

Written Deputation Request Form – June 22, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting - Electronic

Please complete this form to provide a written deputation at the June 22, 2020 Electronic Committee of the Whole Meeting. Please return the form to clerks@newmarket.ca – completed forms must be received by **end of day Sunday, June 21, 2020**. These comments will be read aloud by the Mayor during the live meeting, considered with the related item, and will form part of the public record.

Name: Jeff Kirke	
Organization/Group/Business represented (if applicable): N/A	
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Phone Number: <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	Email: <div style="background-color: black; width: 230px; height: 20px;"></div>
Agenda Item Number and Title (your deputation must be in relation to an item on the Agenda): 6.4 Site Specific Exemption to Interim Control By-law 2019-04 for	
Please use the space below to provide your written comments:	

Be advised that all Council and Committee of the Whole meetings (including this meeting) are audio-video recorded and live streamed online. If you make a presentation to Council or Committee of the Whole, your presentation becomes part of the public record and you will be listed as a presenter in the minutes of the meeting. We post our minutes online, so the listing of your name in connection with the agenda item may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Personal information on this form will be used for the purposes of sending correspondence relating to matters before Council. Your name, address, comments, and any other personal information, is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public in a hard copy format and on the internet in an electronic format pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.M.56, as amended. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk, Town of Newmarket, 395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328, STN Main, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7; Telephone 905-895-5193 Ext. 2211 Fax 905-953-5100

I write as a member of the local community, in support of the Site Specific Exemption to the Interim Control By-law 2019-04 for subject property 164 Beechwood Crescent.

This might easily be dismissed as simply a neighbourhood issue, though I believe there are important principles at stake. Notably, it's an opportunity for Council to demonstrate equitable treatment of constituents and predictable enforcement of municipal By-laws, which can only help make Newmarket a more attractive community in which to invest.

I have read the Staff Report to Council, which appears to provide a thorough assessment of the proposed renovation. Presumably prepared by an expert, its recommendations deserve respect and appropriate consideration. It seems to be an objectively-prepared report, which considers many dimensions of the proposal – more than any single member of the community or group might otherwise appreciate. As a constituent, I expect it to weigh heavily in Council's deliberations.

It is worth noting that the reason this exemption is being sought is because of By-law 2019-04 – the proposed renovations, as noted in the report, are otherwise compliant with the current building constraints. Further, the report notes that, "The proposed second storey and rear addition will not be out of character for the neighbourhood".

Admittedly, an expert opinion, however objective, may be too narrowly-focussed, which is why it is important that the matter be considered by our elected representatives – they see the forest; not the trees.

And, it is the forest that should principally concern us in this and similar matters.

Few would reasonably debate the importance of encouraging investment in the community. While this is a residential matter, the principle at stake is the importance of demonstrating to those who might potentially invest in Newmarket that they can expect that local By-laws reliably describe predictable constraints on their investment. Otherwise, the risk of investing in Newmarket becomes relatively larger than in other communities.

The prospect of diminished investment in the community is an existential one – it is one that Council can ill-afford to court in these economically-challenging times.

I urge Council to approve this exemption – to demonstrate that anyone who chooses to invest in Newmarket – whether in their home or in a business – can rely on the reasonable rules that are transparently described in our laws. None of us should want to live in a society operating contrary to that principle.

Approve this exemption and demonstrate that Newmarket is, indeed, a town "Well Beyond the Ordinary".