

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 5/8/2023 9:08:19 PM
Subject: Procedure Bylaw report - questions

Good evening Mayor and Council,

I am writing to share the following responses to questions from Council received related to the Procedure By-law amendments report on the Council agenda.

Question 1

I'm wondering if it's possible for Council to change the current practice of tabling Council member motions at a council meeting and then referring to hear from speakers the next day? I constantly hear from people who are confused because they signed up to speak to a Tuesday agenda and get referred to the Wednesday?

Could we direct staff to explore options to clarify that practice and bring back recommended changes? And would it be appropriate to give direction on that as part of the procedural bylaw report next week?

In the past, Council agenda items with registered speakers were referred to the Standing Committee meeting to hear from speakers. This procedure was amended in 2019 where speakers were then permitted to speak to reports on the day in which the agenda item is listed. Council could take the same approach by directing staff to amend section 7.2 of the current Procedure By-law to hear speakers on members' motions on the same of the Council agenda (Tuesdays) or alternately, on the Standing Committee agenda on Wednesdays which requires an amendment to section 3.5 of the Procedure by-law. A referral motion to hear speakers would not be required with this amendment.

Question 2

I'm hearing support for starting earlier (1pm) but there is a question as to when the end time would be. There is a concern that shifting the meeting times to 5 hours+ risks burnout of council and staff.

Council could direct staff to amend the end time to earlier than 10pm if Public Hearings are to start earlier. The earlier start time would only be for Public Hearings held on Thursdays in order to maintain the time required to deal with the Council agenda on Tuesdays. This will amend section 2.3 of the Procedure By-law. Section 2.8 would be applicable with respect to the end time.

Question 3

With regard to proposed amendments summarized in Table 2 – what would be best practice for severing out some but not all of the changes for support/opposition?

If Council is considering options in Table 2, Recommendation A and Alternatives B and C should be moved and seconded. This will open up the floor for discussion on items in Table 2. Should Council wish to vote separately on items in Table 2, staff are suggesting using the prefix of "B2.x" to identify each of the 7 items for consideration.

<https://bylaws.vancouver.ca/12577c.PDF>

Please contact Rosemary at rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca should you have any other questions.

Many thanks,
Paul