

# COUNCIL Highlights

## Council Meeting – April 3, 2023

Below are highlights of what Council Committee recommended when it convened during the Council meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023. The recommendations are subject to ratification at the next Council meeting scheduled for April 17, 2023.

- A Working Group will be created to review the delivery of economic development services in the City of Orillia with a mandate to:
  - Provide comments and advice during the Economic Development Strategy Project through to completion
  - Explore other economic development models
  - Consider the re-establishment of the Economic Development Committee.

The committee will consist of the following:

- Mayor Don McIsaac
- Councillor Ralph Cipolla
- Councillor Tim Lauer
- Councillor Whitney Smith

The Working Group will consider local community partners for input into the strategy. Administrative support will be provided by staff from the Business Development, Culture and Tourism Department. The Working Group will prepare recommendations with respect to the future of economic development in the City of Orillia for Council consideration by October 31, 2023.

- A four-year grant to the Mariposa Folk Festival was approved in the amount of \$33,500 in 2024, \$32,000 in 2025, and \$33,000 in 2026, with funding appropriated from the Municipal Accommodation Tax operating budget.

A waiver of commercial rate rental payments and user fees established by Chapter 456 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - User Fees - Parks, Recreation and Culture was authorized in the amount of \$8,110 in 2023, \$8,885 in 2024, \$9,519 in 2025 and up to \$10,475 in 2026, subject to the user fee renewal in 2026, with funding appropriated from the annual Municipal Accommodation Tax operating budget. A four-year Memorandum of Understanding between the Mariposa Folk Festival and the City of Orillia outlining the terms and conditions of funding will be established in accordance with Policy 4.2.1.2. - Partnership Program for Cultural Festivals and Events. The Mayor and Clerk were authorized to execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

- The form of draft by-law and franchise agreement as per Schedule “A” of the report regarding the adopting of gas distribution agreement with Enbridge Gas was approved and the submission to the Ontario Energy Board for approval pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of the *Municipal Franchises Act* was authorized. The

Ontario Energy Board will be requested to issue an Order declaring and directing that the assent of the municipal electors to the draft by-law and franchise agreement pertaining to the Corporation of the City of Orillia is not necessary pursuant to the provisions of Section 9(4) of the *Municipal Franchises Act*. The Mayor and Clerk were authorized to execute the franchise agreement attached as Schedule "A" to the report.

**Below are highlights of what Council adopted at its meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023:**

- The confidential Report CAO-23-05 regarding staff and organizational structure was received and confidential staff direction was adopted.
- The Orillia Rowing Club's pursuit of a grant funding application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the costs associated with the creation of a proposed clubhouse/boathouse facility in Kitchener Park was supported in principle, subject to the following conditions:
  - The proposed clubhouse/boathouse facility and its related appurtenances are created at no cost to the City of Orillia;
  - The Orillia Rowing Club enter into a lease with the City of Orillia that is satisfactory to the City of Orillia.
- Council adopted the recommendations as set out on the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting of Council held on April 3, 2023.
- Correspondence dated February 24, 2023 from the Development Services and Engineering Department regarding the road resurfacing and sidewalk replacement programs were received.

The acceleration of Clayborne Place and Precision Drive to the 2023 Road Resurfacing Program will be cancelled and the section of West Street between Coldwater Street and Colborne Street was added to the 2023 Road Resurfacing Program. Staff will consider the creation of a user-friendly list of Orillia roads to update the public on timelines of anticipated road improvements and reconstruction.
- Councillor Durnford was authorized to attend the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Ending Homelessness Symposium from May 3-4, 2023, in Toronto, Ontario, with expenses. In accordance with Policy 1.5.1.1. - Conferences, Conventions, and Seminars, Councillor Durnford is required to submit a report to Council in written form on the information and knowledge gained by attending this training.

**Postponed from the February 27, 2023 Meeting:**

- In accordance with Policy 4.2.1.4. - Affordable Housing Incentives Policy, and further to the revised application made by Raising the Roof for the redevelopment of 25 Peter Street North for 24 affordable housing units, the applicant was granted permission to submit reduced securities for 30% of the total value of securities.

The applicant will receive a grant in the amount of \$129,250 from the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund to assist with the purchase price of the land, in the amount of \$106,500, and the City's Planning, Building and Engineering review fees, in the amount of \$22,750. The grants will be disbursed in accordance with the timing in the following manner:

- After the closing date on the purchase of 25 Peter Street North, a grant will be given to Raising the Roof in the form of a cheque from the City; and
- At the time the applicable Planning, Building and Engineering review fees are payable, an internal transfer from the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund to the applicable operating accounts within the Development Services and Engineering Department will be completed by the City.

