



Electronic Participation in Meetings & 2021 Council/Committee of the Whole Meeting Schedule

Committee of the Whole

October 5, 2020

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Coordinator

Legislative Amendments

- March 2020 - Bill 187 - allowed Councils to meet electronically if they, or the province were in a declared state of emergency.
- July 2020 - Bill 197 - removed requirement for Municipal Councils or the province to be in a declared state of emergency in order to meet electronically.
- Newmarket Council has been meeting electronically since April 2020 via Zoom.

Procedure By-law Amendments

- Local state of emergency remains in place for Newmarket, however, Council is required to amend the Procedure By-law in order to continue meeting during a non-emergency period.
- Allows Mayor to call emergency Council meetings and hold them via electronic participation.

Hybrid Meetings

- Phased approach for gradual re-opening of Council Chambers & for Council, Committee of the Whole & Site Plan Review Committee meetings
- Required technology upgrades & physical spacing
- Phase 1:
 - Target December 2020 for Council Members only
- Phase 2:
 - Target January 2021, or as determined by Mayor & CAO
 - Staff will have to continue to participate electronically
 - Public will be limited & must pre-register

Meeting Times & 2021 Schedule

- 2020 Council & Committee of the Whole meetings should continue at 1:00 PM & Site Plan Review Committee at 9:30 AM on Council days.
- Council is required to adopt a meeting schedule for 2021
 - Approve 1:00 PM start time for January to June 2021
 - Approve meeting dates for July to December 2021
 - Staff to report back in April/May 2021 to seek direction on meeting times.
- Keeping meeting times consistent will reduce public confusion

Monitoring the Landscape

- Staff Report back in April/May 2021 on:
 - Review of Hybrid meetings (they are new to Municipal Councils)
 - Continued evaluation of best practices & policies
 - Start time for July to December 2021 meetings
 - When to begin hybrid Advisory Committee meetings

Questions & Discussion