



GEORGINA

Council Highlights

Town of Georgina Corporate Communications
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Georgina Town Council May 19, 2021

COVID-19 verbal report from Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief

Council received a verbal report from the Director of Emergency Services/Fire Chief who provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. The chief updated Council on plans for waterfront parks and beaches for the Victoria Day long weekend. The Town's three major waterfront parks – Willow Beach, Holmes Point and De La Salle Beach and Park – are open with restrictions, with parking lots available to resident pass holders only, due to the provincial stay-at-home-order. Under current provincial guidelines, the beach and park will be for active recreation use only.

2021 Property tax rates

Council received the report, approved the 2021 property tax rates for the Town and adopted the by-law. This allows the Town to finalize billing arrangements for the distribution of the final tax bills which are anticipated to be scheduled for early June. The due dates will be July 27 and Sept. 27.

2021 Development Charges by-law

Council received the report and approved the recommendations. Council also approved the Development Charges by-law and the updated rates tables. Development Charges are the primary way for municipalities to raise funds for required services and infrastructure improvements resulting from development. The charges are intended to help pay for the cost of capital infrastructure required to provide municipal services to new development such as roads, water and sewer, parks, community facilities and fire facilities.

Annual Corporate Communications status update

Council received the report and [presentation](#) that provided an update on the 2018-2020 Communications Plan. Throughout 2020, keeping residents and businesses informed and safe surrounding COVID-19 was the overriding priority for the Communications Division. It delivered on the items set out in the plan with the goal of engaging with the community and generating awareness of Town programs, services and initiatives. Social media followers grew by 17 per cent in 2020 and video views increased to more than 187,000 across all platforms. The division will now start the planning process for updating the next communications plan.

Recreational Cannabis retail stores update

Council received the report and [presentation](#), lifted the prohibition on cannabis retail stores within Georgina to allow them to be located in the Town, and directed the Town Clerk to notify the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) registrar in writing of Council's decision. Staff were also directed to prepare a briefing note containing a draft public interest statement respecting cannabis retail

stores for Council's consideration at the June 23 Council meeting. The public interest statement will identify sensitive land uses and minimum requested separation distances from new cannabis retail stores. Staff will use the statement as the basis to provide comment to the AGCO on applications for new retail stores in Town.

Streetscape design standards update

Council received the report and the [presentation](#) on the streetscape design standards update. Staff were directed to circulate the report to all internal departments, Business Improvement Areas and any identified stakeholders for review and comment prior to presenting the final Streetscape Design Standards to Council for approval.

Closed session

For the record, Regional Councillor Grossi declared a further conflict regarding Closed Session item 18.1 c and left the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

18.1 a – In regards to closed session item 18.1 a of the agenda being litigation or potential litigation including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the municipality or Local Board, under Section 239 (2) (e) of the Municipal Act regarding Pefferlaw Fire Hall and BECC Construction.

1. That Council receive the Town solicitor's update and directs the solicitor and staff to proceed as discussed.

18.1 b – In regards to closed session item 18.1 b of the agenda being litigation or potential litigation including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the municipality or local board, under Section 239 (2) (e) of the Municipal Act regarding Lake Drive Matters,

1. That Council receive the Town solicitor's update and directs the solicitor and staff to proceed as discussed.

18.1 c – In regards to closed session item 18.1 (c) of the agenda being labour relations or employee negotiations under Section 239 (2) (d) of the Municipal Act.

1. That Council receive the Director of Human Resources update and directs staff to proceed as discussed. There was no unionized staff discussion.

18.1 e – In regards to closed session item 18.1 (e) of the agenda being the advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose under Section 239 (2) (f) of the Municipal Act regarding a procurement matter and the award of a tender.

1. That Council receive the Town solicitor's advice and direct staff to proceed as discussed.
2. That staff prepared a public briefing note on the matter and report back including the necessary funding request and details of the construction schedule.

Additional Council Information

Comprehensive minutes of Georgina Town Council Meetings, which detail the full list of Council decisions, are available under [Agendas and Minutes](#) on the Town website once they have been ratified by Council.

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