
COUNCIL NEWS

FROM THE APRIL 27th, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING:

NIAGARA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PRESENTATION

The Niagara Community Foundation made a presentation, in summary, regarding endowments, grant opportunities and community leadership initiatives. Information provided indicates that donors can set up funds (in most cases the capital is held in perpetuity) to support particular charities, fields or environments. The Foundation has three grant programs that are open to registered charities and municipalities. Last year \$1.11 million was awarded in grants to charities in all sectors and communities.

POULTRY FEST

Council declared the sixteenth annual Poultry Fest Niagara to be held on June 27, 2015 as a Community Festival and supported the Canada Day fireworks event to be held after the evening concert. Staff will be contacted shortly regarding volunteering in the Township's Canada Day Tent during the PoultryFest event.

GO TRAIN SERVICE - NIAGARA

Mayor Joyner reviewed a Power Point presentation regarding proposed Go Train Service to Niagara. The power point presentation which contains information regarding this issue will be available on the web site once the Council minutes are approved.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING – NIAGARA REGIONAL HOUSING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Region has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for new Affordable Housing projects in the Region of Niagara. The closing date for the RFP is May 1, 2015. A total of 3 million dollars has been released at this time which the Region hopes will create 40 new units with either 1 or 2 large projects or 3 or 4 small projects expected to be approved. Projects must be shovel ready or eligible for a building permit by March 2016. As noted in the report, another round of Affordable Housing project applications will be considered in early 2016. Municipalities are not expected to be the applicant unless they own property and would like to work on a joint application with a non-profit organization or support agency. Staff has been authorized to further investigate Affordable Housing options in advance of a future 2016 Request for Proposal

REFRESHMENT CART – KIM'S FRIES

Council has given Kim Leetham approval to operate "Kim's Fries" on the vacant lands municipally known as 182 Griffin Street North, Smithville, for the year 2015.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR A DESIGN/BUILD FOR A NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ARENA

The issue relating to Report RFD PW-10-201 "Authorization to Award Project Management Services for a Design/Build for a New Community Centre and Arena" was referred to the next Public Works/Recreation/Arena Committee meeting which will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

LED STREETLIGHT CONVERSION PROGRAM

Council accepted the proposal submitted by Local Authority Services (LAS) and RealTerm Energy Corp. for the conversion of Township street lights to LED lighting in the amount \$393,847.00 which will be funded from the Contingency Reserve and reimbursed over a six (6) year period through the projected saving in the Street Light Electricity and Maintenance budgets.