



Wasaga Beach Council Highlights

From the April 30, 2020 meeting

Council approves amendments to official plan and zoning bylaw

Town council approved an official plan amendment and a zoning bylaw amendment for property that makes up part of the Elm Wasaga Beach development in the town's east end.

The property is south of River Road West and east of Village Gate Drive.

The amendments modify land use to residential on some of the parcels and on others to a service commercial designation.

For full details, see the staff report [here](#).

Pre-servicing agreement OK'd for Pacific Homes project

Members of council authorized the mayor and clerk to sign a pre-servicing agreement for a development off Sunnidale Road.

The Pacific Homes development is on the east side of Sunnidale Road, north of Sunnidale Concession 12.

The property owner is seeking the pre-serving agreement so that he may install sanitary sewers, watermains, storm sewers, a stormwater management facility, and roads. This will assist in accelerating the first phase of residential development.

Learn more in the related staff report [here](#).

Council settles on street names for Elm development

Town councillors approved street names for a portion of the Elm Wasaga Beach development.

The names are Abby Drive, Shapira Avenue, Nikita Lane, and Courtland Way.

See related street mapping and additional details in a staff report [here](#).

Economic development activity continues in Wasaga Beach

Town council received for information an update on the town's economic development activity.

Staff throughout the COVID-19 pandemic have shared information with local businesses to support them.

Staff are also providing advisory assistance to local businesses.

Several projects are under way, too. This includes preparation of a report identifying the economic situation in the community due to the pandemic, as well as next steps to help local businesses.

Learn more about the town's economic development efforts by reading the related staff report [here](#).

Council receives report on potential costs of pandemic

Treasurer Jocelyn Lee provided council a report on the possible financial impacts of the pandemic on the town.

"Finance staff are monitoring the cost associated with the COVID-19 pandemic," she said. "There are several unknowns, such as how long the suspension of economic activity will last, and what will be the financial situation for residents and business afterwards, that will impact the town's financial outcome."

The report is a preliminary overview of possible outcomes.

A review of the fees for service, and other revenues for operations, showed the amount of revenue loss that could occur if there was an impact of 10 percent, 25 percent, or 50 percent of annual revenue projections.

The range of lost revenues in total is \$492,000 at 10 percent to \$2.4-million at 50 percent, depending on the severity of the impact.

For full details, see the staff report [here](#).

Free transit service continues in May: Council

Public transit in Wasaga Beach will remain free in May.

Council approved free transit in April and has now extended the free service for another month.

The step is one of several council implemented since the start of the pandemic to help people.

In April, council approved suspending other fees and charges until the end of September. The town is reviewing the need for transit fees on a month-by-month case.

In a report to council, treasurer Jocelyn Lee noted ridership on public transit is down roughly 50 percent for April.

Program features for new twinpad arena and library identified for design consideration

Council members approved the ranking of features they'd like to see included in concept designs for the new twinpad arena and library.

Earlier this year, council members ranked proposed programming features to help inform the project's design team.

Council members were asked to provide each program idea with a score of 1 for Low, 2 for Medium and 3 for High Priority.

Following the individual council member ranking process, the scores were compiled, and the programs were listed in accordance of overall ranking.

See the full staff report and related ranking [here](#).

Food Truck Festival approved for July 24-26

The Food Truck Festival event got the nod for July 24-26 at Spruce Street and Beach Drive.

"Given the COVID-19 situation at hand, staff are continually working with the organizer should there be a need for any additional adjustments," senior special events coordinator Angela Webster said. "Staff are of the view that it is important to continue the planning process with this

understanding. Staff will continually advise council on the progress and any alternative plans that may arise."

See the related staff report [here](#).

COVID-19 affects special events

Staff are working with the town's third-party event organizers should there be a need to postpone or cancel activities in the coming months, senior special events coordinator Angela Webster told council.

"Staff are of the view that it is important to maintain the planning process to the extent necessary to provide tourism and community activations once restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic are lifted," she said.

Webster noted to date the town has made adjustments for events up to and including June 21. The town has cancelled some events and postponed others.

Thursday, during its meeting, council approved formally postponing some additional events, including the Wasaga's Finest Citizens Awards, which will now take place Oct. 24.

See the list and learn more in the staff report [here](#).

Back to the Beach Concert Series at Stonebridge

Town council approved the Back to the Beach Concert Series at Stonebridge Town

Centre's music pavilion on various Saturdays, starting June 27.

However, council deferred providing up to \$19,000 in sponsorship to Stonebridge to offset associated festival costs until town staff have finalized a schedule of events and sponsorship amounts with the organization.

They did approve use of a town-owned stage and tents as an in-kind sponsorship.

Learn more in the related staff report [here](#).

Cultural food truck weekly events slated for summer 2020

Get your bib ready and your taste buds.

Town council has approved the Cultural Heritage Weekend Food Trucks event for the summer, starting June 26.

Four different food trucks every weekend, between June 26 and Sept. 7, are planned for this season.

Two trucks at the north end of Spruce Street and Beach Drive and another two at Third Street and Beach Drive.

The trucks will offer "unique" foods that don't compete with any existing tenants' offerings at the main beach area.

Read the related staff report [here](#).

And then there's the Poutine Feast in August

Town councillors approved the Poutine Feast, a new event for the community, for Aug. 20-23.

The event will take place in the Third Street Parking Lot.

Town council also approved a sponsorship of \$3,500 to offset the third party event organizer's fees.

"Staff are of the view that this [event] would be well received by the community and works well with the current event schedule," senior special events coordinator Angela Webster said.

Council approves amendments to memorandums of understanding with new doctors

Council approved an amendment to the memorandums of understanding with Dr. Victoria Dawson and Dr. Rick Furtado.

They are the two physicians recently recruited to Wasaga Beach.

Drs. Dawson and Furtado will be opening their practices at 587 River Rd. W. in June.

They are working with the building owners to ensure the space is ready for them.

From the town, through the doctor recruitment program, they had requested \$25,000 each as a first phase to establish their practices.

They have determined they require additional funds to assist with the proper function of the office, an additional \$40,000 each. This brings the total to \$65,000 each, the maximum amount allowed under the town's doctor recruitment program.

The town will provide the funds over the five-year agreement with the doctors - starting with \$25,000 each this year and installments of \$10,000 each in the years that follow.

Dr. Dawson said there are additional costs to set up the computer system, records system, train staff, and equip four exam rooms. Other supplies are also required.

Learn more in the staff report here: [here](#).

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

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