

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council Meeting – May 5, 2020

Setting off fireworks not permitted during burn bans

According to the Town of BWG Fireworks By-law, residents of BWG are permitted to set off “family fireworks” on their own property (not public property like parks or roads) and only on Victoria Day and Canada Day, plus the two days before and two days after those dates. The Town usually hosts fireworks shows on Canada Day and New Year’s Eve.

An amendment to the Fireworks By-law is now in force that prohibits setting off fireworks during an Open Air Burning Ban. A burning ban is currently in place in BWG; conditions are re-evaluated weekly and any changes announced by Friday.

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 to introduce the proposal to the public, share information, invite questions and seek feedback.

During these meetings, Town staff and/or the applicant present the proposal. Council has the opportunity to ask questions of planning staff, the applicant or their representative, but does not make any decisions. The public can write in or attend the meeting to ask questions. At a later date, once a comprehensive review has taken place and public comment has been received, staff report to Council with a recommendation.

At the May 5 Council meeting, two Public Meetings were held.

The first was regarding an application for Zoning By-law Amendment for the property at 51 John Street West to change the zoning from “Residential Two (R2-1)” to “Core Commercial (C1)” to allow the property to operate as a business office.

The second was regarding an Application for Temporary Use Zoning By-law Amendment for 3778 County Road 88 to temporarily permit a sales pavilion on a portion of the subject lands to promote and administer residential sales for the Bond Head North subdivision.

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

Council approved all Committee of the Whole decisions from April 21, 2020, with one amendment, as follows:

Recommendation COW-2020-31 regarding Summer 2020 Recreation Programs, Indoor and Outdoor Permits and Municipal Leisure Events has been amended to state that all Town field and facility permits and all indoor and outdoor Town programming and events are cancelled through August 31, 2020. This includes the cancellation of the Town's Canada Day celebration, Carrot Fest, all summer camp programs, swimming lessons and all permits for facility and field use including minor sports.

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.

Road safety and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) audit

In support of Council's strategic objective regarding Community and Traffic Safety, the Transportation Services division will be undertaking an audit of infrastructure including street lighting, tactile plates, speed limits, pedestrian connections, cycling facilities and signage. This will involve looking at existing streets to assess safety and compliance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*.

The Committee of the Whole supported a recommendation that staff report back on the cost and timing implications of any required upgrades to the Town's street lighting system to meet prevalent standards, installation of tactile plates at all required intersections and any other recommended improvements for pedestrian crossings or other issues revealed through the audit.

Final tax rate set with 3.11% increase

Now that information on tax rates has been received from the County of Simcoe and the Province, the Committee of the Whole supported a recommendation to adopt the final 2020 Tax Levy By-law. Overall, including levies for the county, province (for education) and South Simcoe Police, the average resident will see a property tax increase of 3.11% in 2020 over 2019, which is about \$143.16 more to the average household.

The taxes to be levied by the County of Simcoe total \$176,060,334, of which 11.95% is to come from Bradford West Gwillimbury. This translates to an increase of 5.18% to the taxpayer.

Zoning amendment to allow wedding event venue

The Committee of the Whole supported a recommendation to pass a site-specific Zoning By-law Amendment for the property at 2323 Line 13. The property would maintain the existing use permissions for the Agricultural “A” zone and Environmental Protection “EP” zone, but be amended to permit a Wedding Events Venue on the subject property as an on-farm diversified use.

Plans moving along for subdivision at Line 6 near Sideroad 10

The Committee of the Whole supported a recommendation to give draft approve to a Plan of Subdivision Application for lands located west of Langford Boulevard and north of Line 6. The proposal is for 94 single detached dwellings.

The Committee requested one amendment to the list of proposed street names for the planned subdivision – instead of Elgin Street, they suggested a street named “Campbell” in honour of one of the founding families of West Gwillimbury.