



TOWNSHIP OF
ASHFIELD-COLBORNE-WAWANOSH

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Monthly Council Meeting Highlights February 2023

Regular Council Meeting- February 7, 2023

Election Report 2022

Council received the 2022 Election Report prepared by Clerk Florence Witherspoon. Council expressed grievances about the accuracy of the Voters List and they directed staff to prepare a resolution to request that concerns of voter registration in the 2022 election be addressed and that it be sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, respective political offices, and all municipalities in Ontario.

Ontario Land Tribunal - Notice of Withdrawal OLT-22-004615 (Development Charges)

Council received the Ontario Land Tribunal Notice of Withdrawal the regarding file OLT-22-004615 (Development Charges).

Port Albert Wildlife Corridor

Council agreed to have staff bring back an amendment to the Official Plan to incorporate the Wildlife Corridor, and further that once a decision is made regarding the Natural Infrastructure Fund, that a report be prepared to recommend action moving forward.

Proposed Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program - Update

Council agreed to proceed with the initiation of a Township administered sewage system maintenance and inspection program and that the estimated cost for the initial setup be brought back for approval in the 2023 Budget.

Recycling Study - Waste Management Under Producer Responsibility

R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited was retained by the Townships of Howick, North Huron and Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh to assess current landfill practices and to develop a recycling plan to accommodate the transition of recycling from municipal collection and processing to Producer Responsibility. The transition is to proceed in accordance with the 'Blue Box Regulation' (O.Reg. 391/21) under the 'Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016' (RRCEA).

Council received the Recycling Study - Waste Management Under Producer Responsibility prepared by RJ Burnside & Associates Ltd. Find out more information about this project: <https://acwtownship.ca/government/projects-initiatives/recycling-study-waste-management-under-producer-responsibility>

Council Meeting | Planning- February 14, 2023

Public Meeting- Zoning By-Law Amendment Z07-22 Geene

This Public Meeting was held as a requirement under the Planning Act to review Zoning By-Law Amendment Application File Z07-22 Geene. Council approved the planning application and adopted By-Law 16-2023 being a by-law to amend the Zoning By-law 32-2008 for the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh.

Council Meeting- February 21, 2023

Concerns of the Voters' List Resolution

Council passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS concerns surrounding the accuracy of the Voters' List has been highlighted in elections past and inaccuracies continue to plague municipal elections;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer for the Province of Ontario now has the responsibility to prepare and maintain a Permanent Register of Electors, under the Elections Act, for future municipal elections;

AND WHEREAS an accurate Permanent Register of Electors is paramount in upholding the integrity of democratic government;

AND WHEREAS an accurate Permanent Register of Electors could increase voter turnout statistics and possibly contribute to positive voter apathy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh requests that the Province of Ontario, through Elections Ontario and the Chief Electoral Officer utilize any resources available to produce the highest quality Permanent Register of Electors;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Elections Ontario, MPP Lisa Thompson and Ontario Municipal Councils for their support.

O.P.P. Activity in ACW - Detachment Commander Jason Younan

Jason Younan, Inspector and Detachment Commander with the Huron Ontario Provincial Police provided Council with an overview of police activity in ACW during 2022.

Short Term Rentals

In August 2022 Council directed staff to bring back a report on Short Term Rentals (STRs) in the Township. Clerk, Florence Witherspoon provided an update on the complaints received in 2022 related to STRs and provided the recommendation to focus on enforcement of existing by-laws while continuing to monitor the situation.

Special Council Meeting (Budget)- February 28, 2023

2023 Proposed Budget

Staff presented Council with the proposed 2023 budget. Council instructed staff to make the few minor amendments to the draft budget. Council agreed to a 7.17% increase to the 2022 tax rate, which converts to an 10% increase in the municipal levy from 2022, which raises an additional \$544,144. Based on the average assessment of a single family detached home for 2023, and comparing it to the assessment for 2022, the average family detached home will see an increase of \$99 for the 2023 year over 2022.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Regular Council Meeting- March 7th at 9:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting | Planning- March 14th at 7:00 p.m.
- Regular Council Meeting- **Monday**, March 20th at 9:00 a.m.
- Regular Council Meeting- April 4th at 9:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting | Planning- April 11th at 7:00 p.m.
- Regular Council Meeting- April 25th at 9:00 a.m.