

## **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

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### **Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council Meeting – October 2, 2018**

*Note: This was the final meeting of the 2014-2018 Council term. The next regular meeting will be held on December 18 with the new term of Council.*

#### **Turn Scrooge into Santa this holiday season**

From December 1 to 14, anyone who receives a ticket from the Town of BWG for parking on the street during the winter on-street ban (2:00-6:00 a.m. in most areas, or 3:00-6:00 a.m. at the downtown “four corners”), will have the option to “pay” the ticket by donating one or more toys totalling an equal or greater amount (including taxes) than the amount of the fine.

To qualify as payment, the toy must be new, unwrapped, in its original packaging and the store receipt showing the item and dollar amount must be provided. Toys must be purchased at a store located within BWG. The deadline to bring in tickets and toys is December 17, 2018.

#### **Facelift planned for municipal courthouse/treasury properties**

Council and staff have been investigating methods and costs for renovating the landscape in front of the properties at 57 and 61 Holland Street West. This space serves not only as the entrance to two municipally owned properties but also as a gathering place for community activities such as flag raisings.

Council approved a plan to:

- replace the front steps of the treasury building and add a ramp to create an accessible entrance
- replace the stone planters near the sidewalk
- remove "Council Chamber" lettering from the courthouse wall and repaint
- install a grey slate-style tile to the base of the clock tower
- remove and replace interlocking paving stones
- replace the pedestal lighting

The bulk of the budget for this work will come from a provincial Main Street Revitalization Grant in the amount of \$ 60,838.77.

## **New plan helps map cultural development in BWG**

Town staff, council and committees worked with a consultant over the past six months to develop a strategy that would guide the municipality's broader foray into the delivery of arts and culture programming and facilities.

Following extensive consultation with stakeholders and members of the public, the draft plan was presented and approved by Council. The plan lays out a total of 37 actions organized among five key goals, as follows:

- Goal 1: Strengthen the Town's Role in Cultural Development
- Goal 2: Build a Strong and Sustainable Cultural Sector
- Goal 3: Ingrate Arts and the Creative Entrepreneurial Community
- Goal 4: Leverage Cultural Resources to Support Downtown Revitalization
- Goal 5: Address Cultural Facilities and Space Needs

Implementing the plan will be a gradual process and will involve looking at existing programs and resources as well as new needs and future budget requirements.

## **Town makes space available to local artists and artisans for pop-up shop this holiday season**

Council approved the use of 26 Holland Street East (the former Royal Bank, now owned by the Town) by residents interested in opening a temporary market. The Town will work with the organizers on an agreement that will permit them to hold a "pop-up" store for the production, display and sale of artistic works and items, with a portion of the proceeds to be donated to local charities.

No details have yet been confirmed, including the dates of the store opening, but the agreement will see the property made available to organizers from November 1 to December 27, 2018. This is expected to be a one-time offering as the Town is seeking a long-term tenant for the property.

## **Town reconsiders plans for green space in residential courts**

Many of the roads in the older urban Bradford area are being resurfaced, including new sidewalks and other features. Part of the design for streets with a court or "bulb" included a centre island with a tree and grass. The intent was to add a bit of green space, to give rain and snow melt a place to drain and to act as a traffic calming measure. After hearing concerns from residents on the affected streets, however, council voted to remove the islands from the plan.

## Four Downtown Community Improvement Plan applications approved

The Town of BWG offers grants through its Downtown Community Improvement Plan (CIP) to help drive business investment in the downtown core. The Downtown CIP helps building owners or tenants improve accessibility, refurbish interiors and upgrade facades through five programs:

- Program 1: Façade, Landscape and Signage Improvement Program
- Program 2: Building Restoration, Renovation and Improvements
- Program 3: Planning Fees and Building Permit Grant
- Program 4: Development Charge (DC) Grant Program
- Program 5: Tax-based Increment Grant (TIG) Program

Council approved grants to:

- 198 Holland Street East (Tupling Insurance) for a total of \$25,000 under program 1 of the DCIP. Improvements will include new asphalt and landscaping, as well as an improved drainage system to mitigate flooding.
- 10 Holland Street West (Milanoz Pizzeria) for a total of \$26,551.45 under programs 1, 2 and 3 of the DCIP. Improvements to the heritage-listed property include new lighting, flooring, drywall, seating space, exterior signage and an upgraded power supply.
- 33 Holland Street East (formerly Elite Dance Corps) for a total of \$6,833.81 under programs 1, 2 and 3 of the DCIP. The new tenant of the building will be opening an Experience Games & Toys collectibles toy store, and will be making improvements to the interior and exterior of the building.
- 62 John Street West under program 5 of the DCIP, which helps offset increased taxes that result when improvements to a business increase the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's (MPAC) property assessment. Owners of the property, who recently added a second story above the existing Capelli Lounge hair salon, will receive \$2,852.61 in 2018, and similar amounts annually until 2025, based on annual property value assessments and associated property taxes.

