

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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

Charitable grants approved for 2020

The Town of BWG Community Support Program is intended to provide limited assistance to not-for-profit community groups and organizations within the Town to assist with programs and events. This support is in recognition of the value of these groups to the wellbeing and growth of the community and in helping the Town retain a strong community focus.

The Town's Grants Committee received 22 requests for funding from the Community Grant Program, and approved the following 14 applications for a total of \$16,950:

Bond Head Lions Club	\$2,000
Bradford Board of Trade	\$5,000
Bradford Women's +Group	\$500
BWG Community Initiatives	\$500
BWG Studio Art Tour (Passion Made)	\$2,000
CHATS	\$1,600
Eric's Right World of Scouting and Camping	\$2,000
Raizes Portuguesas	\$300
South Simcoe 4-H Association	\$250
South Simcoe Arts Council	\$1,000
South Simcoe Police	\$700
South Simcoe Streams Network	\$350
St. John Ambulance Barrie/Simcoe/Muskoka	\$250
Nazarene Spanish Church	\$500

New Great Gulf subdivision soon to begin construction

Council gave staff authority to proceed with a subdivision agreement with Sandstorm Development Inc. for Phase 7C of the Great Gulf subdivision on the east side of Langford Boulevard between Holland Street West and Line 8. The plan includes 82 detached homes fronting on Scarlet Way and Bartram Crescent.

Council approved all Committee of the Whole decisions from November 19, 2019.

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.

Tax rebate program would add incentives to designate, protect heritage homes

The Committee of the Whole supported a plan to establish a Heritage Tax Rebate Program as permitted under section 365.2 of the *Municipal Act*.

Through this program, municipalities may provide relief for up to 40% of a designated property's residential tax bill. In order to be eligible, the Province requires that a candidate property be designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* or be situated within a Heritage Conservation District.

To take part in the program, a property owner would be required to enter into a Heritage Conservation Agreement with the Town, which requires the owner to maintain the property in good condition and to give the Town the right to monitor the property and take remedial actions if necessary to protect the building.

If the plan is implemented, an annual budget of \$15,000 will be established and the Fees By-law will be amended to include a New Application Fee of \$250 and a Renewal Application Fee of \$50.

New Animal Control by-law to streamline, update regulations

The Committee of the Whole supported a proposed draft Animal Control By-law that would consolidate, revise and replace provisions from the current Animal Control By-law – which deals mainly with livestock – and the Dog Control By-law.

Regulations will continue to limit the number of dogs per residence to three, define licensing requirements such as proof of vaccination, and guide enforcement of things like barking, dogs running at large and failure to clean up after dogs. There will continue to be no regulation of cats. There will also be new regulations to bolster animal welfare and to regulate the keeping of backyard chickens.

New building permit fees come into effect in the New Year

The Committee of the Whole supported proposed updated building permit fees, which – if the decision is ratified by council – would come into effect on January 1, 2020. The change in fees is to ensure that the Building Division is able to fully recover the costs of administering the permit program, and to bring outdated fees more in line with nearby municipalities.

The complete list of proposed fees is available online at: <http://bit.ly/2Rp7kaR>

Announcements:

- **Celebrate Christmas** – *BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
Friday, December 6, 6:00-8:30 p.m.: All activities are free including tree lighting, pictures with Santa, leisure skating, crafts, games and treats. Visit the Christmas Artisan Pop-up Shop in support of the Bradford Helping Hand Food Bank.
- **Trim the Tree; Christmas Dance Performance** – *BWG Public Library (425 Holland St. W)*
Saturday, December 7, 11:00 a.m.: Enjoy this drop-in program with crafts, games, music and trimming the tree. This event is free thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the Library. At 1:00 p.m., attend the annual Christmas performance of the Bradford School of Dance in the Zima Room.
- **Winter Ice Show** – *BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
Saturday, December 7, 1:00-2:15 p.m.: The Bradford District Skating Club will be performing their Winter Ice Show featuring all levels of skaters. There will also be a special visit from Santa. Admission is free.
- **An Old-Fashioned Christmas** – *Auld Kirk (3360 Line 6)*
Sunday, December 8, 2:00-4:00 p.m.: BWG Local History Association and St. John's Presbyterian Church partner to present an afternoon of song and reading of the Christmas Story, with warm drinks, cookies and a Christmas tree decorated with old-fashioned decorations in this celebration of the season. Free; donations welcomed.
- **Indoor Bradford Farmer's Markets** – *BWG Public Library (425 Holland St. W)*
Saturdays, December 14 and 21, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: The winter Bradford Farmer's Market offers local products including food, crafts and holiday gifts.
- **Holiday Giving:**
 - **Coats for Kids:**
 - St. Mary's Hall - 31 Frederick St. (downstairs) - Thursdays 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 - **Paramedics Toy Drive** (through December 15):
 - 170 Artesian Industrial Parkway, Units 6 & 7
 - BWG Library - 425 Holland St. W
 - Fire Station - 75 Melbourne Dr.

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

www.townofbwg.com/events