

**CITY OF CHESTERMERE**

**PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

**BYLAW #014-22**

**PROCEDURE BYLAW**

**A Bylaw of The City of Chestermere to provide for the orderly proceedings of meetings held by Council, boards and committees, and other bodies established by Council.**

**WHEREAS** The City of Chestermere may pass bylaws establishing procedures to be followed by Council, boards and committees, and other bodies established by Council.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of The City of Chestermere enacts as follows:

**1. Title and Definitions**

- 1.1. This Bylaw may be cited as the Procedure Bylaw.
- 1.2. Words in this Bylaw have the same meaning as set out in the Municipal Government Act except for the definitions provided in Schedule 'A' of this Bylaw.

**2. Purpose, Application, and Interpretation**

- 2.1. The purpose of this Bylaw is to provide for the orderly proceedings of Council and Committee Meetings.
- 2.2. This Bylaw applies to all Meetings and Members of Council and Committees.
- 2.3. A Member may make a motion to temporarily suspend the rules or procedures, or a specific rule or procedure, outlined in this Bylaw. A motion to suspend the rules is only in effect for the Meeting at which it was passed.
- 2.4. Meeting procedure is a matter of interpretation by the Chair, subject to the rights and privileges of Members.
- 2.5. If a matter of procedure arises that is not contemplated in this Bylaw, the matter is decided by reference to the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order. If there is a conflict between this Bylaw and Robert's Rules of Order, this Bylaw takes precedence.

### **3. Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Acting Chair**

#### **3.1. When sitting as the Chair, the Mayor:**

- (a) presides over all Council Meetings when in attendance unless otherwise provided for in this Bylaw;
- (b) presides over the conduct at Council Meetings, including preserving good order and decorum, ruling on Points of Order, responding to Points of Procedure, and deciding on all procedural questions, subject to an appeal of a ruling made by the Chair;
- (c) manages and facilitates the orderly queuing of speakers, including Councillors, Administration, and members of the public;
- (d) ensures that each Councillor who wishes to speak on a debatable motion is provided the opportunity to do so;
- (e) when wishing to participate in the debate on a question or motion properly before the meeting, the Mayor has all the same rights and is subject to the same restrictions, as to participation in debate, as all other Councillors.
- (f) opens Council Meetings and may call for recesses or for the meeting to stand at ease without requiring a motion.

#### **3.2. The Deputy Mayor:**

- (a) presides as the Chair over Council Meetings when the Mayor is absent or unable to perform the duties of the Chair and has all the same powers and responsibilities under this Bylaw; and
- (b) presides over all Council Meetings when the Mayor participates in the Meeting by electronic means.

#### **3.3. An Acting Chair presides over Council Meetings when both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are unable to perform the duties of the Chair and the Acting Chair has all the same powers and responsibilities under this Bylaw.**

- (a) An Acting Chair is chosen by a resolution passed by the Councillors present at the Meeting.

#### **3.4. The term of appointment for the Deputy Mayor is up to 8 months and will not extend beyond the term of office of that person as a Councillor. There must only be one Councillor appointed as Deputy Mayor at a time and the position of Deputy Mayor must be filled at all times.**

- (a) As organizational meetings occur annually and the Deputy Mayor term is less than 12 months, two Deputy Mayors shall be selected

with defined start and end dates anytime not doing so would leave the position vacant.

#### **4. Challenge to a Ruling of the Chair**

- 4.1. Any Member may challenge a ruling or decision of the Chair on a Point of Order or a Point of Privilege. If a ruling or decision is challenged, the Chair must briefly state the reason for their decision and then put to the Members the question of whether to uphold or overturn the ruling or decision.
- 4.2. The Members decide on the question by voting on whether to uphold or overturn the ruling or decision of the Chair without debate. The decision of the Members is final.
- 4.3. Challenges to a ruling of the Chair are not recorded in the Meeting Minutes.

## 5. Meetings

### 5.1. Organizational Meetings

5.1.1. Council holds an annual Organizational Meeting pursuant to the Municipal Government Act for the purpose of appointing, as required, Deputy Mayor, establishing Council and Committee Meeting dates, appointing Members to Committees, and any other business included on or added to the Organizational Meeting Agenda.

5.1.2. At Organizational Meetings, Council:

- (a) Appoints the Deputy Mayor for the ensuing 8 months, as required;
- (b) Establishes the dates and times for regular Council and Committee Meetings as required;
- (c) Makes Committee appointments as required, including appointments for member at large positions and Chair and Vice Chair positions;
- (d) Conducts any other business included on or added to the Organizational Meeting Agenda.

5.1.3. During Organizational Meetings:

- (a) The Chief Administrative Officer or Director of Corporate Services calls the Meeting to order, and administers Oaths of Office when Oaths of Office are required; and
- (b) The Mayor presides over the appointment of the Deputy Mayor and all subsequent business on the Organizational Meeting Agenda.

5.1.4. During the appointment of the Deputy Mayor, the following procedures apply:

- (a) If only one nomination is received for the position of Deputy Mayor, the nominee will be appointed by acclamation; or
- (b) If more than one nomination is received for the position Deputy Mayor, a vote by secret ballot will be conducted using the following exhaustive ballot procedure:
  - If no Councillor receives a Clear Majority of votes on the first ballot, the Councillor who received the least number of votes is dropped from the ballot and a subsequent ballot is conducted;

- On any subsequent ballots, the Councillor who receives the least number of votes is dropped from the ballot until a Councillor receives a Clear Majority of votes.
  - 5.1.5. Committee appointments may be made by resolution or, if a vote is required, by an election using secret ballot and the exhaustive ballot procedure established in subsection 5.4 (b) of this Bylaw.
  - 5.1.6. All ballots for elections conducted at the Organizational Meeting are destroyed after the Meeting is adjourned.
- 5.2. Regular Council Meetings
  - 5.2.1. At the annual Organizational Meeting, Council establishes the dates and times of regular Council Meetings for the ensuing year.
    - (a) Council may from time to time establish other Council Meeting dates and times by resolution.
  - 5.2.2. Councillors sit in order of the Mayors seating assignment, other than the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, with any seating changes subject to approval from the Mayor.
- 5.3. Special Council Meetings
  - 5.3.1. Special Council Meetings may be called in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.
- 5.4. Closed Sessions / In Camera
  - 5.4.1. Council or a Committee may hold all or part of a Meeting in a Closed Session in accordance with the Municipal Government Act and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.
  - 5.4.2. Resolutions cannot be passed by Council or a Committee during a Closed Session except for a resolution to revert back to an open Meeting.
  - 5.4.3. Information presented and any discussion occurring during a Closed Session must be held in confidence by those in attendance during the Closed Session.
  - 5.4.4. Members must not bring electronic devices into Closed Sessions, and Members must not video or audio record Closed Session proceedings.
  - 5.4.5. Closed Sessions are chaired by the Mayor in the case of Council and by the Chair in the case of a Committee.
  - 5.4.6. Closed Sessions shall include all members as long as the member has not abstained from the matter under discussion

- 5.4.7. Council or a Committee, as it considers appropriate, may allow other persons to attend Closed Sessions. When other persons attend Closed Sessions, the meeting minutes shall record the names of those persons .
- 5.4.8. After the Closed Meeting discussions are completed, any members of the public who are present outside the meeting room must be notified that the rest of the meeting is now open to the public, and that reasonable notice must be given for those members of the public to return to the meeting before it continues.

