total of 3 votes cast in favour.
- 1.26. "Pecuniary Interest" has the same meaning as the term has in the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. M. 50 (the "MCIA"), as amended or replaced from time to time;
- 1.27. "Petition" means a formal written request that appeals to Council with respect to a particular issue as set out in Sections 5.55 to 5.58 of this by-law;
- 1.28. "Point of Order" means drawing attention to a question or an infraction of this Procedure By-law;
- 1.29. "Provincial Priority" means the priorities prescribed by Ontario Regulation 580/22 for the purposes of Sections 284.10, 284.11 and 284.11.1 of the Act.
- 1.30. "Quorum" means the number of Members required for the legal conduct of the business of Council or a Standing Committee;
- 1.31. "Recorded Vote" means the taking of a written record of the name and the vote of each member who votes on a question;
- 1.32. "Rules of Procedure" means the rules and regulations governing the calling, place, proceedings of a Meeting as provided for in this by-law. The Rules of Procedure may also be referred to as the "Procedural By-law";
- 1.33. "Secondary Motion" means any privileged, incidental, or subsidiary motion concerning the manner or time of consideration of any matter before Council/Committee as opposed to the substance thereof;
- 1.34. "Standing Committee" means any subcommittee of Council or similar entity; typically refers to General Government Committee or Community Affairs and Planning Committee;
- 1.35. "Substantive Reports" means a report, either verbal or written, whereby Staff are required to gather data/information and perform an analysis of such data/information in order to draw a conclusion and possible action based on the analysis;
- 1.36. "To Adjourn" means to end a meeting;
- 1.37. "To Amend" means to alter a motion in a germane manner;

- 1.38. "To Call the Vote" means to stop debate and immediately proceed to vote on the motion;
- 1.39. "To Defer" means to postpone all discussion on a matter until a future date or time, one which is established as part of the motion;
- 1.40. "To Receive" means to acknowledge the receipt of a matter before Council or a Standing Committee, with no expectation of any future action being taken;
- 1.41. "To Recess" means to suspend a Meeting for a specified length of time;
- 1.42. "To Refer" means to direct a matter under discussion by Council or a Standing Committee to Staff or another Committee for further consideration or review;
- 1.43. "To Table" means to postpone a matter without setting a definite date for future discussion of a matter;
- 1.44. "Town" or "Municipality" means The Corporation of the Town of Ajax;
- 1.45. "Two Thirds of the Members Present" means two-thirds of the Members in attendance at a Meeting, and not disqualified from voting on a particular matter. Calculation of two thirds is accomplished by dividing the number of Members present by three and multiplying by two. Two thirds...
 - in respect of seven Members shall be five;
 - in respect of six Members shall be four;
 - in respect of five Members shall be four; and
 - in respect of four Members shall be three.
- 1.46. "Upper Tier Council" means the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham.
- 1.47. "Veto" means the use of powers granted to the head of Council under Section 284.11 or 284.16 of the Act.
- 1.48. "Veto Override" means a vote of two-thirds of the members of Council conducted in accordance with Section 284.11 paragraph (g) or Section 284.16 paragraph (5) of the Act, requiring a total of 5 votes cast in favour.

2. Application / Suspending the Rules

The Rules of Procedure contained in this by-law shall be observed in all proceedings of Council and Standing Committees, and shall be the rules and regulations for the order and dispatch of business.

- 2.1. The rules and regulations herein may be suspended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Members present unless otherwise provided for in any Act, and with the following exceptions:
 - 2.1.1. Provisions for quorum;
 - 2.1.2. Provisions for unanimous consent from Members in order to add an unscheduled item to a Special meeting agenda, and restriction from adding items to an Emergency Meeting agenda; and
 - 2.1.3. Provisions for Open Meetings.
- 2.2. In any case for which provision is not made herein, the procedure to be followed shall be determined by the Chair of the meeting.

3. Principles of the Procedure By-law

3.1. The principles of openness, transparency, and accountability to the public guide the Town's decision-making process. In the context of Council and other Standing Committee proceedings, this is accomplished by:

- 3.1.1. Ensuring the decision-making process is understood by the public and other stakeholders;
- 3.1.2. Providing access to information and opportunities for input by the public and other stakeholders consistent with the requirements of this by-law and other statutory requirements; and
- 3.1.3. Exercising and respecting individual and collective roles and responsibilities provided for in this Procedure By-law and other statutory requirements.

3.2. The following principles govern Council and Committee meetings:

- 3.2.1. Each Member has the right to be heard;
- 3.2.2. All Members have the right to information to help make decisions, unless otherwise prevented by law;
- 3.2.3. All Members have a right to an efficient meeting; and,
- 3.2.4. All Members have the right to be treated with respect and courtesy.

4. Duties

Council

- 4.1. The primary objective of Council shall be to practice and demonstrate excellence in local governance. All business addressed at Council shall be acted upon by the Members as to how that business addresses or corresponds to the public interest.
- 4.2. Members shall come prepared to every Meeting by having read all the material supplied, including agendas and Staff reports, to facilitate discussion and determination of any necessary actions.
- 4.3. Members shall:
 - 4.3.1. Vote on all motions put to a vote;
 - 4.3.2. Respect the Rules of Procedure in this by-law and comply with the Chair's rulings;
 - 4.3.3. Comply with the Ajax Council Code of Conduct; and
 - 4.3.4. Respect the confidentiality of matters discussed in Closed Session meetings and not disclose the subject or substance of these discussions unless authorized to do so.

Mayor/Standing Committee Chair

- 4.4. The Mayor/Chair shall serve as the presiding officer for the Meeting, call the meeting to order, address the business before Council/Committee, and rule on procedural matters.
- 4.5. If the Mayor/Chair does not attend a meeting within five minutes of the scheduled starting time of the meeting, the Deputy Mayor/Vice-Chair shall call the meeting to order and preside over the meeting until the arrival of the Mayor/Chair.

- 4.6. The Mayor/Chair or Deputy Mayor/Vice-Chair may, during a meeting, appoint another Member to preside over a meeting if required. While presiding over a meeting, the Member has and may exercise all the rights, powers, and authority of the Mayor/Chair under this by-law with the exception of the Special Powers and Duties of the Head of Council prescribed in Part VI.1 of the Act.
- 4.7. The Mayor/Chair shall recognize Members who wish to speak, and determine the order in which they are allowed to speak.
- 4.8. The Mayor/Chair shall receive and submit, in the proper manner, all motions presented by the Members and to put to a vote all questions, which are duly moved, and to announce the results of all such votes.
- 4.9. The Mayor/Chair may permit questions to be asked through the Mayor/Chair of any staff members, delegates or presenters at a Meeting, in order to provide Members with information to assist in any deliberations, and may afford delegates and presenters the opportunity to respond to answers provided by staff, provided that doing so does not interfere with the conduct of the meeting and delegates do not enter into debate with staff or Members of Council.
- 4.10. The Chair may, perform any of the following actions with respect to a meeting:
 - 4.10.1. Recess a Meeting for a period of time defined by the Chair;
 - 4.10.2. Advance or delay an item in the order of business on any Council or Standing Committee agenda;
- 4.11. The Mayor/Chair may speak and/or vote on any question.
- 4.12. The Mayor/Chair shall enforce, as necessary, the observance of order and decorum among Members, delegates, and visitors, and shall have the right to expel any person for improper conduct or disruption of the Meeting.