## Residential development continues in north Bradford

The Town will execute a Subdivision Agreement with FNB Developments Inc. for Phase 4 of their subdivision on the north side of Line 8 west of Hodgson Road and Selby Crescent. Phase 4 consists of 72 homes, bringing the total development to 548 residential units – 377 detached houses and 171 townhomes.

## **Traffic Committee recommendations approved**

Council approved the following Traffic Committee recommendations:

- That speed counts be conducted in the area of Line 5 near the properties of 2853 and 2854 Line 5; and that the 50km/hr speed limit sign be moved 150 metres west of 2853 Line 5. The Committee also recommended that \$50,000 be approved in the 2019 budget for the purchase of speed signs, some of which could be permanently placed.
- That traffic counts be conducted on Crossland Boulevard and that South Simcoe Police enforcement be increased in the area. Additionally, staff will investigate gating Crossland Boulevard east of Vipond Way.
- That the Capital Engineering Division investigate the possibility that three separate lanes of travel – left turn, straight through and right turn – be created on the north side of Simcoe Road in the southbound lanes.
- That pedestrian counts be conducted in the area of Simcoe Road and Gibson Circle to see if a crossing guard is warranted.
- That permanent speed signs be installed at the entrances to Newton Robinson on Highway 27, and in Bond Head on Highway 27 and County Road 88.
- That speed signs be placed in front of 3856 Line 3 and that South Simcoe Police increase enforcement in the area along Line 3.
- That a staff report be conducted regarding speed reduction on Line 9 from Henderson Park west to Side Road 5 from 80km/hr to 60km/hr. Additionally, staff are to report on possible speed reductions on Line 3, Line 6 and Line 10 between Highway 27 and Side Road 5.

## **BWG to Metrolinx: more GO station parking needed ASAP**

GO Train service to and through BWG has increased considerably in recent months, with more frequent trains seven days a week. This has led to increased ridership and therefore an increase in cars parked at the Bradford station. Riders have complained that there is not enough parking, to the point that some people park illegally and risk a ticket in order to make their train. Lack of parking is also counterintuitive to efforts to increase GO ridership and reduce commuter vehicle traffic between BWG and the GTA.

Council carried a motion to formally ask Metrolinx to accelerate the planned expansion of the Bradford GO station parking lot to the greatest extent possible. The request will include an offer whatever Town support is necessary to assist with an accelerated timeframe.

## **Statutory Public Meeting**

The *Planning Act* requires the Town to hold a Public Information Meeting to consider any application for amendments to the Official Plan or Zoning By-laws and Plans of Subdivision. The purpose of the meeting is introduce the proposal to the public, share information, invite questions and seek feedback.

A Public Meeting was held to discuss an amendment to Zoning By-law 2010-050 regarding section 4.12 'Home Occupations' and section 4.1.4 'Minimum Side Yard Setback for Central Air Conditioners in Residential Zones'. The complete text of the proposal is available at: [bradfordwestgwillimbury.civicweb.net/document/106753](http://bradfordwestgwillimbury.civicweb.net/document/106753)

If any member of the public would like to share a comment or receive notice of future council meetings where these applications will be considered, please send an email to: [planninginfo@townofbwg.com](mailto:planninginfo@townofbwg.com)

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***Council approved all Committee of the Whole decisions from September 18, 2018, with the following exception:***

### **Senior's award not going anywhere**

Council amended the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole, such that the Civic Award program will be updated with some new categories and descriptions, but the Seniors' Award will not be removed from the list.

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## Announcements:

- **Bradford Farmers' Market**
  - *BWG Public Library (425 Holland St. W)*
    - **Saturday, October 6, 8:00am-1:00pm:** final regular outdoor market
    - **Saturday, October 13, 10:00am-3:00pm:** special market at Pumpkin Fest
    - **Saturdays, November 3-24, 10:00am-2:00pm:** indoor Harvest markets
    - **Saturdays, December 1, 15, 22, 10:00am-2:00pm:** indoor Christmas markets
- **Thursday, October 11, 6:00-8:00pm: Fire Prevention Week Open House**
  - *BWG Fire Station (75 Melbourne Dr.)*  
visit the fire station, meet the firefighters and check out the trucks and gear! This year's theme is "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere."
- **Saturday, October 13, 11:00am-3:00pm: Pumpkin Fest**
  - *Henderson Memorial Park (3171 Line 9)*  
celebrate the fall season with activities including face painting, pumpkin carving, wagon rides and more! All activities free, food available to purchase. New this year: register in advance to participate in the "Dri-Tri" – run, row and do reps to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada.



- VOTE from anywhere (using telephone or internet) anytime between **October 12 at 10:00 a.m. and October 22 at 8:00 p.m.**
- Unofficial election results will be posted on the Town's website as soon as possible after voting closes
- Inauguration will take place on December 4
- First regular meeting of Council for the 2014-2018 term is December 18, 7:00 p.m. in the Zima Room

For the complete Town of BWG Community Events Calendar, go to:

[www.townofbwg.com/events](http://www.townofbwg.com/events)