

For Immediate Release May 25, 2021

## Council Connect: Highlights from the May 25, 2021 meetings of Council

Tecumseh Town Council met electronically this evening and here are the highlights:

### Committee of the Whole

**Urban Hens:** Council received an interim update on the Town's two-year Urban Hens Pilot Project (Pilot) and approved amendments to By-law 2020-14 and the project Terms and Conditions. The Pilot began in March 2020 and 11 permits were issued for a total of 66 urban hens. In February of this year, the Town received complaints regarding one property and after following up with the owner, the Town revoked the owner's permit. There are now currently 10 permits with 60 backyard hens in Town. Based on the first year of experience, amendments were made to the by-law to strengthen enforcement and recovery of costs to remove hens or hen coops/runs in the event of a revocation of the permit. The amendment also provides for additional authorization to enter onto a property to inspect and issue orders to comply, authorize removal of hens and/or coop and run and to recover costs incurred as a result of these actions. Wording in the permit will be enhanced to clearly outline that costs incurred by the Town can be charged back to the owner should they be found to be in non-compliance with the Terms and Conditions of the program. The Pilot will run until April 2022 with a final report to Council after that date.

**Municipal Alcohol Risk Management Policy:** Council approved repealing the existing Municipal Alcohol Risk Management Policy #31 (Policy #31) and replacing it with a new updated policy. The update was the result of the Government of Ontario amendments to the *Liquor Licence Act* in 2019. Administration reviewed Policy #31 to ensure it would comply with the updated provincial regulations while also managing the Town's risk and liability. Designated properties where alcohol is permitted, within limits and with proper licences, include: Tecumseh Recreation Complex and Arena; St. Clair Beach Community Centre; Tecumseh Golden Age Club; Lakewood Park; Lacasse Park; and, McAuliffe Park. The updated policy now identifies restricted areas where alcohol may not be consumed or sold within designated properties. These restricted areas include: dressing rooms; washrooms; ice surfaces; sports fields and baseball diamonds. The policy further identifies event categories and events that will be permitted. The defined event categories are: Private Events (ex. showers, weddings, receptions and anniversaries); Public Events (ex. festivals and tournaments); and, Tailgate Events (ex. professional/semi-professional sports events). Events that are not permitted include bachelor(ette) parties, demonstrations and youth events where the majority of the attendees are less than 19 years of age. Risk management measures continue to be included in the policy such as the review of large public events by the Town's Special Event Resource Team (SERT) as well as the requirement for event organizers to prepare a Safety Plan. Steps an event organizer is required to take prior to holding an event will be provided by Parks and Recreation Services as well as a checklist of tasks to be completed before authorization of a rental.

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**Outdoor Tennis and Pickleball Club Operations:** Council approved a new policy for Outdoor Tennis and Pickleball Club Operations. As a result of the growth in popularity of Pickleball and increased use of outdoor tennis courts, Administration identified the need to establish guidelines for use of courts by clubs while ensuring the courts are available for community or recreational use. The policy establishes criteria for what defines a Tennis or Pickleball Club while outlining the application process for an organization to receive club designation along with the requirement for a formal agreement. The policy also outlines the responsibilities of the Town such as providing basic recreation level services of all courts and the scheduling of courts for club and public use. As well, the policy outlines the responsibility of the Club such as submitting a written request annually for the use of the courts as well as promoting the sport of Tennis and/or Pickleball.