Clerk

- 4.13. The Clerk shall attend or cause a designate to attend all Meetings of Council and Standing Committees to take minutes and/or keep a record of all proceedings.
- 4.14. The Clerk shall ensure that Standing Committee Reports are put forward in such a way that the decisions contained therein can be considered by Council.
- 4.15. The Clerk shall be responsible for the management and coordination of Meeting agendas and related resolutions, by-laws, correspondence and records, and allow for public access to the same in accordance with the *Act*, the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 c. M. 56*, and other pertinent legislation.
- 4.16. The Clerk, when requested, shall provide advice on matters of procedure.
- 4.17. Subject to the rights afforded to others under this by-law or any statute, the Clerk shall be responsible for providing advice internally to ensure that recommendations made to Council or Standing Committee are within Council's jurisdiction to enact and that statutory and procedural requirements have been met prior to the addition of an item to an agenda.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

- 4.18. The CAO shall assist Council in discharging its responsibilities and, in an objective manner, aid Members in such a way that they are able to carry out their duties.
- 4.19. The CAO shall review, or cause to be reviewed, all Substantive Reports and recommendations prior to their submission to Council or Standing Committee, to ensure that they accurately reflect the goals and objectives of the Town.
- 4.20. The CAO shall attend all Council Meetings, and when invited or when deemed necessary to do so, shall attend or cause a designate to attend Standing Committee Meetings and shall be responsible for recommending reports for submission to Council or Standing Committees.

Department Heads

- 4.21. Department Heads shall assist the CAO in the discharge of their duties and in the development of strategies for the implementation of the policies of Council.
- 4.22. Department Heads shall review all reports and recommendations originating from their departments to ensure accuracy and propriety.
- 4.23. Department Heads shall attend or cause a designate to attend all Council Meetings, and when invited or when deemed necessary to do so, shall attend or cause a designate to attend Standing Committee Meetings.
- 4.24. Department Heads shall be encouraged to provide Council/Standing Committee their professional opinion with respect to the effectiveness of particular Council policies or programs and to identify any possible improvements thereto, but shall avoid becoming involved in Council's policymaking role.

Meeting Attendees

- 4.25. No persons, other than Council Members and Town Staff, are permitted to approach the area where Council and Staff are seated unless invited by the Mayor/Chair to do so.
- 4.26. Attendees shall submit all materials for Council or Standing Committees through the Clerk.
- 4.27. Attendees shall maintain order and not heckle or engage in conversations, display placards or props, or engage in any behavior that may be considered disruptive.
- 4.28. Attendees shall ensure that all personal digital devices are turned off or set to a silent mode during a Meeting.
- 4.29. Attendees participating remotely shall not activate their camera or microphone unless invited by the Mayor/Chair to do so.

5. General Rules

Appointment of Deputy Mayor

- 5.1. Council shall, by way of by-law or resolution, appoint a Member of the Council to act from time to time in the place of the Mayor when the Mayor is absent from the municipality or absent through illness, and while so acting, such Member has and may exercise all the rights, powers, and authority of the Mayor. For greater certainty, the rights, powers and authority provided to the Deputy Mayor in the absence of the Mayor do not

include powers assigned to the head of Council pursuant to Part VI.1 of the Act.

- 5.2. Council may, by way of resolution or by-law and with the consent of the Mayor, appoint a Member to act in the place of the Mayor on any board, commission, or other body of which the Mayor is a member by virtue of office, where applicable.
- 5.3. Notwithstanding Sections 5.1 and 5.2, Council may delegate to the Mayor the authority to appoint another Member as Deputy Mayor.

Quorum

- 5.4. A quorum of Council or a Standing Committee shall be more than 50% of the Members of Council/the Committee.
- 5.5. If a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for a Meeting, the Clerk or designate shall record the names of the Members present and the Meeting shall stand adjourned until the date of the next regular Meeting or other Meeting called in accordance with the provisions of this by-law.
- 5.6. Where there is an insufficient number of voting Members to constitute a quorum due to a provision of the *MCI/A*, the remaining Members of Council constitute quorum provided that such number is not less than two (2).
- 5.7. Members are encouraged to notify the Clerk in advance of the Meeting when the Member is aware that they will be absent from any Meeting of Council or a Standing Committee.

Remote Participation at Meetings

- 5.8. Council Members, staff, and members of the public are permitted to participate in meetings remotely via electronic means (e.g. video or audio teleconference).
- 5.9. Council Members participating remotely shall have all the same rights and responsibilities as if they were in physical attendance. A Council Member who is remotely participating in a meeting shall be counted in determining whether or not a quorum of members is present at any point in time, and may participate electronically in any portion of a meeting that is closed to the public. Where a Member of Council encounters technical difficulties or is otherwise unable to participate remotely in a meeting, such circumstances shall not affect the validity of the meeting or any action taken at the meeting, provided that quorum is not lost during the meeting.
- 5.10. Where a member of the public requests to participate remotely in a meeting, the Clerk shall take such steps as are necessary to enable the individual to participate remotely in the meeting. Where a member of the public encounters technical difficulties or is otherwise unable to participate remotely in a meeting, such circumstances shall not affect the validity of the meeting, or any action taken at the meeting. For greater clarity, remote participation is a convenience offered to the public and statutory rights under applicable legislation are best preserved by participating in meetings in person.
- 5.11. Members of the public participating remotely are expected to follow all rules of decorum as described Section 5.52 in these procedures.
- 5.12. A meeting of Council or any of its Standing Committees may be held in a fully electronic/remote format if deemed necessary by the Mayor in consultation with the Clerk. Where a decision to hold a meeting in a fully electronic/remote format is made, the Clerk or their designate shall notify

all participants and the public as soon as possible in advance of the meeting.

5.13. Members of the public wishing to participate remotely shall register with the Clerk as follows:

5.13.1. For meetings scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m. or later, registration requests shall be received on or before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting;

5.13.2. For all other meetings, registration requests shall be received by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the last business day immediately preceding the day of the meeting; and,

5.13.3. The date and timestamp of the email as displayed by the Town's email system shall determine whether these requirements have been met.

Recording and Broadcasting Meetings

5.14. All meetings of Council and its Standing Committees may be audio and/or video recorded and may be broadcast publicly by the Town. Closed Session portions of all meetings shall not be recorded or broadcast.

5.15. Where the Town records and/or broadcasts all or a portion of a meeting of Council or its Standing Committees, the recording and/or broadcast of the meeting shall be considered a record created for convenience only. For greater clarity, the Minutes are the official record of all meetings.

