

Council News & Notes

From Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting May 25 5 pm

Regular Council Meeting

Council Meeting June 9 9 am

Regular Council Meeting

View Calendar >>

Mayor's Remarks

HPEPH has started to receive our regular vaccine allocation and by next week we will receive a significant increase -7000+ doses/week. The province has also expanded eligibility - as of Thursday, May 13 those 30 plus can book on the provincial system. Dr. Oglaza encourages everyone to book on the provincial system - be patient and keep trying. As more vaccine becomes available HPE will add more appointments.

The Council Agenda included an EORN media release and a letter that was sent to Minister Monsef and Minister Scott re EORN's Gig Project. This project has been ongoing since 2015 but has changed greatly over the years. On Monday, May 3, I was on a Zoom call with 59 plus Mayors and Reeves from Eastern Ontario about this project. EORN is asking for the support from all Councils for this very important project. It is now a Fibre to the home project - over 540,000 homes. Eastern Ontario has over 220,000 underserved homes and seasonal residents. EORN is asking for \$200M from each level of government for this 1.2B - 1.6B project. Every person on the Zoom call fully supported and agreed to help with a media blitz and to advocate to our MPPs and MPs to actively support the Gig project to bring up to 1 Gig(1,000 Megabits of speed). They are also asking the general public to advocate to their MPs and MPPs. The money is there for the project - the federal and provincial governments have together committed almost \$7B to broadband. The \$200M from each government represents just 5.7% of all federal and provincial funding that is available. I hope this campaign proves successful - I believe the Gig project represents the best solution to solve our broadband problem long into the future.

Thank you to the Manager of Community Development, Councillor Flieler and volunteers for handing out trees at Community Trees on Saturday May 8. .

Thank you to everyone for following the Public Health guidelines. Like everyone here, I am getting tired of the restrictions but I know that if we want to enjoy a summer we must be patient and continue to follow the PH guidelines. Please stay safe.

COVID RESOURCES

The Municipality of Tweed has a COVID-19 page with resources, guides, and links to local, provincial and federal information. You can access this information at this link. Covid-19 Page.

211 Services

Tracey Legault-Davis attended the meeting virtually to present the 211 services that are available for Community Navigation of Eastern Ontario. You can learn more about 211 by visiting https://211ontario.ca/

Cashless Payment at Stoco Waste Site

Cashless payments will be implemented at the Stoco Waste Site beginning September 1, 2021. Council authorized a three-month grace period while the Waste Site staff endeavor to implement the policy. After September 1, you will be required to pay with your debit card or with bag tags.

Recycling Bins- Cost Recovery

Council authorized staff to draft an amendment to By-law No. 2020-31 to increase the fees for Blue Bins to \$10.00. The cost of Blue Bins has increased at the manufacturing level.

Hotmix Asphalt Resurfacing

Council accepted the quote from Drain Bros. in the amount of \$197,433.60 plus HST for the Everlife Hotmix asphalt resurfacing of streets in Actinolite; Declair; Old Troy; and Gallagher Roads.

Central Hastings OPP Detachment

Council supported the Little Library Project of the Central Hastings OPP Detachment. You can read more about the <u>project here</u>.

Foundations Youth Centre - New Location

Council approved the provision of vacant space in the Municipal Building for the Foundations Youth Centre.

Marlbank Fitness Trail

Council approved the plan submitted by the Marlbank Recreation Committee and the Marlbank Beautification Committee for the Marlbank Fitness Trail. You can read the plan here.

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