#### 5.5. Meetings through Electronic Means

- 5.5.1. Council or Committee Meetings may be conducted through electronic means, or a Member may participate in a Meeting through electronic means, in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.
- 5.5.2. Closed Sessions may be conducted through electronic means, and Members participating in a Meeting through electronic means may participate in any Closed Sessions held at that Meeting and are required to vote on a matter put to a vote at the meeting unless the Member is required or permitted to abstain from voting under this or any other enactment.
- 5.5.3. A Member may participate in a Council or Committee Meeting through electronic means if:
  - (a) the Member is in a location outside of The City of Chestermere for any reason;
  - (b) the Member is in a location within The City of Chestermere but is unable to attend the meeting; for medical reasons for themselves or an immediate family member are unable to attend;
  - (c) Quorum is met by the Members physically in attendance at the Meeting to ensure that the Meeting can continue if electronic communications fails ;
  - (d) the Meeting location is able to support the use of electronic communications and that all Members participating in the Meeting are able to communicate effectively; and
  - (e) the Meeting location is secure and appropriate for interaction between Members and viewing by the public and free from outside distractions.
- 5.5.4. To arrange for participation in a Council or Committee Meeting through electronic means, a Member must advise the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services at least 48 hours prior to the start of

the Meeting in order to make arrangements for the use of electronic means.

- (a) The Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services may waive the 48-hour notice at his/her discretion.

5.5.5. Members participating in a Meeting through electronic means are deemed to be present at the Meeting but do not count towards Quorum.

5.5.6. Unless the entire meeting is being conducted electronically, pursuant to subsection 5.51, the Chair must be physically present at the Meeting and cannot Chair the Meeting through electronic means.

5.5.7. Only as many Members as are supported by the system's capacity, while still maintaining quorum, when quorum is required, may participate in a Meeting through electronic means at the same time.

5.5.8. The Chair must announce at the Meeting that a Member is participating through electronic means.

5.5.9. The Chair has the sole authority to end the use of electronic means at any time if, in their opinion, the use of electronic means is disruptive to the Meeting, is not secure, or is not appropriate.

#### 5.6. Notice of Council and Committee Meetings

5.6.1. Notice of regular Council and Committee Meetings is provided to the public by:

- (a) following the City's Advertising Bylaw, however named;
- (b) posting on the City's website; and
- (c) posting on the noticeboard at the Town Hall.

5.6.2. Council may by resolution change the date, time, frequency, or location of any Meeting. The Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services is responsible for notifying the public of changes to the date, time, or location of any Council or Committee Meeting or the calling of a Special Meeting. Notice will be provided to the public by:

- (a) following the City's Advertising Bylaw, however named;
- (b) posting on the City's website if time permits; and
- (c) posting on the noticeboard at the City Hall.

#### 5.7. Cancellation of Council and Committee Meetings

5.7.1. Council or Committee Meetings may be cancelled:

- (a) by resolution passed by the Members present at a Meeting held prior to the Meeting to be cancelled; or
- (b) with the written consent of a Majority of Members and with not less than 24 hours' notice of the cancellation provided to the public and Members.



## 6. Agendas

### 6.1. Agenda Preparation and Distribution

6.1.1. The Agenda for each Council Meeting is developed by the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services in consultation with Administration, the Mayor, and the Deputy Mayor.

(a) The Agenda for each Council Meeting is approved by the Mayor prior to distribution, and the Mayor may direct that items be rescheduled to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of each Council Meeting regarding quantity and complexity of agenda items:

- Should items be rescheduled, the Mayor will inform Council of the item and the reason for rescheduling; and
- In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will perform approval and rescheduling of agenda items.

6.1.2. The Agenda for each Committee Meeting is reviewed by the CAO or The Director of Corporate Services or their designate in consultation with Administration, the Chair, and the Vice-Chair.

(a) The Agenda for each Committee Meeting is approved by the Chair prior to distribution, and the Chair may direct that items be rescheduled to maximize effectiveness of each Committee Meeting:

- Should items be rescheduled, the Chair will inform the Committee of the item and the reason for rescheduling; and
- In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair will perform approval and rescheduling of agenda items.

6.1.3. The Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services or their designate distributes Council Agendas to Council no later than two business days prior to each Council Meeting.

6.1.4. The Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services or their designate posts Council Agendas on the City's public website no later than two business days prior to each Council Meeting.

### 6.2. Agenda Additions or Deletions

6.2.1. Council may add or delete items after an Agenda is published by a resolution passed at the Meeting.

6.2.2. Council may only add or delete items after an Agenda has been approved by a resolution passed unanimously by the Members present at the Meeting.

### 6.3. Emergent Business

6.3.1. An Emergent Business item is an Agenda item not included on the Agenda but due to time constraints must be brought before Council at a Meeting. Emergent Business items:

- (a) are considered additions to the Agenda; and
- (b) the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services provides Council with the reasons why an Emergent Business item is urgent and the degree of urgency.

6.3.2. Councillors or Administration may propose to add an Emergent Business item to an Agenda without prior notice subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the matter relates to an emergency;
- (b) the matter was not previously discussed at the same Meeting;
- (c) the matter does not require prior written notice;
- (d) the matter does not raise a Point of Privilege; and
- (e) the Emergent Business item is added to the Agenda by Council by Resolution.

### 6.4. Standing Agenda Items and Order of Business

6.4.1. Immediately after calling a Meeting to order, the Chair calls for a motion to approve the Agenda subject to any additions or deletions.

6.4.2. Immediately after approval of the Agenda, the Chair calls for a motion to approve the Minutes of the previous Meeting subject to any corrections.

6.4.3. Unfinished Business items are considered immediately following the approval of the Agenda and Minutes and prior to the consideration of any other business on the Agenda.

6.4.4. The order of business at a Meeting is determined by the Chair subject to:

- (a) sections 6.4.1, 6.4.2, and 6.4.3 of this Bylaw; or
- (b) a challenge by a Councillor.