#### Regular Meeting of Council

**Tecumseh Police Services Board Response to Proposed Community Safety and Policing Act Regulations:** Council received a report on the Tecumseh Police Services Board's Response to the proposed Community Safety and Policing Act Regulations and endorsed the comments for submission to the Ministry of the Solicitor General by June 7, 2021. In March 2019, the Government of Ontario passed the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* (CSPA). The CSPA is an opportunity to modernize policing and enhance community safety in Ontario. As part of the work to bring the Act into force, the Ministry of the Solicitor General is inviting comment on proposed regulations from all Chiefs of Police, the OPP Commissioner and Chairs of Police Service Boards by June 7, 2021. Accordingly, Christopher Hales, Chair of Tecumseh's Police Services Board, provided comments on the proposed regulation for the OPP Governance Advisory Council which were included in the report to Council and endorsed for submission to the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

**Essex County OPP Detachment Board Composition:** Council received a report on the Essex County OPP Detachment Board Composition and endorsed the two board model as the preferred composition for the Essex County OPP Detachment Board. In March 2021, the Ministry of the Solicitor General issued correspondence requesting submissions regarding detachment board composition for OPP police service detachment areas. Municipalities and First Nations were tasked with reaching consensus on a board detachment model for submission to the Province by June 7, 2021. A joint meeting was called for May 13 with the Chairs, Mayors and Chief Administrative Officers of all Essex County Section 10 Police Services Boards (PSBs), Pelee Township and the Caldwell First Nation invited. Meeting attendees consisted of representatives of Council, Administration and Section 10 PSBs from Lakeshore, Tecumseh, Essex, Kingsville, Leamington and Pelee Township. The meeting attendees agreed to recommend a two board model to their respective municipal Councils, consisting of a north shore PSB and a south shore PSB for the Essex County Detachment area. Municipal Council endorsement of proposed detachment board composition is needed prior to submission to the

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Ministry of the Solicitor General. Submission is due by June 7 and will be made on behalf of the Essex County municipalities by Tecumseh Administration once all Councils have considered the proposed two-board model.

**11865 Tecumseh Road:** Council approved two Community Improvement Program (CIP) grants for the property located at 11865 Tecumseh Road (southeast corner of Tecumseh Road and Southfield Drive). The first grant is for \$10,000—the maximum amount permitted—under the Parking Area Grant. The second is \$1,680 under the Planning Application and Permit Fee Grant for the permit fees to complete the work. The owner previously received \$3,000 under the Planning Design and Architectural Grant Program and \$15,000 under the Building Façade Grant Program for improvements to the property.

**11977 Tecumseh Road:** Council approved \$3,000 under the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Architectural Grant Program for building and façade and parking area improvements to the property located at the southwest corner of Tecumseh and Shawnee Roads. The property is slated to become Kona Sushi.

**Proposed New North Shore Elementary School:** Council authorized the holding of a public meeting on June 22, 2021 to amend the Tecumseh Official Plan and St. Clair Beach Zoning By-law 2065 for portions of property on Tecumseh Road to be re-designated from “Residential” to “Community Facility” and rezoning it from “Residential Type Two Zone (R2)” to “Institutional Zone (I)”. The application submitted by the Greater Essex County District School Board is for the eastern 0.6 hectare (1.48 acre) portion (13810 and 13814 Tecumseh Road) of a 2.33 hectare (5.75 acre) parcel of land (13800, 13810 and 13814 Tecumseh Road) situated on the north side of Tecumseh Road, approximately 60 metres (200 feet) west of its intersection with Arlington Boulevard and will be home to the future North Shore Elementary School should the applications be approved.

**Tecumseh New Official Plan:** Council endorsed the County of Essex modifications to the Council-adopted Tecumseh Official Plan. The County of Essex Planning Manager put forward 15 proposed modifications grouped into four policy areas: Additional Residential Units; Water Resources and Hazard Land Policies; Indigenous Consultations; and, Other Minor Modifications. The report outlined the proposed modifications with comments from Administration. Council reviewed the items and provided endorsement. The County Planning Manager will now provide a recommendation to County Council to approve the Town of Tecumseh New Official Plan as adopted by Town Council with the noted modifications. Subsequent to the approval, notice of the decision will be provided by the County and appeal rights will be available in accordance with provisions of the Planning Act.

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The next Regular Meeting of Council is Tuesday, June 7, 2021. The meeting is scheduled to be held electronically. The live stream will be available on our website at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca). The agenda for the Regular meeting will be made available on Thursday, June 4, 2021.

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

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