

Town of Newmarket - Council & Committee Update

On Monday, April 27th the Town of Newmarket will be hosting [a Special Council meeting](#) and will be bringing forward [an amendment](#) for approval regarding their [Procedural By-law to Permit Electronic Participation during a State of Emergency](#). Earlier this month, the Town suspended Council/Committee until August because the current Procedural By-law does not outline provisions for members of Newmarket Council to participate electronically. Therefore this necessary amendment is being requested in order to permit such participation for both Council and members of the public to restart meetings virtually.

The Town has collaborated with other municipalities to understand best practices for electronic meetings and have developed updates for written deputations, Public Information Centres, and Statutory Public Planning Meetings. These updates are as follows:

- **Written Deputations:** Members of the public who wish to submit a deputation in relation to an item on an agenda shall provide their comments in writing no later than 2 hours prior to the start of the meeting to clerks@newmarket.ca. These comments will be read aloud by the Mayor during the live meeting, considered with the related item, and will form part of the public record.
- **Public Information Centres:** Staff are continuing to investigate the use of technology to engage the public for matter that require engagement and community consultation.
- **Statutory Public Meetings:** Newmarket Planning Services is continuing to process all planning applications to the point where a statutory public planning meeting or Council decision is required. Staff expect to report to Council with greater information and clarity regarding matters of the Planning Act and statutory public meetings at Council's next meeting, until then meetings of this nature are on hold.
- **Please refer – [here](#),** for BILD's consolidated findings on how York Region and the local area municipalities are moving forward with Council/Committee and Statutory Public Meetings during this time.

Further to this amendment, and in every effort to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Town has provided further updates to their Planning, Building and Engineering Services.

Planning and Building Services:

- Continuing to hold pre-consultation meetings for new Planning applications via videoconference.
- Accepting electronic submissions of applications for Zoning By-law Amendment, Official Plan Amendment, Draft Plan of Subdivision, and Draft Plan of Condominium.
- New applications for Site Plan Approval are being accepted electronically.
- Advancing site plan applications not required to be presented to Site Plan Review Committee through the standard process.
- Continuing to review and process existing applications. Depending on the type of application and whether public notice and meetings are required, applications may advance or be paused until the State of Emergency is lifted.
- Accepting new building applications and processing and issuing Building Permits.
- Continuing building inspections for unoccupied homes under construction and for construction projects deemed essential by the Province.

Engineering Services:

- Continuing work on studies, designs, drawings, applications, projects and field work to be future and tender ready in the Capital Projects, Development Engineering, and Transportation Services business units.
- Development Engineering is reviewing applications for future developments as developers are only permitted to complete housing projects in progress by the Provincial Order. New Housing projects are currently not permitted.
- Two Inflow and Infiltration projects are continuing.
- Monitoring two storm water management ponds for “critical” work due to sedimentation and possibility of damage to private property, working on the Climate Change Risk Analysis, Macro-Economic analysis of watershed-wide storm water works.
- All non-critical large linear capital construction works including road reconstruction, new water mains, sewers, trails and parks construction have been put on hold.
- All site visits are conducted individually using staff member’s personal vehicles to mitigate social contact.

For more information on the Town of Newmarket’s service response to COVID-19, please [refer here](#). For BILD’s consolidated findings on how York Region and its local area municipalities are moving forward with services during this time, [refer here](#).

As a friendly reminder, [BILD’s website](#) contains the most recent updates to members including any relevant provincial bulletins, the status and actions of any municipalities/regions as it pertains to your operations and bulletins/notices from our partner organizations. BILD staff is monitoring the situation closely and making updates as new information comes along.

To view this Special Council meeting electronically, see details below:

Date & Time: Monday, April 27th at 2:00pm

Location: [Livestream](#)