

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council Meeting – February 18, 2020

Grants support business improvements in downtown core

The Downtown Community Improvement Plan aims to enhance and maintain the vitality of the historic downtown area in order to encourage businesses to locate there and help them attract patrons. The program includes a combination of grants and loans.

Council approved the following four Downtown CIP applications:

- 92 Holland Street West (Victoria Bourque Beauty Boutique) - \$15,000 under the Facade, Landscape and Signage Improvement Program.
- 95 Holland Street West (Antoinette Laundry) - \$2,337 under the Facade, Landscape and Signage Improvement Program.
- 157 Holland Street East (7C Seafood) - \$3,321 under the Facade, Landscape and Signage Improvement Program; \$46,013 under the Building Restoration, Renovation and Improvements Program; and \$937 under the Planning Fees and Building Permits Program.
- 26 Holland Street East (Bradford Health Care Centre) - \$4,451 under the Facade, Landscape and Signage Improvement Program; \$50,000 under the Building Restoration, Renovation and Improvements Program; \$1,381 under the Planning Fees and Building Permits Program.

New homes on Melbourne closer to sale

Council agreed that a by-law would be approved to allow for further subdivision of lots in the Braidwood Homes subdivision on Melbourne Drive across from the fire hall to enable the sale of the 64 individual townhouses and semi-detached units. It was understood at the time of subdivision approval that the lots and blocks would be subdivided further, and individual parcels have already been assigned street numbers accordingly.

Council approved all Committee of the Whole decisions from February 4, 2020.

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.

Town to assume completed subdivisions

The developers of three subdivisions have completed their work, the required maintenance periods have expired and Town staff have completed their inspections, so the Committee of the Whole supported passing by-laws to assume responsibility for maintaining infrastructure such as roads in these subdivisions.

The three areas are: Westbrook Subdivision Phase 2 (west side of Langford Blvd. in the area of Rutherford Rd.), BMA Subdivision Phase 2 (southeast corner of Miller Park Ave. and Langford Blvd.), and Solmar Homes Inc. Phase 2 (southeast corner of Line 8 and Professor Day Dr.).

Town considers options to regulate cannabis growing in the Holland Marsh

The Town has received numerous complaints about cannabis operations in BWG, particularly in the Holland Marsh, including odour complaints, enforcement challenges and drainage issues caused by greenhouses.

The Town has also received several inquiries from prospective operators seeking Health Canada licenses for cannabis micro-cultivation operation facilities within the municipality. Because such facilities are limited to 200 square metres of plant surface area, they can operate on relatively small properties, potentially located near clusters of residences.

Last spring, Council asked staff to undertake a review of these issues and report back on options for regulating cannabis production in the Holland Marsh. In the meantime, an Interim Control By-law was enacted to temporarily prohibit new cannabis micro-cultivation operations.

After reviewing the report, the Committee of the Whole supported recommendations including opening up the topic for public consultation, and drafting new and amended by-laws to regulate cannabis operations. If this decision is ratified by Council at the next meeting, the Interim Control By-law will also be extended until June 18, 2021 so this work can take place.

Announcements:

- **Megathon** – *BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
Saturday, February 22, 8:00 -11:45 a.m.: The 5th Annual Megathon in support of the Southlake cardiac program offers one 35-minute class for \$10 or five classes for \$30. Choose from Aquafit, Strong30, Met Con, Zumba, Bootcamp, Kettlebell Circuit, Cycle, Yin Yoga, Stretch and Meditation. Advance registration is encouraged. Visit www.bwgleisurecentre.ca/megathon for the schedule.
- **MysticDrumz** – *BWG Library (425 Holland St. W)*
Saturday, February 29, 11:00 a.m.: Travel back in time with Mystic Drumz and learn about some of the very first African instruments. In this interactive show, children explore percussion instruments and their rhythms, with crafts after the show! This Black History Month program is being run in partnership with the BWG Diversity Action Group.
- **“I Have a Dream” Black History Celebration** – *BWG Library (425 Holland St. W)*
Saturday, February 29, 1:00 p.m.: This all-ages social event will include performances and refreshments, in partnership with the Centre for Women, Youth and Culture.
- **Bowl for Kids’ Sake** – *Bradford Underground Bowl (54 Holland St. W)*
Sunday, March 8, 1:00 p.m.: Get a group of 5 to 6 friends, family members or co-workers to join you in collecting donations and bowling for Big Brothers Big Sisters of York. Or pick a local team to support with a donation. See Councillor Dykie or visit york.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/event/bowl-kids-sake/
- **Run or Walk for Southlake** – *Davis Drive, Newmarket (start at 474 Davis Dr.)*
Sunday, April 26, 8:00 a.m.: Early Bird registration is now open for this 5K road race to raise funds for the Southlake Regional Health Centre. To join or support the Town of BWG Team, watch our Facebook page for details.

For the complete Town of BWG Community Events Calendar, go to:
www.townofbwg.com/events