

CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF MERRICKVILLE - WOLFORD

BY-LAW NO. 14-2021

BEING a By-law to amend By-law 30-17 of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford, commonly referred to as the "Procedure By-law"

WHEREAS section 5(3), the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, provides that a Council may exercise its powers by by-law;

AND WHEREAS section 238(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, requires every municipality to pass a procedure by-law for governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario enacted the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020*, on March 19, 2020, which amended the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to provide that during emergencies, should they choose to, members of councils, local boards and committees who participate electronically in open and closed meetings may be counted for the purposes of quorum;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario subsequently enacted the *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*, which further amended the *Municipal Act, 2001*, to provide that notwithstanding whether there is a declared State of Emergency, members of councils, local boards and committees may participate electronically in a meeting and count toward determining whether a quorum is present at a meeting;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford does deem it in the best interest of the municipality to amend the procedure by-law to provide for electronic participation in a Council, local board or committee meeting;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford enacts as follows:

1. Section 1.2 of the Procedure By-law 30-17, regarding the "Committee" definition, shall be amended to read as follows:

"Committee" means a committee established by Council, including advisory committees, and as defined in the Committee's Terms of Reference.

2. Section 3.9 of the Procedure By-law 30-17, shall be amended to read as follows:

3.9 Electronic Meetings

- a) As per Section 238 (3.1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, members of Council, of a local board or of a committee of either of them may participate electronically in a meeting.
- b) As per Section 238 (3.3) (a) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, a member of Council, of a local board or of a committee or either of them who is participating electronically in a meeting may be counted in determining whether or not quorum of members is present at any point in time.
- c) As per Section 238 (3.3) (b) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, a member of council, of a local board or of a committee or either of them can participate electronically in a meeting that is closed to the public. Members will be responsible to take all reasonable measures to ensure security of confidential information in the event that a closed meeting is held electronically.

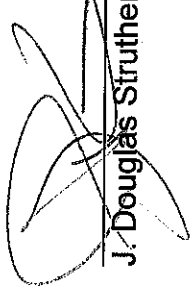
d) All votes shall be recorded during an electronic meeting. Each member present, including the presiding officer, except a member who is disqualified from voting by any Act, shall announce his/her vote verbally when called, and the clerk shall record each member's name and vote.

2. This by-law shall be appended to By-law 30-17 which shall be consolidated for ease of reference.

THIS BY-LAW shall be deemed to come into force upon passing.

READ a first and second time this 12th day of April, 2021.

READ a third and final time and passed this 12th day of April, 2021.



J. Douglas Struthers, MAYOR



Doug Robertson, CAO/Clerk