5.16. Members of the public in attendance at a meeting may record or broadcast meetings from their personal devices, provided that doing so is not disruptive to the Meeting or to other attendees. Attendees invited to participate in a Closed Session portion of a meeting shall not record or broadcast any portion of a meeting held in Closed Session.

5.17. Where a meeting is broadcast publicly by the Town, failure of the broadcast and/or recording for any reason shall not invalidate the meeting, or any action taken at the meeting.

Appointment of Alternate Member to Upper Tier Council

5.18. Council may appoint one of its Members as an Alternate Member of the Upper Tier Council to act in place of any Regional Councillor when they are unable to attend a meeting of the Upper Tier Council for any reason, subject to the following limitations:

5.18.1. No more than one Alternate Member may be appointed during the term of Council;

5.18.2. Notwithstanding Section 5.18.1, if the seat of the appointed Alternate Member becomes vacant, Council may appoint another of its members as an Alternate Member for the remainder of the term of Council;

5.18.3. Council may not appoint an alternate for the Alternate Member; and

5.18.4. When acting in their capacity as an Alternate Member on the Upper Tier Council, the Alternate Member shall adhere to all policies, procedures, practices, and codes of conduct established by the Upper Tier Council.

Closed Session Meetings / Openness and Transparency

- 5.19. All proceedings of Council and Standing Committees shall be open to the public, except where a matter meets one or more of the criteria listed in Section 239(2) and 239(3.1) of the Act. In such a case, Council or the Standing Committee may choose to consider the matter in a Closed Session meeting, but is not required to do so.
- 5.20. A Meeting shall be closed if the subject matter being considered is a request under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and Council is the head of the institution for the purposes of that Act, or if the Meeting is regarding an ongoing Ombudsman investigation respecting the municipality, a local board or a municipally-controlled corporation.
- 5.21. Before holding a Meeting or part of a Meeting that is to be closed to the public, Council or the Standing Committee must state by resolution the fact of the holding of a Closed Session, the general nature of the matter to be considered at the Closed Session, and the legislative provision that permits the item to be considered in Closed Session.
- 5.22. The Clerk shall advise the Chair if, in their opinion, the issue (or portion thereof) being discussed at a Closed Session is not appropriate in accordance with the terms of the Act and in accordance with the provisions of this by-law.
- 5.23. Voting shall not be permitted in a Closed Session except when the vote is for a procedural matter or for giving directions or instructions to officers, employees or agents of the municipality or persons retained under contract with the municipality.
- 5.24. Where appropriate and where it does not conflict with the best interests of the municipality, Council/Committee shall rise and report any decisions made in a Closed Session under Section 5.23, immediately upon reconvening in Open Session.

Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

- 5.25. All Members shall govern themselves at any Meeting in accordance with the *MCIA* respecting any disclosure of pecuniary interest. It is the responsibility of the Member to identify and disclose any pecuniary interest.
- 5.26. Prior to any consideration of a matter in which a member has a pecuniary interest, the Member shall disclose the pecuniary interest including the general nature thereof, and shall not take part in the discussion of or vote on any question in respect to the matter, and shall not attempt in any way, whether before, during or after the Meeting, to influence the voting on any such question.
- 5.27. Where the Meeting is not open to the public, in addition to declaring the conflict, the Member shall immediately leave the Meeting or the part of the Meeting during which the matter is under consideration.
- 5.28. Where a Member is absent from a Meeting which includes a matter on which they have a pecuniary interest, the Member shall disclose this interest at the next Meeting they attend.
- 5.29. The disclosure of pecuniary interest shall be recorded in the minutes of the Meeting, and where the Meeting was open to the public, the general nature of such disclosure.

- 5.30. At a meeting at which a member discloses a pecuniary interest or as soon as possible afterwards, the Member shall file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk.
- 5.31. The Clerk shall establish and maintain a registry in which shall be kept a copy of each statement of pecuniary interest filed and a copy of each declaration recorded in the minutes of a meeting, and the registry shall be made available for public inspection.
- 5.32. Should the Mayor encounter a direct, or indirect, pecuniary interest in any matter associated with the exercise of any power under Part VI.1 of the Act, they shall:
 - 5.32.1. Disclose the interest and its general nature in writing with the Clerk;
 - 5.32.2. Refrain from exercising any power or duty with respect to the matter; and,
 - 5.32.3. Shall not influence any decision or recommendation of the municipality that results from consideration of the matter.
- 5.33. Should the Mayor encounter a direct, or indirect, pecuniary interest in any budgetary matter under Subsection 284.16(2) of the Act:
 - 5.33.1. Council may pass a resolution to amend the proposed budget with respect to the matter; and,
 - 5.33.2. The Mayor may not Veto the resolution.

Minutes

- 5.34. The Clerk shall cause minutes to be taken of all meetings of Council and its Standing Committees, which shall include:
 - 5.34.1. The place, date and time of the meeting;
 - 5.34.2. The names of the presiding officer or officers and the record of attendance of the Members; should a Member enter after the commencement of a Meeting or leave prior to adjournment, the time shall be noted; and
 - 5.34.3. All other proceedings without note or comment.

Delegations at Council & Standing Committees

- 5.35. Persons desiring to verbally present information on matters of fact or to make a request to Council shall give notice, including the subject of their address, to the Clerk no later than noon ten days prior to the Meeting.
- 5.36. The Clerk may decline to grant a request for delegation if the subject matter pertains to personnel matters, labour relations, ongoing legal proceedings, solicitation of business, political parties, or if it is otherwise apparent that the proposed delegation is not suitable for a meeting of Council. Individuals wishing to appear as a delegation may be encouraged by a Member or a Staff person to consider resolving an issue or concern with Staff in lieu of, or prior to, submitting a request for delegation.
- 5.37. Notwithstanding Section 5.35, a person wishing to make a delegation in-person with respect to a matter before the Community Affairs and Planning Committee for which the public has been invited to make comment, or has been given notice of the Meeting under the *Planning Act* R.S.O. 1990 c. P. 13 (the "Planning Act") or any other legislation or regulation, as required, is not required to give written notice nor be listed on the agenda.

