


Function: Council - 01
Policy #: 004



Protocol For Councillors

Effective Date: March 28, 2019
Review Date: October 30, 2021
Cancels: Policy148: Protocol for Councillors
Resolution #: 199-19

CAO Signature: 

Policy Statement:

That Councillors strive to create an atmosphere within council conducive to solving the many problems that they will be required to address and that as an elected official, he/she carry out his/her duties to the best of his/her ability and to be accountable for his/her decisions and actions.

Guidelines: Council is a Team:

- Individual Councillors have no authority to act outside established Policy.
- Policy can only be initiated by Council.

Loyalty:

- All Councillors are obligated to practice and defend publicly, all Council decisions.
- Councillors should publicly defend each other as long as no improprieties of conduct are involved.
- Councillors should pass information to ratepayers but not directly organize public delegations to put pressure on other Councillors or pit other Councillors against ratepayers.

Legislators not Administrators:

- Individual Councillors should not publicly criticize County employees, contractors or volunteers.
- Such criticisms should be brought to Council for debate and action.
- Individual Councillors should not interfere with County Administration.
- Chain of command (i.e. Council, Committee, Reeve, and CAO) should always be respected.
- Council should strive to be clear and consistent in policy statements.

Primarily Advocacy is Affordable and Consistent Policy:

- No special interest should be promoted over common interest.
- Councillors are advocates for the whole County, not for separate divisions.

Secondary Advocacy - Councillor's own Division:

- See that policy is fairly applied throughout the County.
- Bring concerns not covered by policy to Council, not Administration.

Council Meeting Should be Open Forums:

- Honest communication re: criticism, suspicions, rumors, disappointment.
- Confrontation when necessary.
- Don't let resentments grow!
- Don't indulge in passive-aggressive behavior.