Written Deputation Request Form - June 29, 2020 Council Meeting - Electronic

Please complete this form to provide a written deputation at the June 29, 2020 Electronic Council Meeting. Please return the form to clerks@newmarket.ca – completed forms must be received by **end of day Sunday**, **June 28, 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: DEBRA SCOTT		
Organization/Group/Business represented (if applicable):		
Address:		Postal Code:
Phone Number:	Email:	

Agenda Item Number and Title (your deputation must be in relation to an item on the Agenda):

9.2.1 Remote Deputation regarding Site Specific Exemption to Interim Control By-law 2019-04 for 164 Beechwood Crescent

Please use the space below to provide your written comments:

In my former role as CEO of the Newmarket Chamber of Commerce, I have been involved with many Newmarket Businesses and had the privilege to work with Newmarket Council on many occasions.

I became aware of this exemption request while reading NewmarketToday. It particularly struck me that the decision went against the recommendations of the report from town staff, and that it did so primarily because some residents had expressed opposition. The town's staff are the experts, and as taxpayers we are paying them for their opinion. I do not believe their opinion should be rejected without very good reason.

While I understand that an Interim Control Bylaw is in place, Council has also enacted an exemption process to allow businesses and homeowners to improve their properties provided certain criteria are met.

The article identified the main reasons why the Ciccarelli's request for an exemption was denied. Those reasons seem unrelated to the criteria for approval I found on the Town's website. There appears to be a lack of clarity and consistency in the way this exemption process is being enacted. The Town shouldn't abandon its own policies and procedures simply because a few residents complain. If the request meets the criteria, it should be approved.

From my experience, a lack of clarity and consistency in Town regulations was a factor that occasionally frustrated businesses and which I believe harmed the success of the town that we all love. I expect that the same is true from a property-owner perspective.

I very much appreciate the work that Council does for the town, but urge it to ensure there is clarity, consistency, and ultimately accountability in the application of its rules and regulations. The continued success of our town depends on it!

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