- 5.37.1. Notwithstanding Section 5.37, a person wishing to make a delegation remotely via electronic means with respect to a matter before the Community Affairs and Planning Committee for which the public has been invited to make comment, or has been given notice of the Meeting under the *Planning Act* R.S.O. 1990 c. P. 13 (the "Planning Act") or any other legislation or regulation, as required, is required to give written notice to the Clerk as described in Section 5.13.
- 5.38. Notwithstanding Section 5.35, no person shall be permitted to speak to Council requesting consideration of a matter that is before the Community Affairs and Planning Committee for a zoning by-law amendment, official plan amendment or any other matter requiring a public meeting under the *Planning Act*, or any other legislation or regulation prior to the date of the scheduled statutory public meeting. Also, no person shall be permitted to speak to Council on a matter that has been the subject of a public meeting at a Standing Committee and where Council has not yet decided the matter.
- 5.39. Notwithstanding Section 5.35, delegations shall not be permitted at General Government Committee (GGC) and requesters shall be directed to the appropriate meeting of Council to make their delegation. Persons wishing to speak to a matter that is scheduled for consideration at GGC may request that the rules of procedure be suspended to hear an unscheduled delegation, in accordance with Section 2.1 of these procedures. Delegates at GGC are expected to follow all rules of conduct for delegates specified in Sections 5.52 to 5.54 of these procedures.
- 5.40. Delegations shall be permitted to speak on a matter only once and be limited to speak for no more than five minutes for individual delegations, or ten minutes for group delegations. Where there are numerous delegates taking the same position on a matter, they are encouraged to select a spokesperson to present their views. Delegations are encouraged not to repeat information presented by an earlier delegation. Where a delegate's allocated time is interrupted by a point of order or privilege, the Chair may, at their discretion, extend the time allocation accordingly.
- 5.41. The Clerk shall operate a speech timer that is visible to the Chair, Members, delegate(s), and the public. At the conclusion of the allotted time, the Chair shall either ask the delegate to conclude their remarks or entertain motions to extend the time allocation.
- 5.42. Members may request an extension of the allotted time for a maximum of up to five additional minutes, which may be approved by resolution of Council.
- 5.43. Members shall be permitted to ask questions of delegates but shall not enter into debate with such persons.
- 5.44. Delegations will typically be heard prior to presentations.
- 5.45. Notwithstanding Section 5.35, delegations respecting a matter which Council will be rendering a decision on, appearing on a regular Council agenda shall be permitted to register following agenda publication, provided the request is received by the Clerk no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the last business day immediately preceding the day of the meeting.

Presentations

- 5.46. From time to time, Town Staff and certain persons from partner organizations, other government bodies, and dignitaries, may be granted

presentation status from the Clerk in order to inform Members of matters of considerable significance to the Town.

- 5.47. Persons must request and be granted presentation status from the Clerk by noon ten days prior to the Council or Committee Meeting.
- 5.48. Presenters will be granted ten minutes to speak for their presentation. Where a presenter's allocated time is interrupted by a point of order or privilege, the Chair may, at their discretion, extend the time allocation accordingly.
- 5.49. The Clerk shall operate a speech timer that is visible to the Chair, Members, presenter(s), and the public. At the conclusion of the allotted time, the Chair shall either ask the presenter to conclude their remarks or entertain motions to extend the time allocation.
- 5.50. Members may request an extension of the allotted time for a maximum of five additional minutes, which may be approved by resolution of Council.
- 5.51. Where possible, presentations from outside individuals or groups will be heard prior to presentations from Town Staff.

Conduct of Delegates & Presenters

- 5.52. Persons delegating or presenting to Council or a Standing Committee shall not:
 - 5.52.1. Speak disrespectfully of any person;
 - 5.52.2. Use offensive words;
 - 5.52.3. Speak on any subject other than the subject for which they have received approval to address Council/Committee;
 - 5.52.4. Disobey the decision of the Mayor/Chair or Council/Committee;
 - 5.52.5. Enter into cross-debate with other delegates/presenters, Town Staff, Members, or the Chair.
- 5.53. The Mayor/Chair, with the assistance of the Clerk, shall determine a logical and fair speaking order for the presenter(s). The decision of the Mayor/Chair under this section is final.
- 5.54. Delegates/presenters will not be permitted to assume any unused time allocated to another delegation or presentation.

Petitions

- 5.55. Petitions submitted to Council must contain a concise, clearly worded and respectful request that Council take, or refrain from taking, some action in response to an alleged grievance, issue, or matter of Town policy. Petitions without such a request (i.e. documents consisting solely of statements of opinion or statements of grievance) cannot be accepted as petitions. The action sought must fall within Council's jurisdiction and cannot pertain to the jurisdiction of the Upper Tier Council or the provincial or federal government.
- 5.56. All petitions shall include at minimum, a statement of the subject matter of the petition and the full name and physical address of all signatories.
- 5.57. The Clerk shall determine whether a petition submitted to Council is valid. A petition shall be deemed to be valid if it substantially complies with Sections 5.55 and 5.56 of this by-law, and if in the opinion of the Clerk any deficiencies noted do not substantially detract from the integrity of the

petition. A petition not deemed valid by the Clerk shall be referred back to the submitter with an explanation as to why the petition is not valid. Petitioners may re-submit petitions in a valid form if they so choose.

- 5.58. When a submitted petition is deemed valid, the Clerk shall circulate the petition in its entirety to Council, the Chief Administrative Officer, and relevant Department Head(s). As soon as practicable, valid petitions shall be included on the Council Agenda as an item of Correspondence with a recommendation either to receive for information or a referral back to staff for further review and recommendations. The Clerk shall notify the petitioner(s) when the petition will be included on a Council Meeting agenda. Staff may submit accompanying correspondence to Council regarding the petition and the recommendation as needed.

Administrative Corrections to Official Records

- 5.59. The Clerk is authorized to make administrative corrections to official records of Council business, including agendas, minutes, and by-laws, and in such cases the Clerk shall document any corrections made to ensure their conformity with the direction provided by Council and any relevant governing legislation, as the case may be.

Location of Meetings

- 5.60. Regular Meetings of Council and its Standing Committees shall be held at Town Hall, 65 Harwood Avenue S, in the Council Chambers.
- 5.61. Special and Emergency Meetings may be held at an alternate location within the municipality or in an adjacent municipality as determined by the Mayor in consultation with the Clerk when appropriate.

Regular Schedule of Meetings

- 5.62. All regular meetings of Council and its Standing Committees shall be held on the following schedule, unless such a day is a public or civic holiday in which case they shall meet at the same hour on the next following day which is not a holiday:
- 5.62.1. Community Affairs and Public Planning Committee (CAP) shall be held on the first Monday of each month starting at 1:00 p.m.
- 5.62.2. General Government Committee (GGC) shall be held on the second Monday of each month starting at 1:00 p.m. A scheduled Closed Session of the GGC may follow after the open meeting.
- 5.62.3. Council shall be held on the third Monday of each month, starting at 1:00 p.m.
- 5.63. No regular meetings will be scheduled for the months of July and August.
- 5.64. The Clerk shall prepare a schedule of regular Meetings of Council and its Standing Committees annually by October 1 of the previous year, and provide it to Council and the public for their information.

6. Council

Inaugural Meeting of Council

- 6.1. Following a regular municipal election, the Inaugural Meeting shall be held no later than 31 days after the new term of office commences, on such a date, at such time and place as coordinated by the Clerk.

Order of Business at Regular Meetings

- 6.2. The Clerk shall prepare and cause to be circulated for the use of Members at Meetings of Council, an agenda listing the Order of Business, which shall contain the following general headings:

Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Adoption of Minutes

Question Period

Delegations, Presentations, and Public Meetings

Correspondence

Reports

Regional Councillors' Reports

Business Arising from Notice of Motion

By-laws

Notice of Motion

New Business/Announcements

Confirming Bylaw

Adjournment

- 6.3. All business shall be taken up in the order in which it appears on the agenda unless otherwise decided by the Mayor/Chair.

Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands

- 6.4. As soon after the hour fixed for holding the Meeting of the Council as a quorum is present, the Mayor shall take the Chair, call the Members to order, and read the acknowledgement of traditional treaty lands.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

- 6.5. Members shall disclose any pecuniary interests with respect to matters on the meeting's agenda in accordance with Sections 5.25 to 5.33 of these procedures.

Adoption of Minutes

- 6.6. Draft minutes of the last regular Meeting of Council and of Special Council Meetings held subsequent to the last regular Meeting shall be included in the agenda where such minutes are ready for adoption and may be adopted by Council without having been read aloud at the Meeting at which the question of their adoption is considered.

Question Period

- 6.7. An opportunity will be provided for any member of the public to ask the Mayor a question pertaining to any matter appearing on the Council agenda. All questions will be answered by the Mayor, unless in the Mayor's opinion the answer could be better provided by another Member of Council or a member of Town staff. In the interest of expediency, the

Mayor/Chair may impose time limitations on the questions asked by members of Council and the public.

Delegations, Presentations, and Public Meetings

- 6.8. Persons desiring to verbally present information or make a request to Council may do so as per Sections 5.35 to 5.45 of this by-law.

Correspondence

- 6.9. Every written communication intended for presentation to Council must be legibly written, typed, or printed, and delivered to the Clerk.
- 6.10. Items of correspondence intended for Council pertaining to an item on an agenda, shall be received not later than noon ten days prior to the regular Meeting of Council.
- 6.11. Items of correspondence included in the agenda may include recommendations from Staff related to the matter.
- 6.12. Certain items of correspondence not requesting or requiring any action by Council may be circulated by the Clerk to Members of Council, the CAO, and applicable Staff for their information or be included in the Council Information Package in accordance with section 7.
- 6.13. If in the opinion of the Clerk, the correspondence contains obscene or improper content or language, is anonymous, addresses a matter that has already been decided by Council, is related to personnel matters, labour relations, ongoing legal proceedings, political parties, or solicitation of business, or does not bear sufficient relevance to local governance or matters affecting or of interest to the Town, the Clerk may exclude the item from the agenda.
- 6.14. A Motion with respect to any item of correspondence shall be in order provided it is moved and seconded, with the exception that a Motion to endorse an item of correspondence shall be out of order if the correspondence was sent by a Member to an external party.

Reports

- 6.15. The following reports to Council will be listed on the agenda:
- 6.15.1. Community Affairs and Planning Committee
 - 6.15.2. General Government Committee
 - 6.15.3. Departmental Reports
- 6.16. Committee Reports may be dealt with by a single resolution for each report listed in the agenda; or, any Member may request that one or more recommendations contained in the report be separated and dealt with individually.
- 6.17. The 'Departmental Reports' portion of the agenda shall include any Staff report that due to timing, urgency, expediency, or public importance, must be considered by Council without first being presented to one of the Standing Committees. From time to time, it may also include a report from the Ajax Library. Department Reports may be dealt with by a single resolution to adopt the recommendations within all reports.

Regional Councillors' Reports

- 6.18. The Regional Councillors may report to Council, either in writing or verbally, on any business at Regional Council or its committees. These

reports, if in writing and received by the Clerk in time for publication, shall be circulated with the agenda.

Business Arising from Notice of Motion

6.19. A Notice of Motion properly presented as per Sections 6.24 to 6.27, shall be listed and circulated in the agenda, and shall be dealt with at this time.

By-laws

6.20. By-laws shall be introduced upon motion by a Member, and any number of by-laws may be introduced together in one motion. Council shall, at the request of a Member, deal separately with any by-law.

6.21. By-laws which have been passed by the Council shall be numbered, dated and sealed with the seal of the Town and signed by the Mayor and Clerk or their designates, and shall be retained under the control of the Clerk.

6.22. By-laws imposed by order of the Ontario Land Tribunal, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, or any other applicable person or body having jurisdiction, shall be numbered, added to an agenda for transparency and recordkeeping purposes, and shall be retained under the control of the Clerk.

6.23. The Clerk is authorized to amend by-laws to identify the date on which by-laws come into effect, when necessary.

Notice of Motion

6.24. Motions introducing new matters, except for motions listed under Sections 14.13.8, 14.13.9 and 14.13.10, shall be given in writing by the mover:

6.24.1. at a Meeting of Council, but shall not be debated until the next regular Meeting of Council; or

6.24.2. delivered to the Clerk and distributed to Council not later than noon ten days prior to the date of the Meeting at which time the motion is to be introduced and debated.

6.25. Where notice of motion has been given, the motion shall be included in the agenda, under "Business Arising from Notice of Motion" for the next regular Meeting of Council and for each succeeding Meeting until the motion is considered or otherwise disposed of.

6.26. When a Member's notice of motion has been called from the Chair at two successive Meetings and not proceeded with, it shall be removed from the agenda unless Council decides otherwise.

6.27. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, a motion introducing new matters may be introduced without notice by suspension of the rules.

New Business/Announcements

6.28. A period will be allowed for Members to bring matters of public interest before Council for information. Each member shall be limited to five minutes, and statements shall not be intentionally controversial in nature.

Confirming By-law

6.29. A by-law to confirm the proceedings and resolutions of Council at the meeting shall be included for adoption at the meeting.

Adjournment

- 6.30. If all matters in the order of business have concluded on the meeting's agenda, the Mayor/Chair may adjourn the meeting.
- 6.31. Notwithstanding Section 6.30 members may vote to adjourn a meeting at any time, except when considering a by-law described in Section 14.

7. Council Information Package

- 7.1. The Clerk shall prepare a Council Information Package, listing items received by the Clerk for information of Council, to be delivered electronically monthly, or as frequently as may be required, and posted on the Town's Website.
- 7.2. The Council Information Package shall include:
 - 7.2.1. Items of Correspondence not pertaining to a subject matter or item on a Council or Committee meeting agenda;
 - 7.2.2. Items of Correspondence and Memoranda prepared by staff that are addressed to all Members;
 - 7.2.3. Summary of Advisory Committees Activities;
 - 7.2.4. Summary of proclamations issued; and
 - 7.2.5. Any other items of correspondence deemed appropriate by the Clerk.
- 7.3. Correspondence excluded from an agenda in accordance with section 6.13, may also be excluded from the Council Information Package.
- 7.4. Where the Clerk receives multiple copies of correspondence containing the same or similar information (such as a form letter or templates), the Clerk may include one copy of the correspondence and provide a summary of the remainder received.
- 7.5. The Clerk may summarize any communications and any Member of Council or the public shall be granted access to the originally submitted communication upon request.
- 7.6. A Member of Council may request in writing to the Clerk that any item from the Council Information Package be included on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled Meeting of Council. All requests shall be submitted to the Clerk not later than noon ten days prior to the Meeting of Council.

