

For Immediate Release July 23, 2019

Council Connect: Highlights from the July 23, 2019 Meetings of Council

Here are the highlights from tonight's Regular Meeting of Council:

Council Compensation: Following a review by the Council Compensation Review Committee, consisting of five Tecumseh citizens, Council approved the compensation adjustment to off-set the removal of the 1/3 tax treatment on base pay. They further approved annual economic adjustments for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Council base pay and that Council compensation undergo review every four years to coincide with the term of Council. The recommendations were based, in part, on an analysis of comparable municipalities which the Committee suggested should also be assessed from time to time to ensure relevance.

Integrity Commissioner: Council approved retaining Robert Swayze as the Integrity Commissioner for the Town of Tecumseh for the term of January 2020 to March 2023. Mr. Swayze will conduct investigations as needed, of any complaints related to the Code of Conduct for Members of Council, Committees and Local Boards.

New Multi-Unit Residential Building: A new 97-unit, six-storey residential building is planned for Tecumseh Road between the TD Canada Trust and Skyline Apartment buildings following approval of rezoning by Council. The project developed by Valente will be a tiered building with a three storey height at the front and six storeys at the back. A public meeting was held on the project on July 9 with no comments on the project received.

Tecumseh's Response to Bill 108: Following the passing of Ontario's Bill 108, the *More Homes, More Choice Act*, Council directed Administration to comment on how draft Regulations will impact the Town. These included: the need for budget resources to implement the changes under Bill 108; the concerns around changes to the Town's ability to charge for "soft services" under a new Community Benefit Charge (like parks, libraries, and recreation facilities); a request for better engagement with municipalities in order to determine a proper and fair method of determining value of community benefit charges; and, the increased need for additional resources for tracking and permitting purposes. Council approved sending comments to the province as the changes will have a significant impact on Town finances both through what and when it can charge developers for capital needs resulting from development and the requirement for additional staff to implement the new Regulations.

Application to Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund: Council authorized the submission of an application to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund for improvements to the Scully and St. Mark's Storm Pump Station and the P.J. Cecile Storm Pump Station. The application could result in a \$10 million grant.

Application to Rail Safety and Improvement Program: Council also authorized the submission of an application under the Rail Safety Improvement Fund for the VIA Rail crossing at Lesperance Road. As part of inspections of railway crossings in Canada, VIA Rail advised the Town in 2017 that the crossing at Lesperance Road required a major improvement to the road grade north of the tracks, re-painting of the road lines and consideration for additional safety measures. The Town is requesting the full grant amount of \$500,000 which will be used as part of the estimated \$1.6. million grading improvements required by 2021.

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The next Regular Meeting of Council is August 13, 2019 at 7 p.m. Full agenda details will be available on the Town's website Thursday, August 8.

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

