



Wasaga Beach Council Highlights

From the Sept. 26, 2017 meeting

Mold remediation work approved for ambulance building

Mold remediation work will take place in the attic at the County of Simcoe's ambulance station on Oxbow Park Drive.

The building is owned by the town and council approved a \$15,150 contract with National Recovery and Management Inc. to address mold issues.

Date set for Remembrance Day service in Wasaga Beach

Town council approved holding the community's Remembrance Day service on Sunday, Nov. 5.

The service will take place from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the cenotaph at town hall, 30 Lewis Street.

Participants should arrive at least 30 minutes early. The parade will start at 2 p.m.

After the ceremony, a reception will be held at the Wasaga Stars Arena on River Road West.

In connection to the service, council approved closing Lewis Street to vehicular traffic from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 5.

They also approved closing Glenwood Drive to vehicular traffic, between the library and Lewis Street, at 2 p.m. for the parade.

The Remembrance Day service in Wasaga Beach always occurs the Sunday before Nov. 11. This is because the service is run by the Stayner Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, which focuses its resources on the Stayner Remembrance Day service on Nov. 11. Wasaga Beach does not have a legion branch of its own.

Council directs staff to review sign bylaw

Council received a staff report about the town's Private Property Sign Bylaw from

Senior Municipal Law Enforcement Officer Doug Vincent.

He noted that during the last 10 months, while council explored possibly selling Wasaga Distribution Inc., yard signs appeared on residential and commercial properties, encouraging council to retain ownership of the utility.

Vincent said these signs were erected without the authority of any permits and that they were in contravention of the Private Property Sign Bylaw.

He noted the department reviewed the situation and chose not to pursue compliance until council determined a decision on Wasaga Distribution. Council decided in July it would not sell the utility.

Vincent said that on Aug. 7, the department started collecting all unauthorized signs on public property. Action against signs on private property was delayed until after Aug. 27, in order to allow people to turn in their signs.

Signs also started popping up during the summer in support of the Downtown Master Plan.

Vincent pointed out that at the Aug. 17 Coordinated Committee meeting, the committee “directed staff not to remove Downtown Master Plan signage from private property until further discussion is held and direction from council is provided.”

Vincent said the department is seeking direction.

Council instructed staff to continue with a review of the bylaw, and then present a draft to council for comment.

Council further stipulated that until the review is completed the bylaw should be fairly and impartially enforced as needed.

Council receives highlights from budget meeting

A report about the Sept. 12 Committee of the Whole budget meeting was received by council members.

The report outlined that during the budget meeting CAO George Vadeboncoeur presented the priorities that council set for itself at the start of the term and what it had accomplished so far.

The report noted the committee then discussed what priorities remained, their status, and what council would like to accomplish for the balance of the term.

The following main budget priorities were identified for 2018: downtown development, beachfront properties, the community hub (including a twin pad arena and new library), and an after-hours clinic.

The report noted that during the budget meeting, the CAO also outlined the financial impact of the proposed downtown development on tax revenue for the municipality, potentially lessening the burden on the residential tax payer.

The CAO said the potential assessment values and taxation impacts of the proposed downtown project show increased taxation revenue of \$2.5-million or equivalent to 11.5 percent when fully built out.

In the report to council, it was noted the committee would provide direction to the CAO on which priorities it would like to defer, which service level enhancements or capital budget items it would like further information on, and which priorities it would like included in the proposed 2018 budget for council's consideration.

These matters will be considered by the committee in preparing the 2018 budget.

Voting system provider selected for 2018 election

Council approved using Intelivote Systems Inc., as the vendor for the provision of internet and phone electronic voting services for the 2018 election.

This is the same system that was used in the 2014 election.

The total cost is \$2.35 per elector.

Military OK'd to use water towers during exercise

Council granted the Canadian Armed Forces permission to use the town's two water towers as observation posts during a training exercise that will be held Oct. 11-15.

In June, council approved hosting the exercise in the community.

Military personnel will also make use of town-owned property next to the Sports Park on Klondike Park Road, as well as the Public Works Yard off Zoo Park Road, and the parking lot off Beach Area 2. Approval for use of these sites was given in June.

Oyez, oyez! The Town of Wasaga Beach is looking for a new town crier

Council directed staff to hold auditions for the position of town crier.

The municipality has been without a town crier since 2013, when Roy Wilson, who served as town crier for approximately 15 years, died at the age of 85.

Now, the town wants to revive the position. Through carrying out their duties, town criers can help promote the many positive activities that take place in the municipality. Their efforts can also help create a sense of community spirit and pride.

The town crier will be expected to appear at community events when requested. At each function, the town crier will give a "cry," about the occasion.

-Wasaga Beach Council Highlights is produced monthly by the town's Communications Department.

-For the official record of council's meeting, please see the minutes at www.wasagabeach.com.

-Follow the Town of Wasaga Beach on Facebook and Twitter.

-For information on the Downtown Master Plan, please visit www.BuildWasaga.com.