8. Standing Committees

- 8.1. There shall be two Standing Committees of Council, being the Community Affairs and Planning Committee (CAP) and the General Government Committee (GGC).
- 8.2. All members of Council shall be appointed to all Standing Committees.
- 8.3. Standing Committees shall report to Council on all matters connected with their mandate or referred to them by Council, and shall recommend to Council such actions as they deem necessary.
- 8.4. The record of the proceedings of the Standing Committees, as presented to Council, shall be in the form of a report to Council which shall contain:
 - 8.4.1. The commencement time of the Meeting;

- 8.4.2. The names of the Members present; should a Member enter after the commencement of a Meeting or leave prior to adjournment, the time shall be noted;
- 8.4.3. Any disclosure of pecuniary interest by any Member;
- 8.4.4. A record of each item before the Committee for consideration; and
- 8.4.5. All substantive resolutions recommended to Council based on the items before the Committee for consideration.

9. Community Affairs and Planning Committee (CAP)

Mandate

- 9.1. The Community Affairs and Planning Committee is mandated with holding statutory public meetings required under the *Planning Act* or other legislation or regulations, any other matter deemed to require public consultation, and such other matters as may be referred to the Committee.

Chair

- 9.2. CAP shall be chaired by both Local and Regional Councillors on a rotating basis, in order of ascending ward number. The Vice-Chair shall be the Local or Regional Councillor representing the same ward as the Chair, and shall also be listed on each agenda to act in the absence of the Chair. Local and Regional Councillors shall alternate roles between Chair and Vice-Chair every three months. The rotation of Chairs shall be established annually within the schedule of meetings for the subsequent year. In the absence of both the designated Chair and Vice-Chair, the Members present shall appoint a Member who shall preside over the Meeting, or until the arrival of the Chair or Vice-Chair.

Order of Business at Regular Meetings

- 9.3. The Clerk or their designate shall be the secretary of the Committee, and shall prepare and circulate an agenda for each Meeting listing the Order of Business, which shall contain the following matters:

Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Adoption of Minutes

Public Meetings

Presentations/Reports

Adjournment

- 9.4. All business shall be taken up in the order in which it appears on the agenda unless otherwise decided by the Chair.

Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands

- 9.5. As soon after the hour fixed for holding the CAP meeting as a quorum is present, the Chair shall call the Members to order and read the acknowledgement of traditional treaty lands.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

- 9.6. Members shall disclose any pecuniary interests with respect to matters on the meeting's agenda in accordance with Sections 5.25 to 5.33 of these procedures.

Adoption of Minutes

- 9.7. Minutes of the last regular CAP meeting and of all Special CAP meetings held subsequent to the last regular meeting shall be included in the agenda and may be adopted by the Committee without having been read aloud at the meeting at which the question of their adoption is considered.

Public Meetings

- 9.8. Public Meetings required under the *Planning Act* or any other legislation or regulation shall be held to obtain public comment on an application or other matter during this portion of the meeting. Other matters for which Council, the Standing Committee or Staff have deemed it expedient to invite public comment may also be addressed at this time.
- 9.9. Delegations received during a Public Meeting shall be heard first from any member of the public attending the meeting in-person, followed by any members of the public registered to participate remotely via electronic means. The Chair, in consultation with the Clerk, may accommodate a different order of speakers where deemed possible and appropriate.

Presentations/Reports

- 9.10. Other presentations and reports pertaining to the mandate of the Community Affairs and Planning Committee which do not require a public meeting may be considered during this portion of the meeting.

Adjournment

- 9.11. If all matters in the order of business have concluded on the meeting's agenda, the Chair may adjourn the meeting.
- 9.12. Notwithstanding Section 9.11, members may vote to adjourn a meeting at any time.

10. General Government Committee (GGC)

Mandate

- 10.1. The General Government Committee makes recommendations to Council on levels of service, corporate and operational policies, personnel matters, budgetary matters, and such other matters that may be referred to the Committee.

Chair

- 10.2. GGC shall be chaired by both Local and Regional Councillors on a rotating basis, in order of ascending ward number. The Vice-Chair shall be the Local or Regional Councillor representing the same ward as the Chair, and shall also be listed on each agenda to act in the absence of the Chair. Local and Regional Councillors shall alternate roles between Chair and Vice-Chair every three months. The rotation of Chairs shall be established annually within the schedule of meetings for the subsequent year. In the absence of both the designated Chair and Vice-Chair, the Members present shall appoint a Member who shall preside over the Meeting, or until the arrival of the Chair or Vice-Chair.

Order of Business at Regular Meetings

- 10.3. The Clerk or an employee of the Town designated by the Clerk shall be secretary of the GGC and they shall prepare and cause to be circulated for the use of the Members at the regular Meetings of the GGC, an agenda listing the Order of Business, which shall contain the following matters:

Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

Adoption of Minutes

Consent Agenda

Discussion & Presentations

Closed Session

Adjournment

- 10.4. All business shall be taken up in the order in which it appears on the agenda unless otherwise decided by the Chair, with the general consent of the Members present.

Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Traditional Treaty Lands

- 10.5. As soon after the hour fixed for holding the GGC meeting as a quorum is present, the Chair shall call the Members to order and read the acknowledgement of traditional treaty lands.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

- 10.6. Members shall disclose any pecuniary interests with respect to matters on the meeting's agenda in accordance with Sections 5.25 to 5.33 of these procedures.

Adoption of Minutes

- 10.7. Minutes of the last regular GGC meeting and of all Special GGC meetings held subsequent to the last regular meeting shall be included in the agenda and may be adopted by the Committee without having been read aloud at the meeting at which the question of their adoption is considered.

Consent Agenda

- 10.8. Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine, and all items on the Consent Agenda may be approved by one motion. Any item on the Consent Agenda may be separated upon request of any Member and addressed by the Committee. Members are encouraged to provide notice to the Clerk or their designate of items intended to be separated for discussion by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, such that the necessary staff can be made available.

Discussion & Presentations

- 10.9. Discussion & Presentation items include all matters that, in the opinion of staff, require a formal presentation or discussion of a matter in detail. Discussion & Presentation items may include a formal report and recommendations from staff, or may be verbal only.

Closed Session

- 10.10. If necessary, a Closed Session of GGC may be scheduled to be held following the conclusion of all other matters on the meeting agenda, and shall be conducted in accordance with Sections 5.19 to 5.24 of these procedures.
- 10.11. Notwithstanding Section 10.10, the Committee may convene into a Closed Session at any time in accordance with Sections 5.19 to 5.24 of these procedures.

Adjournment

10.12. If all matters in the order of business have concluded on the meeting's agenda, the Chair may adjourn the meeting.

10.13. Notwithstanding Section 10.12, members may vote to adjourn a meeting at any time.

11. Scheduling and Notice of Meetings

Agendas

11.1. Meeting agendas shall be published on the Town website a minimum of six days in advance of the Meeting.

11.2. Late/separate circulations and addendum/revised agendas are to be avoided wherever possible. However, where necessary, addendum or revised agenda items will be circulated to Members electronically and posted on the Town website as soon as possible.

11.3. Lack of sufficient notice or late agenda distribution shall not affect the validity of holding a Meeting or any action taken thereat.

