

After attending last Monday's council meeting there are a few things about this council that I never before realized. Let me itemize a few.

1--Council has held some in-camera sessions, when according to the clerk these meetings should have been held during public meetings.

2--It was also discovered that secret balloting was taking place during these in-camera sessions. When asked if this was illegal, the clerk agreed, saying this was technically wrong. However because all the councillors were in favour of voting using a secret ballot, they figured, let's just move on since to them it was no harm no foul. (except for the small matter of duping the public)

3-- Council has flexible terms of reference. A resolution deemed illegal and argued about for many weeks both in chamber and in public and social media was brought back to finally have a legal vote, yet a councillor fighting earlier to have this resolution legally tabled can then be called a liar and a bully in open chamber, followed by his censure and removal from all the committees he was serving on.

4-- The same councillor who accused councillor Dubeau of bullying then writes an email complaining once again that councillor Campbell is a bully, but only sends the offending email to everyone on council and including some staff members but leaves out both councillors Campbell and Dubeau.

5-- Councillor Campbell is threatened with expulsion if he reads out the offending email publicly. Who really is the bully here?

6-- Our local print media is protecting their main news source by being dismissive when a packed chamber of supporters is called small, and it's numbers are incorrectly reported. This group came out to show solidarity for an embattled councillor Dubeau despite the cold and rainy conditions.

You really have to wonder what motivation the TDP has in doing this. They didn't even attempt to conduct an interview with any of the supporters.

7-- Finally the TTA was there to bare witness to the faulty procedures and processes and the muzzling of certain councillors while others were allowed to speak for some 20 uninterrupted minutes. What we discovered to our chagrin was that not only were there technically unnecessary in-camera meetings but there was also both secret and illegal balloting taking place during these in-camera sessions.

Transparency? Nice word.