

Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87

Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting: Regular Meeting of Council
Meeting Date: March 25, 2025
Originated By: Stephanie Severin, Manager of Legislative and Information Services
Title: Bylaw No. 1892 Procedural Bylaw

PROPOSAL & BACKGROUND

In response to the proclamation of the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act (Bill 20) in October 2024, Administration completed a review of the M.D. Procedural Bylaw to bring it into compliance with the new requirements relating to virtual attendance of public hearings and addressing conflicts of interest of a member of Council.

During this time, Administration also completed a more thorough review of the bylaw as a whole and made proposed updates throughout for the purpose of enhancing the overall understanding and effectiveness of the bylaw.

DISCUSSION ON BENEFITS, DISADVANTAGES & OPTIONS

Changes to the Procedural Bylaw are necessary to respond to the passing of Bill 20, which requires municipalities to allow virtual attendance to all public hearings. These changes have been reflected under sections 7.7 Electronic Meetings and 24 Public Hearings.

Bill 20 also specifically identified conflict of interest for members of a council in the *Alberta Municipal Government Act* (MGA) and added criteria around what could be considered a conflict of interest. These changes have been reflected under section 20 Voting – Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest.

Administration is also proposing updates throughout the document based on feedback received from a Professional Registered Parliamentarian in 2024 as well as to more accurately reflect the typical proceedings of Council during a meeting and enhance overall transparency.

Some of the other key changes to the bylaw include:

- Clarity regarding electronic meetings (to bring the bylaw into compliance with the MGA)
- Clarity regarding suspension of the rules
- Clarity regarding the Regular Meeting versus Committee of the Whole and the meeting Chair, as well as quorum
- Updates regarding Electronic Meetings to add the ability of the Chair to allow virtual attendance during Closed Session by specific people, with unanimous consent of Council
- Removal of Friendly Amendments and added clarity to the Amending Motions section
- Addition of Motion to Postpone and added clarity to Motion to Table

The new proposed Bylaw No. 1892 would repeal and replace the current Procedural Bylaw No. 1787.

The Committee of the Whole reviewed this new bylaw on February 18, 2025 and this bylaw received first reading at the Regular Meeting of Council on March 11, 2025.

Attached for the Council's review:

- Appendix A: Proposed Bylaw No. 1892 (new) Procedural Bylaw
- Appendix B: Current consolidated Procedural Bylaw No. 1787 outlining proposed changes

REFERENCE TO STRATEGIC PLAN

N/A

REFERENCE TO PROVINCIAL/FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Alberta Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26
Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act (Bill 20)

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING

N/A

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

If passed by Council, the new bylaw would be posted on the M.D. Website.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDED ACTION

THAT Bylaw No. 1892, being a Bylaw of the Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87, to provide for the orderly proceedings of Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole Meetings of the municipality, be given second reading.

THAT Bylaw No. 1892 be given third reading.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

1. THAT Bylaw No. 1892, being a Bylaw of the Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87, to provide for the orderly proceedings of Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole Meetings of the municipality, be given second reading. CARRIED (*Bylaw will proceed*).
2. THAT Bylaw No. 1892, being a Bylaw of the Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87, to provide for the orderly proceedings of Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole Meetings of the municipality, be given second reading. DEFEATED (*Bylaw will not proceed*).
3. THAT Bylaw No. 1892, being a bylaw of the Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87, to provide for the orderly proceedings of Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole Meetings of the municipality, be amended by _____ and be given second reading.
4. THAT Bylaw No. 1892, being a bylaw of the Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87, to provide for the orderly proceedings of Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole Meetings of the municipality, be postponed until _____ for additional Information.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Bylaw No. 1892 Procedural Bylaw - 2nd and 3rd rdg.docx
Attachments:	- Appendix A-Proposed Bylaw No. 1892 Procedural Bylaw.docx - Appendix B - Bylaw No. 1787 Cons Procedural Bylaw_showing tracked changes.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 18, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Stephanie Severin