

For Immediate Release March 24, 2020

Council Connect: Highlights from the March 24, 2020 Regular Meeting of Council

Tecumseh Town Council met electronically this evening and discussed a number of items related to the current COVID-19 pandemic in addition to regular business. The two areas are outlined as follows:

COVID-19 Related Reports

Business Continuity: Council received a report on Business Continuity during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The report provided a summary of the services of the Town considered to be essential, non-essential and stopped during the current situation as well as what work is continuing in light of the closure to public facing offices and the cancellation of public meetings, events and activities.

Delegation of Authority: Council received a report on the delegation of authority during a declared emergency and adopted a by-law to Delegate Authority. The by-law provides delegation of authority to members of administration during the declared emergency to make decisions on matters and operations of urgency subject to any restrictions under the *Municipal Act, 2001*. Tecumseh declared an emergency on March 22, 2020.

Waiver of Tax Penalties: as part of the Business Continuity report and Delegation of Authority By-Law, Council approved waiving late payment penalties and interest on property taxes through to and including April 30, 2020. Property tax accounts that are currently set up for pre-authorized payment plans (PAP) would remain unaffected. Should a property owner wish to be removed from an existing PAP, they must contact the Town's Finance Department. Council also approved a motion authorizing the Town's Treasurer to request Essex Powerlines for similar relief of late payment charges for water and sanitary billings for Town of Tecumseh accounts. The financial relief plan will be reviewed in 30 days.

Electronic Meetings: Council approved amending the Procedural By-Law to permit the holding of electronic meetings during a Declared Emergency. As a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic, Council must adhere to social/physical distancing and self isolation recommendations. The *Municipal Act, 2001* outlines how municipalities and Councils must conduct meetings during non-emergency periods and was amended by Ontario on March 19, 2020 in light of the pandemic to provide municipalities with tools to achieve quorum and facilitate meeting electronically for both open and closed meetings during an emergency.

Tabling of Tecumseh Official Plan: Council received a report on the postponement of the tabling of Draft 1 of the new Town of Tecumseh Official Plan. It had been anticipated that the new Official Plan would be tabled at the March 24, 2020 meeting of Council with public meetings to follow. With current social distancing and gathering size limitations associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town will not be scheduling public meetings at this time. Tabling of the Official Plan and scheduling of public consultation is postponed until a later date. Updated information will be provided publicly when it is known.

Regular Business Reports:

Lake Flooding Preparedness: as part of the ongoing communications on Lake Flooding that began in May 2019, Council received an update report on Tecumseh's Lake Flooding preparedness. The purpose of this report was to update Council of preparedness actions taken by Administration. The Flood Emergency Preparedness



Action Group is currently working on public communications to help citizens prepare for a lake flooding event and is aiming for the first week of April to release these communications.

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Noise By-Law Exemption: Council approved a noise by-law exemption for construction work on County Road 22 from Manning Road westerly to the City of Windsor limit. The County of Essex is managing the project which will see pavement improvements on County Road 22 through this area. Full details on the work and construction schedules will be provided by the County when they are known and shared publicly.

Taste of Tecumseh 2020: Council approved a noise by-law exemption and granted authorization for the sale and serving of alcohol to the Optimist Club of St. Clair Beach for the 2020 Taste of Tecumseh Festival. This year's event is currently scheduled for Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13 from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. in Lakewood Park.

11873 and 11917 Tecumseh Road: Council adopted two by-laws to amend the Official Plan and the Zoning By-Law for the residential developments at 11873 and 11917 Tecumseh Road by Skyline Real Estate Holdings. The project will result in a 150 unit, four-storey apartment building. The decision follows a public meeting in January and Administration's response to three issues raised on the project. Skyline will need to now provide a site plan control agreement for Council's approval. Details on that will be provided in a future report.

12300 County Road 42: Council adopted three by-laws to amend the Official Plan, the Zoning By-Law and to place the land at 12300 County Road 42 under site plan. The by-laws relate to the plan to build four, six-unit, three-storey dwellings/24 units on the project and follow two public meetings on the project and Administration's response to the issues raised.

Tecumseh Road Sanitary Sewer: Council approved the tender award of approximately \$1.5 million to D'Amore Construction Limited for construction of the Tecumseh Road Sanitary Sewer. The project will increase sanitary sewer capacity in the area. Full details on construction including traffic impacts and schedules will be shared when known.

The next Regular Meeting of Council is Tuesday, April 14, 2020 and is currently scheduled to be held electronically. The live stream will be available on our website at www.tecumseh.ca. The agenda will be made available on Thursday, April 9, 2020.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at www.tecumseh.ca, Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook (www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh).

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Media Contact:

Lesley Reeves, Manager Strategic Initiatives, 519-735-2184 Ext. 150