- Staff was directed to prepare a report with respect to the following:  
An analysis of the potential benefits, risks, costs, and processes required to increase the maximum permitted building heights in all lands within the Living Area - Intensification Area, and Downtown Area - Central Core Intensification Area designations to permit the maximum building heights permitted within the corresponding land use designations.

**Below are highlights of what Council adopted at its meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023 from Council Committee on March 20, 2023:**

- Option 1 was adopted as set out in the confidential report regarding mandatory capital equipment upgrades for the 9-1-1 Central Emergency Reporting Bureau.
- A Working Group will be formed to address the issue of opioid use and the impact it can have on those experiencing homelessness in the community. The Working Group will be comprised of the following members:

- Two representatives from Council being Councillors Cipolla and Durnford
- A representative from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- People with lived and living experience of substance abuse, as determined by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and/or other community Working Group members
- A representative from the Ontario Provincial Police
- A representative from the Canadian Mental Health Association Simcoe County Branch
- A representative from the Rama Health Centre
- A representative from the Couchiching Family Health Team
- A representative from the Youth Haven
- A local Pharmacist (of which provides methadone and NEP supplies)
- A student representative from each of the Orillia secondary schools (Twin Lakes Secondary School, Orillia Secondary School, Patrick Fogarty Catholic Secondary School);
- Other representatives as determined by the Working Group.

The Working Group work to provide the following guiding objectives:

- Develop a strategy with actions to strengthen community-based interventions: By working with local organizations and community members to build a strong network of supports, resources, and services for individuals experiencing challenges with opioid use and homelessness; and that the strategy explicitly include consideration of a harm reduction approach, and a focus on the social determinates of health (poverty, childhood health, homelessness, food security, mental health).
- Develop a strategy to enhance public education and awareness: By raising public awareness about the community's experience with the opioid crisis and homelessness, further community support and action can be mobilized;

The Working Group will provide a report to Council by September 2023 outlining its accomplishments regarding the guiding objectives with the option to extend the Working Group's mandate for an additional 12 months.

- The report regarding opportunities for partnerships, potential locations and funding sources for the Orillia Community Fridge proposal was received as information.
- Policy 4.2.1.4. - Affordable Housing Incentives Policy was waived. \$189,787.17 will be transferred from the Tax Rate Stabilization Fund to pay the outstanding back taxes for Hillcrest Lodge. Once hired, the City's Housing Coordinator will be assigned to work with Hillcrest Lodge to assist in facilitating the transfer of the land from the Toronto United Church to Hillcrest Lodge. The City will provide a tax exemption by way of a municipal housing facility by-law effective March 16, 2023 until December 31, 2024, or until the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation provides tax exemption status, whichever occurs sooner, with the taxes to be paid from the Tax Rate Stabilization fund. The Mayor's Office will provide a letter to First National Bank outlining the City's support for Hillcrest Lodge.
- The pilot program for allowing backyard hens was deemed a success. The keeping of backyard hens will be permitted subject to the requirements of Chapter 287 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Hen Coop Licensing. Chapter 287 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Hen Coop Licensing will be amended to remove the cap on the maximum number of properties that are permitted to participate in the program and to establish a limit of one licence per lot.
- Staff was authorized to enter into a cost-sharing agreement with the Ministry of Transportation to reconstruct a multi-use trail on the north side of Coldwater Road only, from Highway 11 to Murphy Road. Staff was directed to report back to Council once a formal agreement is finalized.
- The Statement of the Treasurer prepared pursuant to Section 284 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, was received as information.
- The report regarding annual investments prepared pursuant to Section 8 of Ontario Regulation 438/97 under the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 and Policy 4.1.6.1. - Investment Policy, was received as information.
- A Working Group will be established to lead and manage the host municipality requirements for the 2024 Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) Conference. The Terms of Reference for the 2024 OSUM Conference Working Group be approved as set out in Schedule "A" of the report. The following members of Council be added to the 2024 OSUM Conference Working Group:
  - Coun. Durnford
  - Coun. Czetwerzuk
  - Coun. Leatherdale

The full agenda is available on the City's website at [orillia.ca](http://orillia.ca).