

NOTICE OF MOTION

To: Council of the Town of Riverview

From: Stephen Gouzoules, Deputy Mayor

Date: April 9, 2025

Subject: Amendment to Procedural By-Law 100-10-05 – Voting Rights When the Chair Is Vacated

WHEREAS Section 29.4 of By-Law 100-10-05 states that “The Mayor shall not vote except to have a casting vote in the event of a tie”;

AND WHEREAS Section 33.2 permits the Mayor to vacate the chair to participate in debate, assigning the Deputy Mayor (or previous Deputy Mayor) to take the chair;

AND WHEREAS the by-law does not explicitly confirm whether the Mayor gains voting rights or whether the acting chair retains theirs during this process;

AND WHEREAS clarity is required to avoid future procedural uncertainty;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following amendments be made to Procedural By-Law 100-10-05:

1. Section 29.4 – Voting Rights of the Mayor

Current Text:

29.4 The Mayor shall not vote except to have a casting vote in the event of a tie.

Proposed Revised Text:

29.4 The Mayor shall not vote except to have a casting vote in the event of a tie. If the Mayor vacates the chair to participate in debate, this shall not confer a right to vote on the motion or resolution under discussion.

2. Section 33.2 – Procedure When Mayor Participates in Debate

Current Text:

33.2 When wishing to participate in any debate, the Mayor shall:
(a) Vacate the chair, and request that the Deputy Mayor take the chair;

- (b) If the Deputy Mayor is absent, the immediately previous Deputy Mayor shall take the chair; and
- (c) The Mayor shall remain out of the chair until the debate has ended and any motion or resolution has been dealt with.

Proposed Revised Text:

33.2 When wishing to participate in any debate, the Mayor shall:

- (a) Vacate the chair, and request that the Deputy Mayor take the chair;
- (b) If the Deputy Mayor is absent, the immediately previous Deputy Mayor shall take the chair;
- (c) The Mayor shall remain out of the chair until the debate has ended and any motion or resolution has been dealt with; and
- (d) The person assuming the chair shall retain their right to vote while presiding over the meeting.

3. Section 33.3 – Rights of the Mayor While Participating in Debate

Current Text:

33.3 Pursuant to Subsection 33.2, the Mayor shall have the same rights and be subject to the same restrictions, when participating in debate, as all other members.

Proposed Revised Text:

33.3 Pursuant to Subsection 33.2, the Mayor shall have the same rights and be subject to the same restrictions, when participating in debate, as all other members, except for the right to vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Gouzoules
Deputy Mayor, Town of Riverview