Township of Langley

COUNCIL PROCESS COMMITTEE

Monday, September 20, 2021 at 11:00 AM Fraser River Presentation Theatre 4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

Clerk's Note: The meeting was conducted with Council members and staff attending in person and electronically as per Ministerial Order 192/2020.

CHAIR: Councillor M. Kunst

PRESENT:

Mayor J. Froese and Councillors P. Arnason, D. Davis, S. Ferguson, B. Long, B. Whitmarsh, and E. Woodward

M. Bakken, R. Seifi, and J. Winslade

W. Bauer, S. Little, and K. Stepto

A.1 Council Process Committee Agenda - September 20, 2021

Moved by Councillor Arnason, Seconded by Councillor Whitmarsh,

That the Council Process Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the September 20, 2021 meeting.

CARRIED

B. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

B.1 Council Procedure Bylaw

Staff provided a memorandum from the Corporate Administration Division regarding proposed amendments to Council Procedure Bylaw 2016 No. 5199 relating to electronic meetings. The amendments will allow for further expansion of electronic meetings and are compliant with the current Community Charter. The amended bylaw will begin discussions on an further amendment to the Council Procedure Bylaw that would allow Council members to continue to attend meetings electronically in three circumstances:

- Attendance at a Township business activity;
- A Federal, Provincial or Local State of Emergency; or
- Illness, injury, or other health concern.

Should Council grant first, second, and third reading at the September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting, fourth reading would need to take place prior to the next Regular Meeting on October 4 in order for Councillors to attend remotely.

Discussion ensued and the following comments/questions were provided:

- Should there be a limit as to how many meetings Councillors can attend remotely?
- Can we add the word "Serious" to health concern?
- Can the public attend virtually with this amendment? Allowing for the public to attend virtually will be discussed when an amendment to the Council Procedure Bylaw is considered at the next meeting.
- Should Councillors provide a doctor's note when they are absent due to illness?
- A more robust policy is needed regarding attending virtually.
- Can the ventilation be improved in Council chambers?

COUNCIL

Moved by Mayor Froese, Seconded by Councillor Ferguson,

That the Council Process Committee recommends that the Amending Bylaw for Council Procedure Bylaw 2016 No. 5199, relating to electronic meetings, be added to the September 20, 2021 Regular agenda under Other Business for first, second and third reading; and

That Council direct staff to convene a Special Meeting on October 4, 2021 at 11:30am for consideration of fourth reading.

CARRIED

C. OTHER BUSINESS

D. TERMINATE

Township Clerk