



# Town of Aurora Information Report

No. CS20-011

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**Subject:** Actions Taken Once Aurora Declared An Emergency for Covid-19  
**Prepared by:** Patricia De Sario  
**Department:** Corporate Services  
**Date:** May 19, 2020

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**In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any Member of Council may request that this Information Report be placed on an upcoming General Committee or Council meeting agenda for discussion.**

## Executive Summary

This report is to provide Council with information as to what actions were taken between the date the Mayor declared an emergency on March 18, 2020 and the date of the Special Council meeting of March 31, 2020.

- The actions taken by the Mayor and/or staff were authorized by legislation or delegated in Town By-laws.

## Background

On March 17, 2020, due to the growing public health concerns surrounding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Province declared a province-wide emergency under section 7.0.1 of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990* (“EMCPA”). On March 18, 2020, Mayor Mrakas declared a state of local emergency in accordance with the EMCPA in the Town of Aurora. Once an emergency is declared, the Mayor may take such action and make such orders as he considers necessary and are not contrary to law to implement the emergency plan and to protect property and the health, safety and welfare of residents.

As a result of various emergency orders issued by the Province dealing with the closure of various venues and prohibiting organized public events of no more than five (5) people, in-person General Committee and Council meetings were cancelled. On March 19, 2020, the Province enacted Bill 187, *The Municipal Emergency Act, 2020*, which allowed meetings of Council to be conducted through electronic means during declared emergencies, provided electronic meetings were permitted in the municipality’s

Procedural Bylaw. On March 31, 2020, Aurora Council held a Special Meeting to amend its Procedural Bylaw for such a purpose. Since then, the Town has been holding regular General Committee and Council meetings via electronic means.

The purpose of this report is to provide information as to what actions were taken by the Town from the date the emergency was declared to the date of the Special Council meeting.

## **Analysis**

**The actions taken by the Mayor and/or staff were authorized by legislation or delegated in Town By-laws.**

Appendix 1 to this Report lists the actions taken from the date the emergency was declared to the date of the Special Council meeting. The list also includes under what authority the actions were delegated and the reason why the action was taken.

## **Advisory Committee Review**

None.

## **Legal Considerations**

None.

## **Financial Implications**

None.

## **Communications Considerations**

None.

## **Link to Strategic Plan**

None.

**Alternative(s) to the Recommendation**

None.

**Conclusions**

In order to respond to the declared emergency for covid-19, certain actions were taken by the Mayor and/or staff. The actions taken were authorized by legislation or delegated to staff in Town By-laws.

**Attachments**

Attachment 1 – List of Actions Taken

**Previous Reports**

None.

**Pre-submission Review**

Director of Corporate Services, Town Clerk and CAO.

**Departmental Approval**



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**Techa van Leeuwen**  
**Director**  
**Corporate Services**

**Approved for Agenda**



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**Doug Nadorozny**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**

## Appendix 1 to Report CS20-011

	Decision Made	Authority	Reason
1	Closure of facilities	CAO authority in <i>Municipal Act, 2001</i> and Delegation of Authority By-law No. 6212-19	To respect the social distancing rules and assist in flattening the curve
2	Closure of Town Hall and JOC to public	CAO authority in <i>Municipal Act, 2001</i> and Delegation of Authority By-law No. 6212-19	To respect the social distancing rules and assist in flattening the curve
3	Cancel Advisory Committee Meetings	Clerk delegated authority in Procedure Bylaw No. 6068-18	To respect the social distancing rules and assist in flattening the curve
4	Declare an Emergency	Mayor authority in s. 4(1) of the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i>	To align with the provincial declaration, to be able to access tools to deal with the situation (including possible funding) and to support residents and staff
5	Cancel General Committee and Council Meetings	Mayor authority in s. 4(1) of the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i> and in accordance with the Procedure Bylaw No. 6068-18	To respect the social distancing rules and assist in flattening the curve
6	Suspension of parking restrictions	Mayor authority in s. 4(1) of the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i> , upon consultation with staff	To encourage residents to stay home to self-isolate or work remotely
7	Defer due dates for taxes	Mayor authority in s. 4(1) of the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i> , upon consultation with staff	To assist residents who have lost their income during this period
8	Essential Services only for Town staff	CAO authority in <i>Municipal Act, 2001</i> and Delegation of Authority By-law No. 6212-19	To respect the social distancing rules and assist in flattening the curve
9	Close playgrounds and parks	Director delegated authority in Parks By-law No. 4752-05.P	To ensure children do not play on unsanitized playgrounds; To respect the social distancing and social gathering rules and assist in flattening the curve