

	Decision-Making	
	Policy Type:	Governance Process
	Number:	GP-A-2.1
	To be Reviewed:	Once per term
	Approval Date:	January 13, 2020
	Motion Number:	20.C.009
	Revised Date(s):	

Policy Statement:

Council will ensure decision-making is open, clear, transparent, accountable, people-first, and in compliance with the *Municipal Government Act* and the Town's Strategic Direction.

1. Decision Making Style

- 1.1 Council will solicit and consider input from each other, the community, information experts, administration, and other stakeholders.
- 1.2 Council will enable public engagement and participation to encourage decision making that reflects the diversity of its citizens and responds to the views of its citizens.
- 1.3 Council will discuss matters freely and openly at Council meetings, presenting both supporting and contrary points of view to make informed decisions.
- 1.4 Council will access appropriate measures of debate, discussion, and thought-provoking analysis to obtain a solid foundation in the final decision at an open Council meeting.
- 1.5 Council will only make decisions about Purpose Statements, Council Governance Processes, Executive Limitations, and Council-Management Delegations. Council will not make decisions that are in the authority of the Chief Administrative Officer to make.
- 1.6 Council members will make decisions as representatives of the community as a whole.
- 1.7 Decision-making will be attained by the majority vote of Council members in attendance at an open Council meeting, subject to the reconsideration procedures of Council.
- 1.8 Once a decision has been voted on in an open Council meeting, that decision is final and binding, subject to reconsideration procedures of Council.

2. Decision-Making Framework

2.1 Council will only allow itself to address a topic after it has answered these questions:

2.1.1 Whose issue is this? Is it Council's or the Chief Administrative Officer's?

2.1.2 Has Council dealt with this subject in a policy?

If so, what has Council already said on this subject and how is this issue related? If Council has already addressed the matter, does Council wish to change what it has already said?

2.1.3 If the matter is several levels below Council level, what is the broadest way to address this issue so that it is still under existing Council policy? Does that policy suffice to deal with the concern?

How Issues go to the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) and Council

