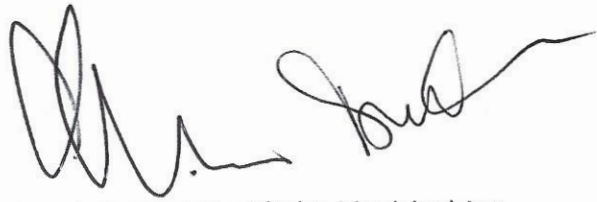


DELEGATION NOTES CPRMC NOVEMBER 10, 2020  
Procedure By-law  
REPORT CL-18-20



Speak to the amendments that are either unnecessary or incongruent with the *Municipal Act*.

Amendment 24.1 The wording past Council is superfluous. It is a clerical or secretarial efficiency function to determine what dates all members of Council are available within a certain time frame to ensure a quorum can be achieved **if the majority of Council members agree with the purpose and date and time (in terms of sufficient notice to the public etc. )** at a Special Meeting to be called by the Mayor.

Amendment 24.3 Notice of Meeting as per Section 22: 22.1 (b) Past experiences show updating the City's website calendar within twenty-four hours of any changes made to the schedule can mean it is not updated. There must be a cut off time (e.g. 72 hours before the Special Meeting is scheduled) to ensure the public have an opportunity to review Special Meeting documentation.

There are other amendments to the City of Burlington *Procedure By-Law* that should be made to improve resident engagement that the Clerk/Committee/Council can review in the letter referenced in the next paragraph.

Reference letter to Minister Clarke, Premier Ford and MPP McKenna regarding moratorium on amendments to municipal *Procedure By-Laws* until the provincial government considers the advantage in terms of appropriate democratic engagement rights, municipal transparency and accountability in a standard set of *Ontario Procedure By-Laws*. Such Ontario municipal *Procedure By-laws* to be issued as a *Regulation* to the *Municipal Act* for all upper and lower municipalities with the ability to add to the individual by-laws for any relevant amendments necessary for any individual municipalities who will find it difficult or impossible to abide by any individual section of the by-law.

REPORT CL-19-20 ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Page 6 CL-19-20

***"Due to COVID-19 the City will be hosting virtual meetings for much of 2021."*** is the first we have heard that this is the intention of Council.

Page 3 – Paragraph 3

***After the pandemic, it is anticipated that accommodations would also be made to members of the public who wish to delegate virtually.***

We believe it is time that delegations should be able to stand at the lectern in the interests of the delegation being able to engage with council and the community. The city should be able to organize a safe means of doing this for those who do not wish to delegate virtually:

i.e. Called to the lectern from a room where there is live streaming of the Committee/Council Meeting one at a time. Mask before and after delivery of delegation. The Premier has had multiple people at one lectern every day for several months with no adverse effects. Far less risk than having six at a table in restaurant.

### Page 3 paragraph 3

This report is recommending extending the 1:00 p.m. to become the permanent start time of Council with a 6:30 p.m. time reserved for any items that may be of public interest or that may have delegates who cannot attend during the day. All items are of public interest and the common public expressed opinion is it is in the interests of public engagement that Council meetings return to 6:30 pm as soon as possible.

### Page 4 2021 and 2022 Budget Cycles

The report states on page 2 "Annually etc.

On page 4 under Budget Cycles there are two Special Council meetings scheduled. Scheduling Special Council Meetings is incongruent with the definition of Special Council meetings contained in the *Procedure By-law*:

*"Special Meeting" means a meeting no scheduled in accordance with the approved calendar/schedule of meetings.*

There is nothing to stop Council scheduling as many regular Council meetings in a month except time and quorums. The 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 and 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021 meetings should be set as Regular Council Meetings with single agenda items of Operating Budget Approval and Ratify Tax Levy By-law.

<u>MEETING</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ITEM</u>
Special Council (Should read 2 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2021 Reg. Council Meeting)	March 3, 2021	Operating Budget Approval
Special Council (Should read 2 <sup>nd</sup> May, 2021 Reg. Council Meeting)	May 5, 2021	Ratify Tax Levy By-law

All Council Committee Meetings Agenda include following statement\* All requests to delegate must contain a copy of the delegate's intended remarks which will be circulated to all members of committee in advance as a backup should any technology issues occur. This is a major issue in terms of discouraging delegations. Where is this delegation requirement authorized? We have had technology issues in joining Council by telephone and our notes were not utilized or made public.