

# COUNCIL Highlights

## Special Meeting of Council re Tax Appeals – March 25, 2024

Below are highlights of what Council adopted at the Special Meeting of Council re Tax Appeals on March 25, 2024.

- Pursuant to Sections 357 and 358 of the *Municipal Act*, Council has received applications for the cancellation, reduction or refund of taxes levied in the years 2021, 2022 and 2023. Pursuant to Section 357(1) and Section 358(1) of the *Municipal Act*, notices of cancellation or reduction of taxes have been sent to persons who owned property, which:
  - i) business ceased to be liable to be taxed at the rate it was taxed, or
  - ii) was razed by fire, or demolished, or
  - iii) was overcharged by clerical error, or
  - iv) was overcharged by gross error;Having heard the applications, each application will be resolved according to the lists presented by the Director of Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer.

## Regular Council Meeting – March 25, 2024

Below are highlights of what Council Committee recommended when it convened on Monday, March 25, 2024. The wording is meant to highlight the spirit and direction and does not reflect the exact motion. The recommendations are subject to ratification at the next Council meeting scheduled for April 8, 2024, with exception to any items pulled for ratification on March 25, 2024.

- The confidential report regarding staff reviews was received as information and the confidential direction provided to the Chief Administrative Officer was adopted.
- The following resolution was passed:  
*"WHEREAS the Province of Ontario adopted greenhouse gas reduction targets of 30% below 2005 levels by 2030, and emissions from buildings represented 22% of the Province's 2017 emissions;*  
*AND WHEREAS buildings with better energy performance provide owners and occupants with lower energy bills, improved building comfort, and resilience from power disruptions that are expected to be more common in a changing climate, tackling both inequality and energy poverty;*  
*AND WHEREAS ensuring that all new buildings in the Province of Ontario are built to the highest energy efficiency means that they will not need expensive retrofits in the future and the cost of heating and cooling these buildings will be reduced from the moment they are first occupied;*

*AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Orillia has adopted a Climate Change Action Plan (Orillia's Climate Future);*

*AND WHEREAS this Action Plan targets Net Zero Emissions for corporate operations by 2040;*

*AND WHEREAS this Action Plan targets Net Zero Emissions for the community by 2050;*

*AND WHEREAS this Action Plan identifies that Orillia will reach its Net Zero targets by following decarbonization actions grouped under three Big Moves: Local Renewable Energy, Transportation, and Buildings;*

*AND WHEREAS it has been identified that part of this Action Plan will need to include a Low-Carbon Pathway working towards retrofitting existing buildings, and encouraging high efficiency new builds to reduce energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions; AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario stated in February 2022 that it planned to transition certain green building standards related to building construction (which are currently being implemented through the site plan process) into the Ontario Building Code by the summer of 2023;*

*AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has consulted on advancing harmonization of energy efficiency requirements in buildings by aligning Ontario's Building Code with selected National Code tiers as minimum energy efficiency requirements in the next edition of the Code in 2024;*

*AND WHEREAS the aspects of green standards that are not brought into Ontario's Building Code because they do not involve building construction (including green infrastructure, cool paving, biodiversity, tree plantings, etc.), will continue to be optional standards that can be required through municipal by-laws and implemented through site plan control;*

*AND WHEREAS during the transition period, until the green standards are authorized in the Ontario Building Code, the Province of Ontario anticipates that municipalities will continue to use site plan control to address green standards to the extent possible;*

*AND WHEREAS the Ontario Building Code has not yet been amended to authorize these green standards;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the City of Orillia requests that the Province of Ontario expedite energy performance green building standard amendments to the Ontario Building Code to provide meaningful energy efficient improvements, in a cost-effective manner for all future buildings;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Jill Dunlop, Member of Provincial Parliament for Simcoe-North and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.*

- The report regarding the feasibility of placing an infill sidewalk on the south side of Fittons Road East between Jamieson Drive and Fittons Heights, as well as establishing a pedestrian crosswalk across Fittons Road East at Jamieson Drive was received as information.
- Chapter 834 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Clean and Clear was repealed and replaced with an updated Chapter 834 as set out in Schedule "A" to Report DES-24-09 with any reference to "Naturalized Area" replaced with "Natural Area". Chapter 866 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Maintenance - Occupancy Standards was amended to repeal sections 866.2.23, 866.3.1(c) and 866.3.2; Staff was directed to prepare a report, in consultation with the Climate Change and Environmental

Sustainability Working Group, to explore the implementation of a policy for natural boulevards.

