



REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting: April 14, 2025

BYLAW #1804 – PROCEDURAL BYLAW

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:

Over the last five years, Alberta Municipal Affairs has been making changes to the *Municipal Government Act* to provide the opportunity for full and meaningful public participation in electronic council meetings and public hearings. The possibility of meetings being held electronically started during COVID-19 when meeting in person was either not possible at all or possible under strict restrictions. Council passed Bylaw #1697 in March 2020, which was an amendment to the Procedural Bylaw, that allowed for meetings to be held by electronic means or for meetings to be cancelled under “extenuating circumstances”. A new Procedural Bylaw was adopted in October 2021 that further outlined procedures to be followed for meetings to be held with an electronic element.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS:

The latest amendment made by Municipal Affairs was by way of Bill 20 in 2024, which signaled changes to the *MGA* and the *Local Authorities Elections Act*. A significant change is the requirement of every council to have a bylaw in place by April 30, 2025 to provide for public hearings for planning and development matters to be conducted by electronic means. Recently, Town staff attended a Zoom meeting that outlined some of the wording that needs to be included in the Town’s bylaw in order to meet the new requirements. Bylaw #1804 addresses the changes Alberta Municipal Affairs has legislated to be followed.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Councillor _____ to give Bylaw #1804, the Procedural Bylaw, 1st Reading.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1.) Bylaw #1804 - Procedural Bylaw

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:

- 1.) Municipal Government Act

PREPARED BY: Karine Keys, Finance Assistant

APPROVED BY: Abe Tinney, CAO

DATE: April 9, 2025