Statutory Notice Requirements

11.4. Notice of Public Meetings shall be provided in accordance with the Town's Public Notice Policy and the requirements of the Act, or any other statute that establishes requirements to provide public notice of a meeting or an item to be considered.

Notice - Regular Meetings

11.5. The Clerk shall give notice of a Regular Meeting of Council or a Standing Committee by:

11.5.1. Publishing an agenda on the Town website six days in advance of the scheduled Meeting;

11.5.2. If required, sending a Closed Session agenda to Members six days in advance of the scheduled Meeting;

11.5.3. When possible, including a list of upcoming Council & Standing Committee Meetings in a local newspaper.

Special Meetings

11.6. In addition to regular meetings, the Mayor may at any time call a special Meeting of Council or one of its Standing Committees by giving direction to the Clerk stating the date, time, and purpose of the special meeting.

11.7. Upon receipt of the petition of two thirds of the Members, the Clerk shall summon a special meeting of Council or one of its Standing Committees for the purpose and at the date and time identified in the petition.

11.8. When considering a special Meeting of Council or one of its Standing Committees to deal with a public planning matter, the Mayor or Members will consult the availability of all the Councillors for the affected ward(s).

11.9. Notice of special meetings shall be given in accordance with Section 11 of this by-law.

11.10. No business other than that indicated on the written notice shall be considered at the special meeting except with the unanimous consent of all Members present and voting at such Meeting.

- 11.11. Special meetings of Council or its Standing Committees are not required to follow the Order of Business for such meetings described in these procedures, and the business of a special meeting may be organized in a manner deemed appropriate by the Clerk.
- 11.12. All meetings pertaining to the consideration of proposed amendments to annual capital and operating budgets shall be conducted as Council meetings.
- 11.13. The Order of Business for budget meetings shall be determined by the Mayor in consultation with the Clerk and the Director of Finance/Treasurer.
- 11.14. The Clerk shall give notice of a special Meeting of Council or a Standing Committee as follows:
 - 11.14.1. The Clerk shall give all Members notice of a special Meeting of Council/Committee at least twenty-four hours before the time appointed for such Meeting, by electronic mail, and publish an agenda as soon as possible.
 - 11.14.2. Notice of the Meeting shall be provided to the public on the Town website as soon as practicable, and may be posted at the main entrance of Town Hall.
 - 11.14.3. All special Meeting notices shall indicate the nature of the business to be considered at the special Meeting, and the date, time, and place of the Meeting.

Emergency Meetings

- 11.15. Notwithstanding any other provision of this by-law, the Mayor may at any time call an emergency Meeting of Council, without written notice, to deal with an emergency or extraordinary situation, provided that an attempt has been made by the Clerk or designate to notify the Members about the Meeting as soon as possible and in the most expedient manner available.
- 11.16. No business except business dealing directly with the emergency or extraordinary situation shall be transacted at the emergency Meeting.
- 11.17. In the event of an emergency Council Meeting, notice is not required; however, the Clerk will attempt to notify Members and the public about the Meeting and publish the agenda as soon as possible and in the most expedient manner available.

Rescheduling of Meetings

- 11.18. Where the Mayor considers it necessary to change the date and/or time of a regularly scheduled Meeting of Council or Standing Committee, the Mayor shall direct the Clerk to ascertain the views of the Members concerning the proposed change.
- 11.19. Where the Clerk ascertains that a majority of the Members have no objection to the proposed change, the Clerk shall confirm the scheduling change and give notice on the Town's website. Notice of the scheduling change may also be posted at Town Hall.

Cancellation of Meetings

- 11.20. A regular, special, or emergency Meeting of Council or a Standing Committee may be cancelled in any of the following circumstances:
 - 11.20.1. If the Clerk determines in advance that quorum will not be achieved;

11.20.2. If the Meeting is cancelled by Council or Committee resolution;

11.20.3. Where the Meeting is not required as determined by the Mayor or Clerk.

11.21. The Clerk shall give notice of any Meeting cancellation on the Town website. Notice of cancellation may also be posted at Town Hall.

12. Rules of Debate

General Rules of Debate

12.1. The Mayor/Chair shall preserve order and decorum and decide questions of order.

12.2. When two or more Members desire to speak, the Mayor/Chair shall designate the Member who has the floor.

12.3. No Member shall be deemed to have precedence or seniority over any other Member.

12.4. Before speaking to a question or motion, a Member shall be acknowledged by the Mayor/Chair.

12.5. When a Member is speaking, no other Member shall interrupt that Member except to raise a point of order or point of privilege.

12.6. Each Member shall be allowed to speak to each item twice, for a maximum of five minutes each, inclusive of responses to questions from staff or other parties. Where a member's allocated time is interrupted by a point of order or privilege, the Chair may, at their discretion, extend the time allocation accordingly.

12.7. The Clerk shall operate a speech timer that is visible to the Chair, Members, and the public. At the conclusion of the allotted time, the Chair may ask the Member to conclude their remarks, or where the Chair determines there are compelling reasons to extend the time, they may increase the Member's allocated time.

Points of Order

12.8. A Member may call attention to a violation of the Rules of Procedure by stating the point of order to the Mayor/Chair succinctly, and the Mayor/Chair shall then decide upon the point of order and advise the Members of the decision.

12.9. A Member may immediately appeal the Mayor/Chair's decision to the Council/Committee. The Council/Committee shall hear the reason for the appeal from the appellant and the reason for the decision from the Mayor/Chair, and shall decide the question without debate. The decision of the Council/Committee is final.

Points of Privilege

12.10. Where the Member considers that their integrity, or the integrity of Council as a whole, has been impugned, they may draw attention to the matter and request a manner of recourse.

12.11. A point of privilege shall take precedence over other matters, but the Members shall not be permitted to enter into any argument or introduce any motion related to the point of privilege.

- 12.12. When the Mayor/Chair considers that the integrity of the CAO or a member of Town Staff has been impugned or questioned, the Mayor/Chair may permit the CAO to make a statement to Council or the Committee.
- 12.13. A Member may immediately appeal the Mayor/Chair's decision on a point of privilege to the Council/Committee. The Council/Committee shall hear the reason for the appeal from the appellant and the reason for the decision from the Mayor/Chair, and shall decide the question without debate. The decision of the Council/Committee is final. If the Member fails to provide the recourse required by the Mayor/Chair, the Member shall vacate their seat for the remainder of the meeting.

13. Motions

- 13.1. Except as otherwise provided in this by-law, all motions must be duly moved and seconded before the Mayor/Chair can put the question or motion on the floor for consideration, and should be in writing to ensure that all Members are fully aware of the motion to be voted on.
- 13.2. Notwithstanding Section 4, a motion presented in General Government Committee need not be in writing nor require a seconder.
- 13.3. When a motion is presented orally, it shall be stated by the Mayor/Chair before debate.
- 13.4. A motion which is printed in the agenda as either a separate item or as part of a report, need not be read in its entirety unless requested to do so by a Member but shall be deemed as read for the purposes of introducing the motion.
- 13.5. After a motion is read or stated by the Mayor/Chair it shall be deemed to be in possession of Council/Committee, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.
- 13.6. A motion in respect of a matter which is beyond the jurisdiction of Council shall not be in order.
- 13.7. A motion properly before Council/Committee for decision must receive disposition before any other substantive motion can be received.

