

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Council Meeting – December 19, 2017

2018 budget approved with 2.36% increase

Council approved the 2018 budget, increasing the municipal portion of the property tax levy by 2.36%.

The Town's operating budget (which includes the BWG Public Library), accounts for 0.6% of the increase – a portion of which addresses new provincial legislation that has increased the minimum wage (Bill 148, *Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017*). The remaining increase is for a special capital levy for municipal infrastructure improvements. Residents who receive water and wastewater services from the Town can expect to see an overall increase for these services of 2.1%.

BWG collects property taxes on behalf of Simcoe County, South Simcoe Police Services, and the Province of Ontario for schools. The Town retains approximately 41% of the taxes collected, with 46% going to the County and Province. The impact of the non-municipal portion of the tax bill will be finalized in the spring upon Simcoe County's adoption of the 2018 tax rates.

Auld Kirk receives official heritage designation

Council passed a by-law to designate the Auld Kirk (at 3380 Line 6) as being of historic and architectural value. Designating a property for protection under the *Heritage Act* is a formal procedure that recognizes the importance of the property, protects its heritage value, encourages conservation and promotes knowledge. Designated status also provides council with the legal authority to refuse an application for demolition or a request that will adversely change and/or affect the heritage value of a building or property.

Auld Kirk Historic Site Plaque

"In 1815 some 140 Highland Scots from Lord Selkirk's Red River Settlement, disheartened by crop failures and the opposition of the North West Company, moved to Upper Canada. Transported in the Nor'Westers' canoes, they disembarked at Holland Landing in September. They found temporary employment in the Yonge Street settlements but in 1819 many took up land in West Gwillimbury. In 1823 Presbyterian services were held in a building on this site, which was replaced by a frame church in 1827. The present structure was completed in 1869."

New stores coming to Bradford SmartCentres

Council granted conditional site plan approval for a 28,502 ft² commercial retail building to be located at 557 Holland St. W, immediately east of the Petro Canada gas station. SmartCentres indicates that the tenants of the property will include a Marshall's clothing store and a Sleep Country store. The plan includes a total of 113 parking spaces, including 5 barrier-free parking spaces.

Traffic Committee recommendations approved

Council approved the following Traffic Committee recommendations:

- That an all-way stop is not recommended at the 3-leg intersection of Langford Blvd. and Aishford Rd. or the 4-leg intersection of Langford Blvd. and Rutherford Rd.
- That an all-way stop be installed at Andrews Dr. and Cassells Dr.
- That the Traffic By-law be amended to give effect to the recommendations contained in report COR 2017 32 (see here for report: bit.ly/2BERQ8O) to amend parking restrictions on Maplegrove Ave. and Catania Ave.
- That the Traffic By-law be amended to create the following 'No Stopping Any Time' regulations:
 - Holland St. E – north side from Dissette St. to Nelson Ave.
 - Holland St. E – south side from Bingham St. to Dissette St.
 - Holland St. W – north side from Church St. to Professor Day Dr.
 - Holland St. W – south side from Professor Day Dr. to Holland Cr.

Council approved all Committee of the Whole decisions from December 5, 2017.

Committee of the Whole

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

National Homes to build new model home

The Committee of the Whole recommended that National Homes receive permission to build a model home for the second phase of their plan of subdivision. The plan, which was approved by Council on November 7, features 35 single detached lots with frontages on a proposed public road that would extend the existing Stevenson Crescent to the north.

Announcements:

- **Saturday, December 23, 8:00am-1:00pm: Indoor Farmers' Market**
– *BWG Library & Cultural Centre (425 Holland St. W)*
Local vendors move indoors to the Zima Room for the last market of the season.
- **Friday, December 29, 12:0-6:00pm: BBT Winter Family Festival**
– *Bradford & District Memorial Community Centre (125 Simcoe Rd.)*
A Fun, FREE afternoon with activities, crafts and entertainment starting at noon, followed by a movie starting at 4pm. (bring your own lawn chairs for movie seating)
Fred C. Cook Public School is hosting a fundraising spaghetti lunch to raise money for books - \$5 per person.
- **Sunday, December 31, 6:00-9:00pm: Family First Night**
– *BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
This FREE event includes leisure swimming, leisure skating, inflatable obstacle courses and games, stage shows, strolling entertainment, balloons, a photo booth, live music and more! The evening will end with live music and hot chocolate outdoors, closing with a countdown and fireworks display at 9:00pm.
- **Sunday, December 31, 5:00pm to Monday, January 1, 3:00am: Free New Year's Eve BWG Transit**
FREE BWG Transit service will help you get to Family First Night and other local celebrations. For routes and schedules visit www.townofbwg.com/NYEtransit
- **Sunday, January 7, 12:30-2:30pm: Mayor's Levee**
– *BWG Leisure Centre (471 West Park Ave.)*
Celebrate the New Year with the FREE event that includes leisure skating from 12:30-2:30pm, plus musical entertainment from local Bradford artists, refreshments and balloon twisting in Community Corner.
- **Saturday, January 20, 8:00am-12:30pm: Hockey Day in BWG**
– *Bud Brown Park (2892 Simcoe County Rd 27, Bond Head)*
At the tenth annual Hockey Day in BWG, IP and Novice teams from the BWG Minor Hockey Association compete against each other in a day of outdoor on-ice fun. A pancake breakfast and lunch will be hosted by the Bond Head Lions Club.

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