## **7. Notices of Motion**

7.1. A Councillor who wishes to introduce a new matter for consideration at a Council Meeting must submit a Notice of Motion in writing or electronically to the Municipal Clerk or their designate by 12:00 PM not less than 10 business days prior to the Meeting that the Councillor wishes to introduce their Notice of Motion.

7.1.1. The requirement for 10 days' notice established in subsection 7.1 of this Bylaw may be waived by a resolution of Council. The Notice of Motion would then be considered Emergent Business at the Meeting.

7.2. The Notice of Motion must provide the following:

- (a) The proposed motion to be considered by Council;
- (b) The name the Councillor who seconds the notice of motion;
- (c) The date of the Meeting at which the Councillor will read the Notice of Motion into the record; and
- (d) The date of the Meeting at which the proposed motion will be considered by Council after the Notice of Motion has been read into the record.

7.3. When a Notice of Motion is read into the record, and only when a resolution has been passed by Council directing Administration to prepare a report in response to the Notice of Motion, Administration shall:

- (a) Provide a report in response to the Notice of Motion at the Meeting date that the proposed motion is proposed to be considered, as per the specifics in the Notice of Motion.

7.4. When providing the date of the Meeting, pursuant to subsection 7.2 (c) of this Bylaw, the Councillor should consider the agenda preparation and distribution deadlines for that Meeting to allow Administration time to prepare its report.

7.5. The proposed motion provided in the Notice of Motion will not be considered or debated until a Councillor moves the motion provided in the Notice of Motion.

## **8. Commencement of Council and Committee Meetings**

- 8.1. As soon as there is Quorum present and after the start time of a Meeting:
- (a) the Chair calls the Meeting to order; or
  - (b) if the Mayor and Deputy Mayor in the case of Council, or the Chair and Vice Chair in the case of a Committee, are not present within 30 minutes after the start time of the Meeting and Quorum is present, the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services calls the Meeting to order and the Members present by resolution choose an Acting Chair for the Meeting.
- 8.2. The Mayor or Deputy Mayor in the case of Council or Chair or Vice Chair in the case of Committee may assume the Chair upon their arrival to the Meeting.

## **9. Quorum**

- 9.1. If Quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the start time of the Meeting, the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services records the names of the Members present and the Meeting is adjourned until the next Meeting.
- 9.2. If Quorum is lost at any time during a Meeting, the Meeting is recessed and if Quorum is not achieved within 15 minutes the Meeting is adjourned until the next Meeting.

## **10. Meeting Proceedings**

- 10.1. All discussion, questions, and debate at a Meeting must be directed through the Chair.
- 10.2. No Member may speak unless and until they are recognized by the Chair.
- 10.3. The Chair rules on Points of Order and Points of Privilege. A ruling by the Chair may be challenged by a Member, in which case a vote is taken by the Members to either uphold or overturn the ruling of the Chair.
- 10.4. Points of Order, Points of Privilege, rulings made by the Chair, and challenges to a ruling made by the Chair are not recorded in the Meeting Minutes.
- 10.5. Unless otherwise permitted by the Chair, Members may speak only twice on any Motion, once in debate and once to ask questions. The Chair may allow a Member to speak more than twice on a matter in the following circumstances:
- (a) to clarify or further explain previous remarks by a Member if misunderstood;
  - (b) in the case of the mover of a Motion, to respond to questions about the Motion directed through the Chair; and

- (c) to allow the mover to close debate on a Motion after the Chair has allowed for discussion on the Motion and all other Members were provided an opportunity to speak to the Motion.

10.6. Members may speak on a matter for a maximum of five minutes unless otherwise permitted by the Chair.

10.7. If a Member arrives late to a Meeting, leaves before it is adjourned, or is temporary absent from the Meeting, the Meeting Minutes reflect the absence and its duration.

10.8. If a Member is unable to attend a Meeting, that Member must advise the Chair of their absence and the reasons for their absence, if possible

## **11. Public Conduct at Meetings**

11.1. When in attendance at a Council or Committee meeting, members of the public must maintain order, decorum, and quiet and must not:

- (a) approach or attempt to address Council or the Committee without prior permission being granted; or
- (b) disturb or interrupt the proceedings of Council or the Committee.

11.2. The Chair may order that a member or members of the public be expelled from the Meeting for disturbing or interrupting the proceedings of Council or the Committee or for otherwise acting improperly during the Meeting.

## **12. Member Conduct at Meetings**

12.1. When in attendance at Meetings, Members must:

- (a) speak respectfully and using parliamentary language;
- (b) be acknowledged by the Chair prior to speaking;
- (c) respect the rules and proceedings of Council or the Committee;
- (d) refrain from side conversations when another Member or a member of the public is speaking;
- (e) respect the decision of the Chair on any ruling, order, question, practice, or interpretation; and
- (f) abide by the applicable Code of Conduct Bylaw.

12.2. If a Member persists in a breach of subsection 12.1 of this Bylaw, the Chair may request that the Deputy Mayor or Committee Vice Chair move a motion to remove the unruly Member from either the balance of the Meeting or until a time provided in the motion. If the motion passes, the Chair shall direct the Member to leave the Meeting.

- 12.3. If the Chair fails to follow the provisions of this Bylaw, or of Robert's Rules of Order when necessary, a Member may request that the Deputy Mayor or Committee Vice Chair move a motion to remove the Chair from either the balance of the Meeting or until a time provided in the motion.
- 12.4. If a Member has been directed to leave the Meeting and that Member wishes to provide a satisfactory explanation and apology for their behavior, the Members may by resolution allow the offending Member to remain or return to the Meeting.

**13. Public Requests to Address Council or a Committee**

- 13.1. Members of the public wishing to address Council or a Committee on an Agenda item that is not a Public Hearing must notify the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services of the request to speak, either in writing or verbally, and state the reasons for the request.
- 13.2. The Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services advises Council or the Committee of the request to speak and the reasons provided by the requestor.
- 13.3. Council or the Committee may by resolution permit a member of the public to speak on an Agenda item. Members of the public who are permitted to address Council or the Committee have a maximum speaking time limit of 15 minutes, which may be extended by resolution.

**14. Public Requests to Present to Council**

- 14.1. Community groups, stakeholders, and individuals may request to make a presentation at a Council Meeting.
- 14.2. Presentation requests must be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer or designate no less than two weeks prior to the Council Meeting at which the presenters wish to present.
- 14.3. All presentation requests must be approved by the Mayor or, in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor in order for the presentation to proceed to the requested Council Meeting date. The Mayor or, in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, at their discretion, may refuse or defer a presentation request in the following circumstances:
  - (a) the subject matter of the presentation is related to an active application from the presenters or the presenters intend to submit an application within six months of the presentation date;
  - (b) the subject matter of the presentation is outside of the authority or jurisdiction of The City of Chestermere;
  - (c) the subject matter of the presentation is more appropriate for a different committee, board, commission, or other body;

- (d) the presentation is better suited for a different Council Meeting due to the size or scope of the Agenda; or
- (e) otherwise at the discretion of the Mayor with reasons provided to the presenters.