Motions without Notice

- 13.8. The following matters and motions may be introduced orally without written notice and are to be decided without debate:
 - 13.8.1. a point of order;
 - 13.8.2. a point of privilege;
 - 13.8.3. a motion to adjourn;
 - 13.8.4. a motion to refer without direction or instructions;
 - 13.8.5. a motion to defer;
 - 13.8.6. a motion to suspend the Rules of Procedure;
 - 13.8.7. a motion to table the question without direction or instructions;
 - 13.8.8. a motion to call the vote on a question; and
 - 13.8.9. a motion to recess.

13.9. The following motions may be introduced without notice, but shall be put forward in writing, unless otherwise stated in this by-law, and may be debated by Members before being decided:

13.9.1. a motion to amend; and

13.9.2. a motion to refer with direction or instructions.

13.10. Notwithstanding the requirements of this by-law, a motion introduced by the Mayor, pursuant to Section 284.10 of the Act which, in the opinion of the Mayor, may advance a Provincial Priority, shall be permitted at any time and shall be considered by Council. To assist Council in the decision-making process, it is recommended, but not required, that the motion be submitted in writing.

Motions to Amend

13.11. Only one motion to amend the main motion shall be allowed at one time.

13.11.1. Only one motion to amend a motion to amend the main motion shall be allowed at one time.

13.11.2. The amendment to the amendment, if any, shall be voted on first, then if no other amendment is presented, the amendment shall be voted on next, then if no other amendment is introduced, the main motion, or if any amendment has carried, the main motion as amended, shall be put to a vote.

Motions to Reconsider

13.12. A motion to reconsider may be considered in respect of a resolution that was adopted at Council or at a Standing Committee during the current term of office for Council.

13.13. A motion to reconsider shall require a two-thirds majority vote to be adopted.

13.14. The Chair may require a motion to reconsider if, in the opinion of the Chair in consultation with the Clerk, a resolution moved by a Member is substantially the same as a resolution that has already been adopted during the current term of Council, or contradicts, alters, or overrides a resolution previously adopted during the current term of Council.

13.15. A motion to reconsider is debatable, and debate on a motion to reconsider shall be confined to reasons for or against the motion to reconsider. Debate on the resolution that is the subject of the motion to reconsider shall be out of order unless and until the motion to reconsider is adopted.

13.16. If a motion to reconsider is decided in the affirmative at a Meeting, then consideration of the original resolution shall become the next order of business.

13.17. If a motion to reconsider is decided in the affirmative at a Meeting, the previously adopted resolution of Council remains in force unless and until Council adopts a new resolution.

13.18. Motions to reconsider shall only be in order if they pertain to a final resolution adopted by Council. Secondary Motions and amendments cannot be the subject of a motion to reconsider, and any motion so put shall be out of order.

Single Motion

13.19. One or more items on an agenda may be adopted in a single motion.

14. Voting

- 14.1. Every Member present at a Meeting, when a question is put, shall vote thereon unless disqualified to vote on the question.
- 14.2. If a Member does not vote when a question is put, they shall be deemed to have voted in the negative, except where the Member is disqualified from voting.
- 14.3. A Member not in their seat when the question is called by the Mayor/Chair is not entitled to vote on that question.
- 14.4. The Mayor/Chair shall announce the result of every vote.
- 14.5. If a Member disagrees with the announcement of the Mayor/Chair that a motion is carried or lost, they may immediately after the declaration by the Mayor/Chair, state their objection to the declaration and request that a recorded vote be taken on the question.
- 14.6. Every vote shall be conducted using the electronic voting system. Should Council meet in a location where there is no electronic voting system, or should the electronic voting system be inoperable, the vote may be conducted by show of hands.

Recorded Vote

- 14.7. All votes at any Meeting of Council or Standing Committee of Council shall be Recorded Votes. The Clerk shall record the name and vote of every Member on the question, in the Minutes of the respective meeting.
- 14.8. The Clerk shall conduct the recorded vote using the electronic voting system by enabling a 20-second time period for all Members to cast their vote on the question. At the conclusion of the allotted time period or once all Members have voted, the Clerk shall cause the result of the vote to be displayed and the manner in which each Member voted to all participants at the meeting, and the Mayor/Chair shall declare the result of the vote.
- 14.9. Where a meeting space does not support the technical ability to hold a recorded vote in accordance with the requirements of Section 14.8 of these procedures, the Clerk shall conduct the recorded vote by roll call of all Members present, commencing with the Member who made the request and then all other Members, alphabetically, until all Members have voted. The Mayor/Chair shall vote last, even if they are the requester of the recorded vote. Once all Members have voted, the Mayor/Chair shall declare the result of the vote.

Tied Vote

- 14.10. Any question on which there is an equal number of votes shall be deemed to have been decided in the negative.

Dividing a Question

- 14.11. A Member may request that any substantive motion containing multiple proposals be divided, such that one or more proposals within the motion are voted on separately. Where such a request from a Member is received at a meeting, all proposals within the motion shall be voted on in accordance with the request to divide the question, and the Mayor/Chair shall conduct the votes accordingly.

One Third Vote

- 14.12. Notwithstanding the requirements of this by-law, in accordance with Subsection 284.11.1 of the Act, where, in the opinion of the Mayor, a by-law will advance a Provincial Priority, the Mayor may submit and require Council to consider and vote on the by-law, which may be subject to a One Third Vote.
- 14.13. Where a by-law is required to be considered and voted on by Council, the following motions are not permitted:
 - 14.13.1. A motion to adjourn;
 - 14.13.2. A motion to refer without direction or instructions;
 - 14.13.3. A motion to defer;
 - 14.13.4. A motion to suspend the Rules of Procedure;
 - 14.13.5. A motion to table the question without direction or instructions;
and,
 - 14.13.6. A motion to amend.

15. Vetoes

- 15.1. Notwithstanding the requirements of this by-law, the Mayor may Veto a by-law in accordance with Subsection 284.11 of the Act.
- 15.2. If the Mayor believes that a by-law may potentially interfere with a Provincial Priority, he may consider Vetoing the by-law by providing notice to Council of his intent to Veto the by-law within two days of Council voting in favour of the by-law, or the expiry of any prescribed deadline.
- 15.3. After giving notice of his decision to consider Vetoing a by-law, the Mayor shall deliver to the Clerk, within 14 days of Council voting in favour of the by-law, written notice of the Veto and the reasons.
- 15.4. Within one business day of receiving written notice of the Veto, the Clerk shall forward the notice and reasons to all members of Council and make a copy of the Veto and reasons available to the public.
- 15.5. Within 21 days of receiving notice of the Veto, or any other prescribed period, Council may override (Veto Override) the Veto if two-thirds of the members of Council vote to override the Veto.