

CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF MERRICKVILLE - WOLFORD

BY-LAW NO. 26-2020

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 Council of the Village of Merrickville - Wolford did pass By-law 30-17, a procedure by-law for the conduct of Council business;

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 meeting in the case of an emergency that has been declared under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*;

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

1. An addition to the Procedure By-law 30-17, shall read as follows:

3.9 Meetings in the Event of a Declared Emergency

- a) To participate in all meetings of Council, members must be physically present in the chambers designated for this purpose except during any period where an emergency has been declared to exist in the municipality or by the Province of Ontario as per the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.
- b) As per Section 238 (3.3) 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) 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 in the event that a closed meeting is held electronically.
- d) Where an emergency has been declared to exist and, as a result, the Village Office and Council Chambers has been closed to the public in order to protect the health and/or safety of residents and employees, electronic meetings of council that are not closed to the public under Section 239 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, will be open to the public via technological means, when physical attendance is not possible. All other applicable meeting notice provisions will remain for the electronic meetings.
- d) Motions shall not be required to be made in writing during an electronic meeting.
- e) 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 in alphabetical order by the clerk, 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.

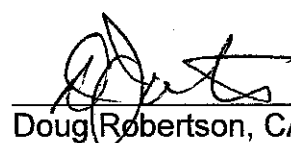
THIS BY-LAW shall be deemed to come into force upon passing.

READ a first and second time this 23rd day of March, 2020.

READ a third and final time and passed this 23rd day of March, 2020.



J. Douglas Struthers, MAYOR



Doug Robertson, CAO/Clerk