
COUNCIL NEWS

FROM THE FEBRUARY 27TH, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

GRANT RECEIVED FOR IMPROVEMENT OF WELLANDPORT LIBRARY AND HALL IMPROVEMENTS UNDER THE CANADA 150 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

The CAO of the Township of West Lincoln and the CEO of the West Lincoln Library were authorized to sign an agreement with Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program Contribution for a grant for improvements to the Wellandport Library and Hall. Council and the West Lincoln Library Board are excited about this project which will enlarge the Wellandport Library and provide upgrades to the library and hall.

COUNCIL RE-CONFIRMS ACTIONS TAKEN RELATING TO MURS PROJECT

Council approved a motion which endorsed and re-confirmed its support of the presentation by Hank Huitema of the MURS RFP as presented on January 23, 2017, and the budgeted costs, project timelines and fundraising targets approved in the 2017 Budget. Council further confirmed that all previous motions and actions that were inconsistent with the above were considered to be superseded and/or repealed. The Requests for Proposal for this project will be addressed at the April 18th, 2017 Public Works/Recreation/Arena Committee meeting.

MOTION ADOPTED IN OPPOSITION OF CLOSURE OF SOUTH LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

Following a presentation by Ms. Nicole Scime regarding the proposed closure of South Lincoln High School, Council adopted the following recommendation which stated their opposition to the proposed closure:

WHEREAS small town/rural Ontario communities face many risks and challenges that are far different than our large city counterparts;

AND WHEREAS one of the challenges sees small town and rural communities facing closures of schools in their communities;

AND WHEREAS these potential closures are subject to an administrative School Board process called an Accommodation Review;

AND WHEREAS there is lack of public trust in the Accommodation Review process due to their reputation of having pre-determined outcomes;

AND WHEREAS all municipalities strive to be complete communities and education represents an integral component of being a complete community;

AND WHEREAS Education is one of the largest assets that a municipality can provide to its residents in terms of offering quality of life and quality of community;

AND WHEREAS the continued pressure of Accommodation Reviews is having an adverse effect on municipalities in the delivery and attraction of other essential services, businesses and development within their respective communities;

AND WHEREAS the DSBN will be considering a report which has recommended the closure of South Lincoln High School in Smithville, Township of West Lincoln as of June 2017;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of West Lincoln hereby unequivocally confirms that it is officially in opposition to the closure of South Lincoln High School; and,

THAT this resolution be forwarded to the District School Board of Niagara and appropriate government agencies and communities as outlined within.

REQUEST SUBMITTED TO NIAGARA REGION FOR ADDITIONAL REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR WEST LINCOLN

Council submitted a request to Regional Niagara Council to initiate the process for a change in the composition of Regional Council in order to provide for one additional regional representative from the Township of West Lincoln. Council requested that the change in size of Regional Council be in place for the 2018 Election.

2017 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS & CEMETERY & HALL BOARDS GRANTS APPROVED

Council approved the Corporate Sponsorship and the Cemetery and Hall Board grant allocations for 2017.

NEW BUILDING BY-LAW

Council adopted the New Building By-law which took effect on February 28, 2017. The new by-law will improve the structure of the by-law to reflect current building code trends and strengthen enforcement provisions with respect to lot grading and drainage.

UPCOMING TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN CANADA 150 EVENT

Staff was authorized to proceed with implementation of the events outlined in Report PW-08-2017 relating to the upcoming Canada 150 celebrations (Canada Day). Many wonderful events are planned so be sure to save the date and attend this great celebration.

FIRE SAFETY MESSAGING

The Fire Chief was directed to initiate the addition of fire safety messaging to Township emails and the Township website, as well as use the sign board on the old fire hall and any other methods as deemed appropriate. This communication plan will assist in getting the message out regarding fire safety.

PRESENTATION TO TOWNSHIP RETIREE – PAT PACKER

Mayor Joyner presented Pat Packer with a gift and certificate in recognition of her retirement and for her 17 years of dedicated service as a crossing guard for the Township of West Lincoln.

REGIONAL CHAIR ALAN CASLIN PROVIDES UPDATE ON REGIONAL COUNCIL'S PROGRESS AND SUCCESSES FOR 2016 AND REQUESTS SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS OF MISSING PERSONS

Chair Caslin provided an update on Regional Council's progress and successes in 2016 and ongoing initiatives. Council also supported a motion adopted by Niagara Regional Council in support of family members of missing persons, and namely Niagara resident, Ashley Smith.

2017 WATER AND WASTEWATER BUDGET APPROVED

Council approved the 2017 Water and Wastewater Rates which was an Amendment to 2017 Water and Wastewater Budgets. A by-law was put forward and adopted in that regard.

TOWNSHIP OF WEST LINCOLN'S 2016 WATER QUALITY ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT, 2016 WATER QUALITY REPORT, 2016 MOE ANNUAL WATER INSPECTION REPORT, AND 2016 DWQMS (DRINKING WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT STANDARD) MANAGEMENT REVIEW SUMMARY REPORT

The above noted reports were received for information and the Director of Public Works & Engineering advised of the "good news" contained in Report RFI PW06-2017-2016 MOE Annual Water Inspection Report, being that the Township received a score of 100% on their inspection.

DECEMBER 31, 2016 BUDGET STATUS REPORT-AMENDMENT TO BUDGET

Council received the "December 31, 2016 Budget Status Report-Amendment to Budget" and approved transfers of \$70,700 to the Information Technology Reserve, \$15,000 to the Bridge Reserve, and \$11,000 to the Facilities Reserve and further approved the transfer of any unspent 2016 operating funds in the Roads Construction Budget to the Capital Reserve.

BISMARK UNITED CHURCH & BETHEL WINSLOW CEMETERIES & PROPERTIES

The Township assumed ownership and control of the Bismark United Church and Bethel Winslow Cemeteries and Properties.

WATERMAIN UPSIZING APPROVED AT INTERSECTION OF REGIONAL ROAD 20 AND SOUTH GRIMSBY ROAD 5

Council approved a Budget amendment in the amount of \$29,700.00 in order to provide for watermain upsizing at the intersection of Regional Road 20 and South Grimsby Road 5.

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR EVENT

The Township of West Lincoln and West Lincoln Public Library participated in the Coldest Night of the Year event which was held in Grimsby in support of homelessness. It was noted that the event was a great success and that West Lincoln's fundraising efforts were very successful.