

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PROCEDURAL BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**PBLRC 3-2023
Monday, June 26, 2023
Committee Room 4
Niagara Region Headquarters
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

Committee: Bateman (Committee Chair), Bradley (Regional Chair) (via Video Conference), Foster (Committee Vice-Chair), Heit, Huson (via Video Conference), Ip, Redekop (via Video Conference), Rigby

Absent/Regrets: Davies

Staff: D. Gibbs, Director, Legal and Court Services (via Video Conference), K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator (via Video Conference), A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Bateman called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 PBLRC-C 4-2023

Options for Consideration - Speaking Length and Delegations

Moved by Councillor Ip

Seconded by Councillor Heit

That Memorandum PBLRC-C 4-2023, dated June 26, 2023, respecting Options for Consideration - Speaking Length and Delegations, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Committee members discussed options respecting speaking length and delegations. Committee requested staff provide proposed language on the following items:

- Delegation decorum (similar to York Region's Procedural By-law);
- Reducing the delegation speaking time limit at Regional Council meetings for delegates who have already presented at a Standing Committee from 10 minutes to 5 minutes;
- Questions to delegates from Regional Councillors not exceed 5 minutes at both Standing Committee and Council;
- Limiting organizations/groups appearing as a delegation to have only one speaker instead of two; and
- Submission of material by delegates (similar to Durham Region's Procedural By-law).

Committee requested the following:

- Additional information regarding 2e respecting reasons why delegates would not be permitted;
- Information regarding provisions for delegate speaking length with respect to Statutory Public Meetings;
- Additional information regarding the practice of asking questions after a group of delegates;
- Information regarding protections for Councillors in meetings (i.e. members of the public entering the "Council ring"); and
- Information regarding introducing a threshold of delegation requests that would reduce the speaking time to 5 minutes.

The Chair called the vote on the motion to receive PBLRC-C 4-2023 and declared it,

Carried

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no consent items for information.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Council and Committee Meeting Cycle

Committee Members requested that the Chief Administrative Officer and Senior Staff be consulted to advise whether a monthly meeting cycle is the most effective way to conduct business and that information be provided at a future Procedural By-law Review Committee meeting respecting meeting schedules of similar municipalities.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4, Regional Headquarters.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Haley Bateman
Committee Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Legislative Coordinator

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk