

Monica Hawkins

From: Phil Koning <makpgk@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 28, 2021 7:51 AM
To: Monica Hawkins
Subject: OWL Video technology

Hi Monica,

Could you please place this email on the next Council agenda?

Mayor Rochefort and Council

The COVID pandemic has been devastating but it did provide the odd benefit. One such benefit was the increased resident participation in Council activities due to the video streaming of meetings.

The Zoom platform enabled Council to keep operating while maintaining distance and made it much more convenient for residents to tune in also. The declining number of COVID cases has now permitted a return to in person meetings and the use of the OWL system was designed to retain the improved engagement numbers. Unfortunately, the OWL platform has been plagued with terrible audio and makes it extremely difficult to hear what is being said, the camera does not always pan to the speaker and the small panoramic screen makes it difficult to see who raised their hand to vote.

If the system cannot be improved by placing additional or individual mics, I suspect the improved engagement numbers will start to decline.

I would urge council to consider utilizing the services of a professional, familiar with video/audio systems, to overcome the weaknesses of the OWL technology.

Thank you

Phil Koning
Corbeil