

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council Meeting – September 3, 2019

Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program gets underway

Septic systems located within 100 m of drinking water sources are now required to be inspected every five years under the amended Ontario Building Code. Municipalities are to ensure the first round of certifications are completed by January 1, 2021.

Approximately 510 properties are believed to be affected. Property owners will be given at least 21 business days' notice to schedule an inspection with the Town or provide a third-party certificate. If the system is found to be malfunctioning, it must be repaired at the owner's expense, re-inspected and certified to satisfy the requirements of the Building Code.

The septic inspection fee has been revised so that instead of a \$250 flat fee, there will be a mandatory \$100 Administration Fee (renewable every 5 years) and a \$150 Town Inspection Fee that will only be charged if the Town conducts the inspection, but will be waived if the property owner provides a certificate from a qualified third-party.

Making progress on the Town's vision for parks and recreation

The Town's 10-year Leisure Services Master Plan was approved in 2017, including 66 recommendations to address the Town's parks and recreational needs and to help guide budgeting and action plans.

Council received an update on the progress to date and next steps. Recommendations will be discussed during the 2020 budget process, such as increasing staff capacity to provide more leisure events and recreational programming, addressing the specific needs of BWG's senior and youth communities, and continuing to add to the Town's inventory of parks, playgrounds and trails, including commencing Phase 2 of Henderson Memorial Park.

Electronic sign can be installed on exterior wall at 121 Bridge St.

Council approved an application for variances to the Sign By-law in order to allow installation of an electronic moving-copy wall sign on the exterior of the building at 121 Bridge St. This is a precedent that staff and council agree is justified given the potential benefit to tenant businesses and the visual improvement over the existing cluster of non-digital signage at this location.

Transportation Master Plan will be updated to include 400-404 Link

Reducing traffic congestion is one of this term of Council's five strategic priorities, so staff have been working on a new Transportation Master Plan (TMP) that outlines the Town's transportation project planning through 2041.

The Province announced in August that it will move ahead with the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link. The Link has the potential to significantly impact traffic flows in and around BWG, so work on the TMP that's been completed to date needs to be amended to reflect it.

The TMP will now consider three scenarios: the Link not (yet) being in place; the Link being in place as a standard road, and the Link being in place as a toll road. It should be noted that the decision on whether or not it will be a toll road is up to the Province, not the municipality, and this decision has not yet been announced.

Traffic Committee recommendations approved

Council approved the following Traffic Committee recommendations:

- That a parking enforcement 'blitz' take place and be advertised.
- That the restriction of 'no parking on a curve' be signed on Luxury Avenue.
- That staff report back to the Traffic Committee on a pilot project for 'timed parking restrictions' in Bradford West Gwillimbury.
- That Development Engineering investigate the placement of an all-way stop at Brookview Drive and Long Street.
- That Development Engineering be contacted regarding the permitted haul routes in the area of Simcoe Road and reiterate to developers the requirement to use the permitted routes; and That the permitted haul routes be passed along to South Simcoe Police Services to assist with compliance.
- That staff report back on the implementation of a 'traffic speed awareness sign' program in Bradford West Gwillimbury.
- That a Community Safety Zone be designated on Line 9 in front of Henderson Park from Sideroad 10 to 250 metres west of the entrance to Henderson Park.

Statutory Public Meeting

A Public Meeting was held regarding applications for Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision for lands described as 539-563 Simcoe Road and 2575 Line 6. to facilitate the development of 66 townhouse units and 10 semi-detached units.

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

Committee of the Whole

Please note that decisions made in Committee of the Whole are not final until approved at a subsequent Regular Council meeting.

Budget updated for baseball diamond expansion at Joe Magani Park

The Committee of the Whole received an update on the detailed design and cost estimate for the first phase of expansion of the baseball diamonds at Joe Magani Park. The COW supported increasing the budget to \$2.2 million in order to cover additional grading and drainage work to meet the requirements of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. As 90% of the project's cost is funded through development charges, this revised budget will draw only \$220,000 from Town funds. The project will go to tender once this is approved by Council.

Town considers options for outdoor skating rinks

The Town of BWG currently operates one outdoor skating rink, which is located at Bud Brown Park in Bond Head. The rink was built by residents in the early 1970s; however, over time volunteer interest waned and the Town took over responsibility for flooding and maintaining the rink.

There has been increased public interest in outdoor rinks, so the Committee indicated they would support building and maintaining rinks at more locations, potentially including Lions Park. The option of soliciting volunteers to establish and maintain the rinks was rejected given the time commitment required.

Enhancing and protecting greenspace across the province

Municipalities are now required under provincial legislation to have a policy on protecting and enhancing the tree canopy and natural vegetation on both public and private property. The “urban forest” is a vital part of municipal infrastructure and significantly contributes to quality of life in the community. The Committee of the Whole accepted a proposed policy that includes diversifying tree species for municipal planting, developing a Memorial Tree Program and working with the public to protect trees on private property.

Announcements:

- **bradfordWORKS Mega Job Fair** – BWG Public Library (425 Holland St. W)
Wednesday, September 4, 2:00-4:00 p.m.: At least 10 employers will be on hand from industries including manufacturing, seniors/home care, food, retail and non-profit. Job seekers should bring their resumes, references and identification, and be prepared for on-the-spot interviews.
- **Bradford Farmers' Market** – BWG Public Library parking lot (425 Holland St. W)
Saturdays, 8:00a.m.-1:00 p.m.: Outdoor market runs through October 12.
- **Run for BWG** – BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)
Sunday, September 8, 9:00 a.m.: This 3 km run or 1K walk event is organized by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in support of initiatives for the betterment of the community. Visit www.facebook.com/runforbradford/
- **Book Club Summit** – BWG Public Library (425 Holland St. W)
Wednesday, September 11, 7:00 p.m.: Plan the next year of reading for your club, and help the Library decide which titles to buy for Book Club sets at the first Book Club Summit! Everyone is welcome to join the Readers Advisory Team for presentations on the newest adult fiction titles. The evening will also feature book giveaways and light refreshments.
- **Youth Super Saturday** – BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)
Saturday, September 14, 1:00-5:00 p.m.: Come out and play or cheer on the teams at this 3-on-3 basketball tournament in support of the Centre for Women, Youth & Culture of Simcoe Muskoka. Anyone age 12-24 is welcome to register a team or sign up individually to be put on a team. Also enjoy entertainment, face painting and a food truck.
- **Passion Made Artisan Tour** – various locations including BWG Public Library and Leisure Centre
Saturday & Sunday, September 21 & 22, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Formerly the BWG Studio Art Tour, this event returns to showcase the work of local artists and artisans. Visit bwgstudiotour.ca
- **Holland Marsh Soup Fest** – Ansnorveldt Park (18977 Dufferin St.)
Saturday, October 5, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.: This annual farm-to-table event offers a unique opportunity to sample soups made with locally grown ingredients. Enjoy more than 20 different soups, a farmer's market, kids zone and live music by Strange Potatoes. Tickets are \$15 at the gate or \$12 online in advance at www.soupfest.ca.

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

www.townofbwg.com/events