14.4. After a presentation request has been approved by the Mayor, the presentation materials must be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services by the presenters no later than three weeks prior to the Meeting.

14.5. Council may by resolution cancel or defer an approved presentation after the Meeting Agenda has been published if:

- (a) the presenters introduce new material or amended presentation materials that change the scope of the original presentation request; or
- (b) otherwise at the discretion of Council.

14.6. Presentations are limited to 15 minutes in duration, unless Council passes a resolution to extend the presentation time limit, and may be followed by questions from Council to the presenters or Administration.

14.7. All presentations, discussion, and questions are directed through the Chair and presenters are not permitted to directly ask questions of Council or Administration.

## **15. Pecuniary Interests**

15.1. When a Member reasonably believes that they have a Pecuniary Interest in a matter before Council or a Committee, the Member must declare their Pecuniary Interest and abstain from participating in the matter in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

15.2. The Member's declaration and abstention due to a Pecuniary Interest are recorded in the Meeting Minutes.

15.3. A Member who has declared a Pecuniary Interest and abstained from a matter is not considered part of Quorum while that matter is being considered.

## **16. Meeting Minutes**

16.1. The Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services prepares a written record of the proceedings and decisions of all Meetings that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) the names of the Members present and absent from the Meeting;
- (b) the names and times of Members who arrive or leave throughout the course of the Meeting;

- (c) the names of members of the public who speak in favour and in opposition at a Public Hearing or are permitted to speak to a matter that is not a Public Hearing;
- (d) a brief description of each matter;
- (e) all decisions and other proceedings on each matter;
- (f) all motions, which Member moved each motion, whether each motion was carried or defeated, and any Members who were absent or abstained from the vote on the motion;
- (g) if a vote is a recorded vote, the names of which Members voted in favour and in opposition to the motion if the result of the vote is not unanimous;
- (h) any abstentions made by Members and the reasons provided by a Member for an abstention; and
- (i) the signatures of the Mayor and the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services in the case of Council or the signatures of the Chair and the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services in the case of a Committee.

## **17. Recording and Livestreaming Meetings**

- 17.1. Council Meetings are recorded and livestreamed to the public with the exception of Closed Sessions.
- 17.2. Committee Meetings may be recorded and livestreamed to the public with the exception of Closed Sessions.
- 17.3. At the start of a Meeting, the Chair notifies those present that the Meeting is being livestreamed and a recording will be made available on the City's public website after the Meeting is adjourned.
- 17.4. The Chair may, at any time and at their discretion, direct the termination or interruption of a livestream.
- 17.5. If there are technical difficulties while livestreaming, the Chair advises those present at the Meeting that the livestream is not available. Notice of the technical difficulties will be provided on the City's public website.
- 17.6. If there are technical difficulties while livestreaming, an audio or video recording will be used to record the Meeting.
- 17.7. Meeting recordings will be retained and provided in accordance with The City of Chestermere records management bylaws, policies, and procedures.
- 17.8. Meeting recordings will only be transcribed by The City of Chestermere if required by the Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services in



connection with any litigation, audit, or investigation or if required under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

17.9. The use of audio or video recording devices by the public or the media during a Meeting is prohibited.

## 18. Voting

### 18.1. Voting Procedures

#### 18.1.1. Votes are taken as follows:

- (a) The Chair calls the question on the Motion;
- (b) The Chair calls for those in favour of the Motion and asks for a show of hands if the electronic voting system is unavailable; and
- (c) The Chair calls for those opposed to the Motion and asks for a show of hands if the electronic voting system is unavailable.

18.1.2. After the Chair calls for a vote on a motion, no Member may speak to the motion or move another motion until the results of the vote have been declared.

18.1.3. Members must cease any distractions and remain in their seats after the voting process begins and until the vote is taken and the results declared.

18.1.4. Members vote verbally, by raising their hand, through an electronic voting system, or by another method agreed upon by the Members.

18.1.5. Every Member present at a Meeting must vote on every matter put to a vote unless a Member is absent from the Meeting or permitted to abstain from voting on the matter;

- (a) If a motion cannot be voted on because Quorum would be lost due to abstentions, the matter will be forwarded to the next Meeting as Unfinished Business.

18.1.6. A motion is carried when a simple majority of Members present vote in favour of the motion or, when otherwise required by this Bylaw, the required number of Members vote in favour of the motion.

18.1.7. A motion is defeated when it does not receive the required number of votes in favour or if the vote results in a tie.

18.1.8. Members are only permitted to change their vote on a motion if the request is made by the Member at the same Meeting that the vote was held and if all Members present unanimously agree to the change.

18.1.9. Unless a vote is a recorded vote, the Meeting Minutes show the name of the Member who moved the motion and whether it was carried or defeated.

### 18.2. Recorded Votes

18.2.1. Before a vote on a motion is taken, a Member may request that the results of the vote be recorded.

18.2.2. When a vote is a recorded vote, the Meeting Minutes show the names of the Member who moved the motion, who voted in favour and in opposition to the motion, who abstained or were absent from the vote, and whether the motion was carried or defeated.

## 19. Motions

### 19.1. General Motion Provisions

- 19.1.1. Unless otherwise determined by the Chair, no matter may be debated or voted on by Council or a Committee unless it is in the form of a motion that has been verbally moved by a Member.
- 19.1.2. A Member may move a motion regardless of whether the Member intends to support the motion and without requiring the motion to be seconded by another Member.
- 19.1.3. Motions may be displayed to Council or a Committee prior to the vote on the motion, and the Chair may request that a motion be submitted by a Member in writing or electronically.
- 19.1.4. The Chair must not call for a vote on a motion until the Members and the Municipal Clerk are clear on how the motion reads.
- 19.1.5. Motions that bring a matter before Council or a Committee are known as main motions. When a main motion has been moved and is being considered, a Member cannot make another motion except to:
  - (a) move a subsidiary motion which is applied to another motion for the purpose of modifying it, delaying acting on it, handing its consideration, or disposing of it;
  - (b) move a privileged motion which relates to the rights or privileges of the organization or individual members rather than to particular items of business. They are of such urgency that they are entitled to immediate consideration; or
  - (c) move an incidental motion which are made in response to a variety of situations that may arise during the consideration of a pending question. They must be resolved before business can continue. They have no rank.

