



Minutes

The Blue Mountains Special Committee of the Whole Meeting

Meeting Date: February 5, 2018
Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chamber
32 Mill Street, Thornbury
Prepared by Corrina Giles, Town Clerk

A. Call to Order

▪ **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: R.J. Gamble

Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT the Agenda of February 5, 2018 be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, Carried.

▪ **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof**

None

B. Deputations

B.1 Deputation: Rosemary Mesley, Resident

Re: Public Participation at Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings

Rosemary spoke on behalf of the Citizen's Forum thanking Committee for hearing her deputation. Rosemary supports staff report FAF.18.13 Proposed Changes to the Town Procedural By-law 2009-59, specifically as it relates to public participation. Rosemary noted that this will allow improved communication and engagement with community members is to be encouraged. Rosemary asked that a 15 minute open mic session should also be included at the start of each Council Meeting regarding matters that are and are not included on the Agenda.

Rosemary provided background information of surrounding municipalities that have public participation on the agenda at Council meetings and their process to allow public to address Council. Rosemary noted that currently being Owen Sound, Meaford, Grey Highlands, Clearview and Wasaga Beach allow for public comment at Council Meetings. Rosemary spoke regarding a recent survey conducted by the Citizens Forum in the spring of 2017 where 96% supported the concept of an Open Mic.

Councillor Michael Seguin asked Rosemary if the Citizens Forum is recommending to the Clerk that all comments be included in the minutes. Rosemary replying yes it would be recommended by the Citizens Forum.

Committee thanked Rosemary Mesley on her presentation.

D. Adjournment

Moved by: R.J. Gamble

Seconded by: Michael Martin

THAT this Committee of the Whole does now adjourn at 3:03 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

John McGee, Councillor

Krista Royal, Deputy Clerk