

From: Ron Voss <rvoss@lightspeed.ca>

Subject: Administration's Ongoing Misrepresentation of Notices of Motion

Date: May 3, 2024 at 9:10:29 PM MDT

To: Stacey Loe <Stacey.Loe@cochrane.ca>

Cc: CouncilDist <CouncilDist@cochrane.ca>

Dear Ms. Loe,

At the April 2, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting, when Ms. Knight released her draft Procedural Bylaw 2024/17, Mayor Genung acknowledged with respect to the handling of notices of motion, "we have stumbled over that in past". To say that the town has 'stumbled' over this in the past, would be an understatement. As illustrated in my February 29, 2024 Dog With A Bone blog post, "Total Chaos and Inconsistency in the Town's (Mis)Handling Notices of Motion", the Council has been all over the map in how they have addressed notices of motion and rarely in accord with the clear language of Section 7.2 of the existing 2019 Bylaw, a bylaw which presumably Ms. Knight had drafted.

Your Town of Cochrane Committee of the Whole Report for the May 6, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting in response to Councillor Fedeyko's motion related to a Whistleblower Program and Policy, adds to the chaos and inconsistency.

For example, you refer to "a Notice of Motion brought forward by Councillor Fedeyko, at the January 8, 2024", when, in fact, that notice of motion was brought forward at the December 11, 2023 meeting, thereby satisfying the requirement as per 7.2 (a)(i) of the existing procedural bylaw, namely, "A Member may make a motion introducing any new matter only if: (i) Notice is given at a **previous** regular Council meeting". As indicated in the minutes for the December 11, 2023 meeting, "Councillor Fedeyko gave notice of the Notice of Motion and this item will come back for discussion and debate at January 8, 2024 Regular Council meeting". So a motion was made at the January 8, 2024 meeting; not a notice of motion, which had already been given at the December 11, 2023 meeting.

Thus, it is incorrect to refer to "the January 8, 2024 Notice of Motion debate". According to 7.2(b) of the town's existing Procedural Bylaw 19/2019, "A notice must be given **without discussion** of the matter". That was the case at the December 11, 2023 meeting and confirmed by the minutes for that meeting.

Disappointing that Administration instead of ensuring that the Town Council properly followed the procedures for a notice of motion as clearly laid out in the existing Procedural Bylaw 2019/19, **to avoid acknowledging a failure to do so**, Administration has decided to radically rework that section related to notices of motion such that it was so corrupted that it no longer resembles what constitutes a notice of motion and

introduces a lot of confusion contrary to the declared intent of the rework to introduce greater clarity.

According to section 19.2 of Council's Code of Conduct, "Members are expected to cooperate in every way possible in securing compliance with the application and enforcement of this Bylaw". As Councillor Fedeyko recommended at the October 3, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting, if Council is not following the Procedural Bylaw that they had put in place, that "every single one of us sitting around this table call it out, because it is not appropriate if you choose to say nothing." Indeed, that would be refreshing.

Sincerely,

Ron Voss