

For Immediate Release October 13, 2020

Council Connect: Highlights from the October 13, 2020 meetings of Council

Tecumseh Town Council met electronically this evening and here are the highlights from the meetings:

Limiting Select Agricultural Uses in Tecumseh Hamlets: A Public Meeting was held to hear public comments on a proposed Housekeeping Zoning By-Law Amendment to the Sandwich South Zoning By-law 85-18. Currently there are three separate settlement areas in the Town's Official Plan pertaining to lands within the former Sandwich South area that collectively identify areas where long-term urban uses may be established. The proposed housekeeping amendment would have the effect of changing the zoning on these lands to a site-specific "Agricultural Zone (A)" that would permit all of the uses within the "Agricultural Zone (A)" with the exception of livestock intensive agricultural uses and greenhouses. In addition, it will continue to prohibit mushroom farms. A number of delegations attended electronically and/or provided comments electronically. Administration will provide a report to Council at a later date on the matter for consideration.

Cat Intake Program: Council authorized the renewal of the Town's agreement with the Windsor Essex County Humane Society for the provision of cat intake services. The program allows residents to drop off stray cats at the Humane Society for a cost to the Town of \$25.00 per cat. The agreement has been in place for 10 years and has been proven to be successful with positive reception from residents. The number of cats being dropped off has fallen over the years with only eight (8) cats in the program so far this year. The decline in numbers could be attributed, at least in part, to the reduction in the feral cat population and the high participation in the Cat Spay and Neuter Voucher Program.

Cancellation of Christmas Activities: Council received a report from the Parks and Recreation Department recommending the cancellation of the annual Christmas in Tecumseh and Santa Parade for 2020. The department looked at the feasibility of holding the event, knowing that hundreds of people line up along Tecumseh Road for the parade and attend in-person events at the Arena following the parade. Based on the ability to secure entertainment, the ongoing public health guidelines limiting number of people in facilities and the need for volunteers and staff to assist with the event, it was recommended that the event be cancelled for 2020. Staff will look at other opportunities to provide modified programming.

Zoning Application—13375 Desro Drive: Council approved the holding of a public meeting on the zoning application for 13375 Desro Drive. The owners are seeking to change the zoning from "Industrial Zone" (M1-10) to a site specific "Industrial Zone" (M1-26) to permit the addition of general or business offices and professional offices and establish site specific parking requirements.

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Amendments to the Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways: Council approved the new regulations for Minimum Maintenance Standards (MMS) for Municipal Highways and a policy on “Significant Weather Event”. This follows the report being received and approved at the Policies and Priorities Meeting on September 22, 2020. MMS is a part of the Municipal Act and outlines the standard of care a municipality should meet in the maintenance of its public highways. The Significant Weather Event policy permits an extension of time required to clear roads and sidewalks during a period of severe weather.

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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