### 19.2. Withdrawing Motions

- 19.2.1. After a motion has been verbally moved by a Member, the motion becomes the property of Council or the Committee as a whole and may only be withdrawn by the mover with the unanimous consent of the Members present.
- 19.2.2. Withdrawn motions are not recorded in the Meeting Minutes.

### 19.3. Severing Motions

- 19.3.1. If a motion includes two or more recommendations, the Chair or a Member may request, prior to the vote on the motion, that the motion be severed and debated and voted on individually.
- 19.3.2. The mover of the original motion is considered the mover of any severed motions.

#### 19.4. Amendments to Motions

- 19.4.1. After a motion has been verbally moved by a Member, the motion becomes the property of Council or the Committee as a whole. A Member may make minor changes to the wording of the motion, or accept any minor changes proposed by another Member, if the changes do not alter the intent of the Motion and the Members present must have a majority vote to consent to the changes.
- 19.4.2. Friendly amendments may be proposed by a Member or requested by a Member while speaking on or debating a motion.
- 19.4.3. Friendly amendments are not recorded in the Meeting Minutes, and the mover of the original motion is still considered the mover after any friendly amendments are made to the motion.

#### 19.5. Amending Motions

- 19.5.1. A Member may move to amend a motion after it has been moved and prior to the vote on the motion, except for the following types of motions which cannot be amended:
  - (a) motion to refer;
  - (b) motion to table, except as to the time provided in the main motion;
  - (c) motion to adjourn;
  - (d) motion for the first or third reading of a bylaw; or
  - (e) motion to permit the consideration of third reading of a bylaw.
- 19.5.2. A Member cannot move an amendment to a motion that does not relate to the subject matter of the motion or is contrary to the motion.
- 19.5.3. A Member may move an amendment to an amendment provided that the amendment to the amendment is relevant to the subject matter of the amendment and not contrary to the amendment.
- 19.5.4. Only one amendment to a motion and only one amendment to an amendment are permitted at the same time.

19.5.5. The amendment to the amendment must be considered before the amendment to the motion is considered, and all amendments are considered in reverse order in which they were moved, resulting in the main motion only being considered after all pending amendments have been considered.

19.5.6. A Member who moved a motion may only amend that motion through a friendly amendment and cannot move an amendment to the motion.

#### 19.6. Motions Out of Order

19.6.1. The Chair may rule that a motion or an amendment to a motion is out of order, subject to a challenge of the ruling by a Member.

19.6.2. When ruling that a motion is out of order, the Chair must cite the applicable rule or authority without further comment.

19.6.3. Motions that are ruled by the Chair to be out of order are not considered or voted on by Council or the Committee.

19.6.4. When ruling whether a motion is out of order, the Chair may consider, but is not limited to considering, the following:

- (a) the Chair may deem a motion to be out of order if it is a motion to refer that has the same effect as defeating the motion (for example, due to time constraints);
- (b) the Chair may deem a motion to be out of order if a similar motion was considered and voted on within the previous six months and without first reconsidering the original motion;
- (c) the Chair may deem a motion to be out of order if it conflicts with established procedures or is contrary to the privileges of Members; and
- (d) a motion containing several different or distinct recommendations is not out of order for that reason alone.

#### 19.7. Debating Motions and Closing Debate

19.7.1. After a motion has been moved by a Member, each Member is provided an opportunity to speak on the motion before it is voted on unless a motion is passed to end or limit debate on the motion.

19.7.2. Unless a resolution is passed to extend the time limit of debate, no Member may speak on a motion, including asking questions and debate but excluding any responses to those questions or debate, for longer than:

- (a) five minutes on a main motion;
- (b) three minutes on an amendment to a motion; or

- (c) three minutes for closing debate on a motion or an amended to a motion.

19.7.3. Members cannot interrupt while another Member is speaking except when a Member:

- (a) has exceeded their time limit to speak;
- (b) raises a Point of Privilege;
- (c) raises a Point of Order; or
- (d) challenges a ruling of the Chair.

19.7.4. While a motion is being debated and considered, no other motion may be made except for the following:

- (a) Amend the motion;
- (b) Amend the amendment to the motion;
- (c) Refer the main motion;
- (d) Table the main motion;
- (e) Call the question;
- (f) Move a motion which has privilege, that is:
  - A motion to recess;
  - A motion to adjourn;
  - A motion to set time for adjournment;
  - A point of privilege;
- (g) Motion to limit or extend debate.

19.7.5. Before debate is closed and the vote on a motion is called, and without interrupting a speaker, a Member may request that the motion be read aloud, displayed at any time during debate, or ask clarifying questions that:

- (a) relate directly to the debate on the motion;
- (b) contain no argument; and
- (c) introduce no new material.

19.7.6. The Member who moved a motion may close debate on the motion after all other Members have been provided an opportunity to speak on the motion.

19.7.7. After the Member has closed debate on the motion, the Chair immediately calls for a vote on the motion. After the vote on the motion has been

called, no Member may debate or speak on the motion further except to request that the motion be read aloud or displayed.

#### 19.8. Privileged Motions

19.8.1. The following motions are considered privileged motions:

- (a) motion to recess;
- (b) a motion to adjourn;
- (c) a motion to set a time for adjournment; and
- (d) a point of privilege.

#### 19.9. Motion to Recess

19.9.1. The Chair may recess the meeting for a specific period of time and call the meeting back to order without requiring a motion.

19.9.2. A Member may move that the meeting be recessed for a specific period of time. After the meeting is called back to order, business is resumed at the point where it was interrupted.

#### 19.10. Motion to Adjourn

19.10.1. A Member may move to adjourn the meeting at any time, except when:

- (a) a Member has the floor or is speaking on a motion;
- (b) a vote has been called on a motion;
- (c) a vote on a motion is being conducted;
- (d) the Meeting is in a Closed Session; or
- (e) a previous motion to adjourn has been defeated and no other intermediate business or proceeding has occurred since the motion to adjourn was defeated.

19.10.2. Motions to adjourn are non-debatable and are voted on without comment or amendment.

#### 19.11. Motion to Limit or End Debate

19.11.1. A Member may move to limit or end debate on a motion. Motions to limit or end debate:

- (a) are not debatable;
- (b) must be passed by Resolution; and
- (c) may only be amended as to the limit to be placed on debate.



19.11.2. A Motion to limit or end debate takes precedence, but does not have privilege, over other motions except for a motion to table or a motion with privilege.

19.12. Motion to Refer

19.12.1. A Member may move to refer any matter or motion to Administration, a Committee, or other body for further investigation, consideration, and report. A motion to refer:

- (a) is debatable;
- (b) precludes all further amendments to a motion;
- (c) may only be amended as to what body the motion is to be referred or any instructions or direction included in the referral.

