

COUNCIL CONNECT: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JUNE 4, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tecumseh Town Council held a Special Meeting of Council this evening to discuss Development Charges.

What are Development Charges?

Under the *Development Charges Act*, every municipality in Ontario is permitted to impose “Development Charges” to recover capital costs associated with residential and non-residential growth within the municipality. Capital costs are for new infrastructure needed to support subdivision development, including roads, sewers, water-mains, sidewalks and parks. Development Charges are a source of revenue to support cost recovery that fund municipal infrastructure related to growth.

Every five years, provincial legislation requires the Town to conduct a Development Charges Study to forecast the Town’s future residential and non-residential growth and determine future infrastructure needs and costs. The study outlines the rates calculated on new development in order to cover new infrastructure and services. These rates are subject to Council approval through a by-law.

Why the need for a “Workshop” for Council?

A Development Charges Workshop is held in conjunction with the legislated timelines for the Development Charges Study. The workshop provides Council with the opportunity to learn what the Town is doing to update Development Charges and if there have been any legislation changes. The Town’s consultant conducts the workshop with the support of both the Finance and Planning Departments. The Development Charges Study was launched in Fall 2018 and the final report will be released on June 13, 2019.

What about Bill 108?

The Ontario government has launched Bill 108 which proposes changes, including the removal of some Development Charges municipalities can collect, impacting a source of revenue for the Town to support growth. The Association of Municipalities of Ontario has expressed concern about this Bill and the consultant will review their concerns with Tecumseh Town Council at the workshop.

What are the next steps?

Public consultation on the Development Charges study will begin with a meeting on July 9, 2019. A final report will be submitted to Council on August 13 with Council voting on the By-Law for the updated Development Charges.

A Special Meeting of Council is scheduled for June 24, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. to present the design options for the Sportsplex and costings. The agenda for this meeting will be available on June 19. The next Regular Meeting of Council is June 25, 2019 at 7 p.m. Full agenda details will be available on the Town’s website Thursday, June 20.

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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