

Bylaw 49-2016 – Amendment to The Meeting Procedures Bylaw 20-2015.**Report Purpose**

To give three readings to Bylaw 49-2016, a bylaw that proposes to amend Bylaw 20-2015 (The Meeting Procedures Bylaw) so that each individual vote is audibly called by the Chair in the event that electronic voting is not available.

Recommendation

1. THAT Bylaw 49-2016, a bylaw to amend 20-2015, The Meeting Procedures Bylaw, be given first reading;
2. That Bylaw 49-2016 be given second reading;
3. That Bylaw 49-2016 be considered for third reading; and
4. That Bylaw 49-2016 be given third reading.

Council History

May 26, 2015 – Council gave third reading to Bylaw 20-2015 (Meeting Procedures Bylaw)

October 11, 2016 – Council approved: THAT Administration prepare, for Council's consideration, an amendment to Bylaw 20-2015 The Meeting Procedures Bylaw, to require that all votes taken by Council at a Council Meeting (Regular or Special) be recorded electronically; and that if electronic voting is not available, then voting will be by hand, with each individual vote audibly called out by the chair as either 'for' or 'against', including when a unanimous vote occurs.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: n/a

Governance: Sound governance practices ensure that Strathcona County has inclusive engagement that builds the public's confidence in the community's leadership.

Social: n/a

Culture: n/a

Environment: n/a

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: The Municipal Government Act (MGA) provides that Council may pass bylaws in relation to the procedure and conduct of council and council committees.

Interdepartmental: n/a

Summary

Council directed Administration to prepare an amendment to The Meeting Procedures Bylaw (20-2015) that would ensure, in case of a vote by show of hands, that the Chair would audibly call out the vote of each Councillor as either 'for' or 'against', including when a unanimous vote occurs.

Currently, Part 10 of The Meeting Procedures Bylaw addresses voting. The current bylaw requires the use of an electronic or computerized voting system if it is available (see subsection 10.1 (b) (i)). In order to address the direction provided by Council, the following amendment is recommended:

Bylaw 20-2015	Current Wording	Proposed Wording
10.1 (e.1) <i>New subsection added</i>	N/A	When a vote is taken by the raising of hands, the Chair must verbally confirm the vote of each Councillor present as either "for" or "against" prior to declaring the result of the vote.

Enclosure

1 Bylaw 49-2016