

For Immediate Release September 10, 2019

Council Connect: Highlights from the September 10, 2019 Meetings of Council

Here are the highlights from the Council meetings this evening:

Briday Development/Former Victoria School Site: Council held a Public Meeting this evening to hear public comment on the proposed zoning amendment for the former Victoria School site at 12433 Dillon Drive. The meeting was part of the municipal development process mandated under the Ontario Planning Act and provided an opportunity for residents to share their thoughts on the proposed development. More than 100 residents attended with 28 speaking during the session. Council directed Administration to capture comments and prepare an additional report on the project for a second Public Meeting of Council to be held at a future date. Dates and details will be shared on the Town website and social media and in local newspapers.

Tecumseh 2020 Budget and Business Plan: Council received a presentation from Finance about the 2020 Budget process. A survey will be available between September 12 and 30 to gather public comments on the Town budget. The survey will be posted on the Town website (www.tecumseh.ca) with print copies also available in person at Town Hall. The proposed 2020 Budget and Business Plan will be presented to Council on November 12 with deliberation to follow on November 19. A revised Budget and Business Plan will be considered for adoption at the December 10 Council meeting. In 2019, Tecumseh had the third lowest property tax, water and sanitary burden of all the municipalities in Essex County.

Tecumseh Multi-Use Sportsplex: Council approved the development of a fundraising program and committee for the new Multi-Use Sportsplex. The committee will include citizen and Council representatives and will be led by a Committee Chair, or co-Chairs, appointed by a sub-committee of Council consisting of Mayor McNamara, Deputy Mayor Bachetti and Councillor Rick Tonial. A recruitment process to fill the remaining Committee positions will be initiated soon through the Clerks Department in anticipation that the project will receive necessary funding from the provincial and federal governments. Once the Committee is struck, it will work on a donor recognition program for consideration by Council prior to launching the fundraising activities. An application to the Investing in *Canadian Infrastructure Program: Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure Stream*, is currently being drafted for the Multi-Use Sportsplex to be submitted to the Ontario government later this fall.

County Wide Active Transportation System (CWATS) 2020 Projects: Council approved the two proposed CWATS projects in Tecumseh for 2020. They include the detail design of bike lanes on Manning Road from Riverside Drive to St. Gregory's Street and bike repair stations at Town Hall and Optimist Park. As part of the cost sharing program with the County of Essex, Tecumseh's share of these projects will be \$12,000 and \$3,400 respectively. The timing of the bike lane project will be coordinated with the County's introduction of bike lanes along Manning Road south of VIA Rail to County Road 22, which is not yet scheduled. The new bike repair stations are planned for 2020.

Community Housing Renewal Strategy: Council approved Tecumseh's participation in the Community Housing Renewal Strategy: Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI), which is aimed at providing affordable rental housing in communities in Ontario. The City of Windsor's Housing and Children's Services Department administers the program on behalf of Essex County municipalities.

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Housing projects built under this program are required to maintain affordability for a period of 20 years. As part of the program, proponents wishing to initiate an affordable housing project would be eligible for a reduced tax rate over the duration of the program. They would also be required to maintain rents at 80% or less of the then current Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation or alternate average market rents over the 20-year period.

The next Regular Meeting of Council is September 24, 2019 at 7 p.m. Full agenda details will be available on the Town's website Thursday, September 19.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at www.tecumseh.ca, Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook (www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh).

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