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Town of Aurora

Member Motion

Councillor Gallo

Re: Amendment to the Procedure Bylaw

To: Members of Council

From: Councillor John Gallo

Date: April 8, 2025

Whereas the current procedural bylaw is silent in section 48, Point of Personal Privilege, regarding the chair being the subject of a Breach of Rules or where the chair is the subject of a Point of Personal Privilege; and,

Whereas no member of council or committee is above the rules or immune from them when they are contravened; and,

Whereas at the March 25, 2025 Council meeting, Mayor Tom Mrakas refused to call a vote when a challenge arose regarding a Point of Personal Privilege; and

Whereas the current procedural bylaw does not take into account specifically when the chair is called on a Point of Personal Privilege; and

Whereas as a result of the March 25th 2025 meeting when Mayor Mrakas refused to call a vote when a challenge arose on a Point of Personal Privilege and the current Procedural Bylaw is silent when the chair is the subject of a Point of Personal Privilege.

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That a bylaw to amend Bylaw No. 6228-19 being govern the proceedings of Council and Committee meetings of the Town of Aurora, be brought forward to amend Section 48 to the following;

Section 48 - Point of Personal Privilege

- a) A Member may rise at any time on a Point of Personal Privilege where such Member feels that the health, safety, rights, or integrity of their own person, the Council, a Committee Member, Staff, the Chair, or anyone present at the Meeting has been called into question by another Member or by anyone present at the Meeting.

- b)** Upon hearing a Point of Personal Privilege, the Chair decides and states their ruling on the matter, except where the Chair is the subject of the Point of Personal Privilege.
- c)** Where the Chair is the subject of the Point of Personal Privilege, the Deputy Mayor or a Member chosen by the Members present, assumes the role of ruling on the matter.
- d)** Where a ruling is made that a breach of privilege has taken place, the individual presiding (Deputy Mayor, or chosen Member) demands that the offending Member or individual apologize. Failing such an apology, the individual is required to vacate the Meeting room for the duration of the Meeting.
- e)** With the exception of providing an apology, a Member may address the presiding individual to appeal the ruling of a breach of privilege to the Council or a Committee.
- f)** If no Member appeals, the decision of the presiding individual is final.
- g)** If a Member appeals the ruling to the Council or a Committee, the Member has the right to state their case, the presiding individual has the right to reply, and the majority of Council or Committee decides the question of whether the decision of the presiding individual be sustained without further debate. The decision of a majority of the Members who are present at the Meeting is final.