19.13. Motion to Receive as Information

19.13.1. A Member may move to receive an item, matter, report, presentation, recommendation, or other thing as information.

19.13.2. A motion to receive as information is made as acknowledgement and to retain the item, matter, report, presentation, recommendation, or other thing in the corporate record without taking additional action.

19.14. Motion Arising

19.14.1. A Member may move an arising motion only if:

- (a) the motion arising is directly related to a matter or motion that has just been considered; and
- (b) the motion arising is moved before another matter or motion is brought forward.

19.15. Motion to Table

19.15.1. A Member may move to table a matter or motion and all pending amendments to the motion either temporarily or indefinitely (sine die) with the intention of bringing the matter or motion back for consideration at a later date or time. A motion to table:

- (a) must include either a set date or time or be made sine die (without a set date or time);
- (b) is only debatable with respect to the date or time;
- (c) takes precedence over other motions related to the matter or motion being tabled and
- (d) cannot be amended.

19.15.2. A matter or motion that has been tabled to a set date must not be considered before the date or time indicated in the motion to table except by Resolution.

19.16. Motion to Lift from the Table

19.16.1. A matter or motion that has been tabled is brought back exactly as they were when they were laid on the table, including all related motions and amendments.

19.16.2. If the motion to table included a set date for return, the matter or motion is added to the Meeting Agenda on that date without the requirement for a motion to lift from the table.

19.16.3. If the motion to table included a set time for return later in the same meeting or was made sine die, the matter or motion must be lifted from the table by resolution before consideration of the tabled matter or motion begins. A motion to lift from the table:

- (a) may only be made when no other motion is on the floor;
- (b) cannot be debated or amended;
- (c) may be made at a Regular Meeting but not at a Special Meeting, unless notice of the tabled matter or motion was provided in the notice of the Special Meeting.

19.16.4. If a motion to lift from the table is defeated, a subsequent motion to lift from the table may only be made again after other business is considered.

19.16.5. When a matter or motion that was tabled sine die is brought back to a future Meeting, it must be accompanied by a new report from Administration containing a recommendation to lift the matter or motion from the table.

19.16.6. Except for matters or motions tabled sine die, if a tabled matter or motion is not lifted from the table within one year, or is not lifted from the table before the next Election, it cannot be lifted from the table and may only be made as a new motion.

19.17. Motion to Reconsider

19.17.1. A Member may move to reconsider a motion previously passed or defeated provided that:

- (a) the motion to reconsider is made at the same meeting that the original motion was made; and
- (b) the motion to reconsider is moved by a Member who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion; or

- (c) a Notice of Motion is submitted, prior to the Meeting at which it is to be considered, in which a Member sets out what special or exceptional circumstances warrant reconsideration of the original motion; and
- (d) the original motion has not already been acted upon.

19.17.2. A motion to reconsider is debatable only if the motion to be reconsidered is debatable.

19.17.3. A motion cannot be reconsidered if:

- (a) six months has passed since the original motion was considered; or
- (b) an Election was held since the original motion was considered.

19.17.4. The following motions cannot be reconsidered:

- (a) a motion which created a contractual liability or obligation cannot be reconsidered, altered, varied, revoked, rescinded, or replaced except to the extent that it does not attempt to void or interfere with the liability or obligation;
- (b) a motion to adjourn, to set a time for adjournment, or to recess;
- (c) a motion to close nominations for an appointment;
- (d) a request to sever a motion containing multiple recommendations, proposals, or actions;
- (e) a Point of Order, Point of Privilege, or Point of Information;
- (f) a motion to suspend a rule or rules contained in this Bylaw;
- (g) a motion to table or to lift from the table;
- (h) a motion to adopt the Agenda;
- (i) permission to withdraw a motion;
- (j) a motion to rescind a reading of a bylaw;
- (k) a motion to provide first or third reading of a bylaw; and
- (l) a motion to reconsider a motion.

19.18. Motion to Rescind

19.18.1. A Member may move to rescind a motion previously passed. If passed, the motion to rescind renders the original motion null and void.

19.18.2. A Member must submit a Notice of Motion to rescind a motion if that motion was considered at a previous Meeting and the same matter is not included on the Agenda.

19.18.3. A motion to rescind does not undo any actions that have been taken as a result of the original motion being passed.

19.18.4. A motion to rescind is debatable only on the merits of the original motion that is proposed to be rescinded.

19.19. Motion to Move into a Closed Session

19.19.1. A Member may move a motion to move into a Closed Session. A motion to move into a Closed Session must be in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Government Act and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

## 20. Public Hearings

### 20.1. General Public Hearing Provisions

- 20.1.1. Public Hearings are held when required by the Municipal Government Act or any other legislation or when Council directs that a matter be considered through a Public Hearing.
- 20.1.2. Public Hearings are held at Regular or Special Council Meetings.
- 20.1.3. When a Public Hearing is required to be held on a proposed bylaw or resolution, the Public Hearing will be held after first reading and prior to second reading of the proposed bylaw or prior to a vote on the proposed resolution.
- 20.1.4. Public Hearings are advertised in accordance with the Municipal Government Act and any applicable The City of Chestermere bylaws, policies, and procedures.

### 20.2. Written Submissions, Audio/Video Submissions, and Verbal Presentations

- 20.2.1. Public Hearing advertisements must include an outline of the process for providing written submissions and audio/video submissions and must provide a deadline for submitting written submissions to be included in the Agenda and provided to Council as part of the Public Hearing.
- 20.2.2. In order to be included in the Agenda and provided to Council as part of a Public Hearing, written submissions must be received prior to the advertised submission deadline and include the following:
  - (a) the name and legal or municipal address of the signatories; and
  - (b) how each signatory is affected by the subject matter of the Public Hearing.
- 20.2.3. Written submissions received after the advertised submission deadline will be accepted by The City of Chestermere and may be provided to Council as part of the Public Hearing, if approved through a resolution of Council.
- 20.2.4. Written or audio/visual submissions containing the following will not be accepted by City of Chestermere or provided to Council as part of the Public Hearing:
  - (a) personal attacks or derogatory or defamatory statements; or
  - (b) statements that promote discrimination against a person or class of persons, or is likely to expose a person or class of persons to hatred or contempt, in accordance with provisions of the Human Rights Act.

20.2.5. An individual or group may provide a verbal presentation to Council at a Public Hearing which may include a written component as part of the presentation.

### 20.3. Group Submissions and Presentations

20.3.1. A group may provide a written submission, audio/video submission or verbal presentation to Council as part of a Public Hearing in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) the group submission or presentation is signed by three or more persons who claim to be affected by the subject matter of the Public Hearing who have agreed to put forward a common interest or concern on that subject matter;
- (b) if a group wishes to provide a verbal presentation to Council at a Public Hearing, the group must designate one individual as its spokesperson to be solely responsible for presenting on behalf of the group; and
- (c) if a written submission is received from a group and the group also wishes to provide a verbal presentation at a Public Hearing, Council will only hear from the designated spokesperson of the group and will only hear new information not already contained in the group's written submission.

### 20.4. Presenting at a Public Hearing

20.4.1. Individuals or groups who wish to present in-person at a Public Hearing should register on the designated sign-in sheet as either in support or in opposition of the proposed bylaw, resolution, or other thing subject to the Public Hearing.

20.4.2. When addressing Council at a Public Hearing in person or via audio/video submission, the person present must state:

- (a) their name and legal or municipal Street address;
- (b) an indication as to whether they are speaking on their own behalf, on behalf of another person, or on behalf of a group;
- (c) an indication as to whether they are speaking in support or in opposition to the proposed bylaw, resolution, or other thing subject to the Public Hearing;
- (d) how they are affected by the proposed bylaw, resolution, or other thing subject to the Public Hearing; and must
- (e) address the Chair when responding to questions or providing information.

- 20.4.3. An individual may authorize another individual to present on their behalf if such authorization is provided in writing and proof of such can be provided at the Public Hearing.
- 20.4.4. An individual or group may present only once at a Public Hearing.
- 20.4.5. Presentations may include electronic components such as photos, videos, maps, PowerPoint presentations, written presentations. All presentation materials used at a Public Hearing form part of the public record and will be collected by The City of Chestermere and provided to the public upon request.

## 20.5. Public Hearing Procedures

- 20.5.1. The Chair calls for a motion to open the Public Hearing and notes the time that the Public Hearing is opened.
- 20.5.2. The Chair reminds any individual or group that wishes to present at the Public Hearing to register on the designated sign-in sheet either in support or in opposition of the proposed bylaw, resolution, or other thing subject to the Public Hearing.
- 20.5.3. The Chair announces that the Public Hearing is being recorded and live-streamed and will be available to view by the public.
- 20.5.4. The Chair announces that the use of audio or video recording devices and cameras by the public or press is prohibited.
- 20.5.5. The Chair provides an outline of the Public Hearing process and procedures in the following sequence:
  - (a) Staff report from Administration;
  - (b) Presentation from the applicant;
  - (c) Presentations from the public in support of the proposal;
  - (d) Presentations from the public in opposition of the proposal;
  - (e) Rebuttal presentation from the applicant limited only to the comments received or heard in opposition; and
  - (f) Final questions of Administration.
- 20.5.6. The Chair calls for the staff report from Administration to introduce the proposed bylaw, resolution, or other thing subject to the Public Hearing.
  - (a) Questions of clarification from Members to Administration are permitted by the Chair during this portion of the Public Hearing.

20.5.7. Following the staff report from Administration, the Chair calls for the applicant to present their application.

- (a) Presentations from the applicant are limited to a maximum of 15 minutes unless Council passes a motion to extend the presentation time limit.
- (b) Questions of clarification from Members to the applicant are permitted by the Chair during this portion of the Public Hearing.

20.5.8. Following the presentation from the applicant, the Chair calls for presentations from the public, either in support or in opposition to the proposed bylaw, resolution, or other thing subject to the Public Hearing.

- (a) Presentations including audio/video submissions from individuals, whether in support or opposition, are limited to a maximum of five minutes, unless a motion is passed by Council to extend the presentation time limit.
- (b) Presentations including audio/video submissions from groups, whether in support or opposition, are limited to a maximum of 5 minutes, unless a motion is passed by Council to extend the presentation time limit.
- (c) Public presentations begin with those in support and the Chair calls for any audio/video submissions to be played. After any audio/video submissions have been played, the Chair calls upon the individuals or groups that have registered to present in support on the designated sign-in sheet in the order that they appear on the list.
- (d) After every individual or group that registered to present in support is provided an opportunity to present, the Chair asks three times whether anyone else wishes to present in support and provides them an opportunity to present.
- (e) After the public presentations in support have concluded, the Chair calls for any audio/video submissions to be played in opposition. After any audio/video submissions have been played, the Chair calls upon the individuals or groups that have registered to present in opposition on the designated sign-in sheet in the order that they appear on the list.
- (f) After every individual or group that registered to present in opposition is provided an opportunity to present, the Chair asks three times whether anyone else wishes to present in opposition and provides them an opportunity to present.



- (g) Questions of clarification from Members to the public presenters, whether in support or opposition, are only permitted by the Chair during this portion of the Public Hearing.
- 20.5.9. Following the public presentation in support and in opposition, the Chair invites the applicant to provide a rebuttal to any points raised in opposition to their application either in a written submission or presentation provided at the Public Hearing.
- (a) The rebuttal by the applicant is limited to a maximum of 10 minutes unless a motion is passed by Council to extend the presentation time limit.
  - (b) The Chair allows questions of clarification from Members to the applicant during this portion of the Public Hearing only in regard to the information provided by the applicant during their rebuttal.
- 20.5.10. Following the rebuttal from the applicant, the Chair allows for any final questions from Members to Administration.
- 20.5.11. The Chair calls for a motion to close the Public Hearing and notes the time that the Public Hearing is closed. The Public Hearing must be closed before Council votes on the proposed bylaw, resolution, or other thing subject to the Public Hearing.
- 20.5.12. Pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, Members who are absent for the whole Public Hearing must abstain from voting on the matter. Members who are absent for part of the Public Hearing may abstain from voting on the matter.
- (a) If the number of Members present at the Meeting is less than Quorum after those Members have abstained from voting, the debate and vote is postponed until the next Regular Council Meeting.

## 21. Bylaws

### 21.1. Bylaw Requirements and Introducing Bylaws

#### 21.1.1. Proposed bylaws must:

- (a) be assigned a unique bylaw number and provide a concise title indicating the general purpose of the bylaw;
- (b) be given to Councillors or Councillors must have otherwise had the opportunity to receive the full text of the proposed bylaw before considering a motion for first reading of the bylaw;
- (c) if amended, be presented as amended in its entirety to all Members present at the meeting prior to consideration of subsequent readings of the bylaw;
- (d) amendments to a bylaw may only be made prior to consideration of third reading of the bylaw;
- (e) pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, be provided three separate and distinct readings and not be provided more than two readings at one Meeting unless the Members present unanimously pass a motion to authorize third reading at that Meeting; and
- (f) any bylaw that fails to receive unanimous authorization for third reading will be included on the Agenda of the next Regular Council Meeting, or on the agenda of a Special Council Meeting, for consideration of third reading.

21.1.2. For bylaws that do not require a statutory Public Hearing, Administration will provide an introduction to the proposed bylaw prior to consideration of first reading of the bylaw.

### 21.2. Bylaws Requiring a Statutory Public Hearing

21.2.1. For bylaws that require a statutory Public Hearing, Administration will provide an introduction to the proposed bylaw prior to consideration of first reading of the bylaw and prior to the Public Hearing for the proposed bylaw.

21.2.2. First reading of a bylaw is without amendment or debate.

21.2.3. Any proposed amendments to a bylaw must be made in the form of a motion and be put to a vote. Amendments passed are incorporated into the bylaw at second and third readings of the bylaw.

21.2.4. After all proposed amendments have been voted on and either passed or defeated, the Chair calls for a vote on second and third reading of the bylaw or second and third reading of the bylaw as amended, if applicable.

21.2.5. Once a bylaw receives first reading, Administration establishes a date and time to hold the Public Hearing on the bylaw. The Public Hearing must be held before consideration of second reading of the bylaw.

### 21.3. Bylaw Consolidations

21.3.1. The Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services is authorized to prepare consolidations of bylaws as required from time to time pursuant to the Municipal Government Act.

## 22. Severability

22.1. Each provision of this Bylaw is independent of all other provisions. If any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions of this Bylaw will remain valid and enforceable.

## 23. Transitional

23.1. Bylaw 013-20, being the Procedure Bylaw, and all amendments thereto are repealed upon this Bylaw 014-22 passing and coming into full force and effect.

23.2. Bylaw 014-22, being the Procedure Bylaw, comes into full force and effect once the third reading is passed and it is signed in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

READ A FIRST TIME IN COUNCIL this

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

READ A SECOND TIME IN COUNCIL this

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

READ A THIRD TIME IN COUNCIL this

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

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Mayor

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City Director – Corporate Services

## Bylaw 014-22

### Schedule 'A' – Definitions

1. **“Administration”** means the operations and staff under the direction of the Chief Administrative Officer.
2. **“Agenda”** means the list of items and orders of business for a Meeting along with their associated reports, attachments, appendices, and other materials.
3. **“Bylaw”** means a Bylaw of The City of Chestermere
4. **“Chair”** means the person with the authority to preside over a Meeting and direct the proceedings and conduct of that Meeting.
5. **“Clear Majority”** means more than half of the votes of the Members present at the meeting who are not required or permitted to abstain from voting. For example, if 9 votes are cast, the Clear Majority (more than 4.5) is 5.
6. **“Closed Session”** means a meeting or part of a meeting that is closed to the public in accordance with the Municipal Government Act and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, or as allowed under any other enactment.
7. **“Code of Conduct Bylaw”** means, as the context requires, either The City of Chestermere Council Code of Conduct, or any applicable Committee Code of Conduct Bylaw, as amended or replaced from time to time
8. **“Committee”** means a Committee, Board, or other body of The City of Chestermere established by Council and with Members appointed by Council, but does not include an assessment review board established under [section 454](#) or a subdivision and development appeal board established under [section 627](#) of the Municipal Government Act;
9. **“Council”** means the duly elected Council of The City of Chestermere and includes the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and all Councillors.
10. **“Councillor”** means a duly elected member of Council and includes the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and all Councillors.
11. **“City”** means The City of Chestermere.
12. **“Chief Administrative Officer or The Director of Corporate Services”** means the Chief Administrative Officer of the City of Chestermere pursuant to the Municipal Government Act or their authorized delegate.
13. **“Deputy Mayor”** means the deputy chief elected official appointed under section 152 of the Municipal Government Act.

14. **"Election"** means a General Election as defined and held pursuant to the Local Authorities Election Act, RSA 2000, c E-21, as amended or replaced from time to time, and does not include a by-election or a vote on a bylaw or question.
15. **"Emergent Business"** means a time-sensitive matter that requires immediate and urgent consideration by Council or a Committee.
16. **"Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act"** means the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA 2000, c F-25 as amended or replaced from time to time.
17. **"Group"** means three or more persons with a common interest in a matter before Council or a Committee, one of whom is designated as the spokesperson for the group and is solely responsible for presenting on behalf of the group.
18. **"Majority"** means more than half of the Members present.
19. **"Mayor"** means the person elected or appointed as chief elected official under section 150 of the Municipal Government Act.
20. **"Meeting"** means an Organizational, Regular, or Special Meeting of Council or a Committee.
21. **"Member"** means either:
  - (a) a Councillor; or
  - (b) a person appointed by Council to a Committee.
22. **"Minutes"** means the written record of the proceedings and decisions of a Meeting.
23. **"Motion"** means a proposal for action by Council or a Committee.
24. **"Municipal Government Act"** means the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26, as amended or replaced from time to time.
25. **"Organizational Meeting"** is an Organizational Meeting of Council held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act.
26. **"Pecuniary Interest"** means a pecuniary interest as contemplated in the Municipal Government Act
27. **"Point of Information"** means a request raised by a Member directed through the Chair to another Member or to Administration for information relevant to the business at hand but not related to a Point of Order.
28. **"Point of Order"** means a question or concern raised by a Member directed to the Chair to call attention to any departure from the Procedure Bylaw or to obtain information on a matter of procedure bearing on the business at hand in order to assist a Member to make

an appropriate motion or to understand the parliamentary situation or the effect of a motion.

When raising a Point of Order, the Member must verbally state what the departure from the Procedure Bylaw is.

29. **“Point of Privilege”** means a matter that is not related to the pending business and has to do with special matters of immediate and overriding importance which, without debate, should be allowed to interrupt the consideration of anything else. It affects Council or Committee collectively or the conduct of individual Members and includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - (a) The comfort of Members;
  - (b) The conduct of Members;
  - (c) The conduct of Administration;
  - (d) The conduct of members of the public in attendance at the meeting; or
  - (e) The reputation of members or of Council or a Committee as a whole.
30. **“Public Hearing”** means a Public Hearing held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act or any other legislation, whether statutory or non-statutory.
31. **“Quorum”** is the minimum number of members who must be present at a Meeting to conduct business and is the Majority of Members. For example, Quorum for Council is five Members.
32. **“Regular Meeting”** is a Regular Meeting of Council held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act
33. **“Resolution”** is a declaration of Council or a Committee's intention with respect to a particular matter at a specific time.
34. **“Special Meeting”** is a Special Meeting of Council held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act
35. **“Stand at Ease”** means a brief pause called by the Chair of a Meeting without a declaration of a recess and Members must remain in their places.
36. **“Terms of Reference”** means a Terms of Reference or bylaw approved by Council that establishes the functions, procedures, membership, and other governance characteristics of a Board or Committee.
37. **“Unfinished Business”** is business that has been raised at the same or a previous Meeting and that has not been completed.