- Chapter 456 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - User Fees - Recreation, Youth and Culture was amended by adding Schedule "E" - User Fees - Tree and Bench Dedication Program as set out in Schedule "A" of report EIS-24-04 to update the City of Orillia's Tree and Bench Dedication Program to become a full cost recovery program. The Tree and Bench Dedication user fees in Schedule "E" of Chapter 456 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - User Fees - Recreation, Youth and Culture will be subject to an automatic 2% increase rounded to the nearest dollar effective January 1 of each year. The Tree and Bench Dedication Program will be limited to five new bench locations per year. The sunset clause for the Tree and Bench Dedication Program will be updated to include the following two provisions:
  - A requirement for applicants to update their contact information with the program administrators should it change from the initial application; and
  - A statement allowing the release of previously dedicated locations to new applicants following any unsuccessful attempts by staff to renew a location/asset at the completion of its useful life through the first right of refusal process.
- The report regarding an update on property taxation arrears and the status of the tax sale process was received as information.
- The report regarding 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.
- The following were appointed as the City of Orillia's representatives to the Couchiching OPP Detachment Board for a term commencing April 1, 2024 and expiring November 14, 2026:
  - Councillor Ralph Cipolla, Elected Representative
  - Angela Harwood, Community Representative
- The recommendations of Council Committee were referred to the next regular meeting of Council to be held Monday, April 8, 2024, with the exception of the following items which were referred to the Consent Agenda on Monday, March 25, 2024:
  - Closed Session Report Number 1 - Chief Administrative Office - re Staff Reviews
  - Closed Session Report Number 2 and Departmental Report Number 5 - Corporate Services Department - re Appointments to the Couchiching OPP Detachment Board
  - Departmental Report Number 1 - Environment and Infrastructure Services Department - re Tree and Bench Dedication Program
  - Departmental Report Number 2 - Corporate Services Department - re Tax Arrears and Tax Sale Process
  - Departmental Report Number 3 - Corporate Services Department - re Statement of the Treasurer - Remuneration and Expenses Paid to Members of Council, Local Boards and Other Bodies in 2023
  - Departmental Report Number 4 - Corporate Services Department - re Annual Investment Report

**Below are highlights of what Council adopted at its meeting on Monday, March 25, 2024 from the March 4, 2024 meeting:**

- The promotion of a city-wide Garage Sale Day within the City of Orillia on June 15, 2024 was approved and staff was directed to work with the members of the Garage Sale Working Group to develop a communications plan for the city-wide Garage Sale Day.
- The report regarding an update on the progress of the City's Official Plan Review was received. The City Moves report (Stage 1 Report for the Official Plan Review and Update) was endorsed in principle.
- The report from the Orillia Recreation Centre Phase Two Working Group regarding concepts for inclusion in Phase Two of the Orillia Recreation Centre was received and referred to staff to consider as part of the proposed Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan. The Orillia Recreation Centre Phase Two Working Group was dissolved.
- Staff was directed to prepare a Capital Project submission for the 2025 Budget deliberations for the construction of a pedestrian crossover on Park Street near Calverley Street and a Community Safety Zone designation for Calverley Street from West Street North to Park Street.

**Below are highlights of what Council adopted at its meeting on Monday, March 25, 2024.**

- Council adopted the recommendations as set out in the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting of Council held on Monday, March 25, 2024. This includes the following items from the March 25, 2024 Council Committee session:
  - The confidential report regarding staff reviews was received as information and the confidential direction provided to the Chief Administrative Officer was adopted.
  - Chapter 456 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - User Fees - Recreation, Youth and Culture was amended by adding Schedule "E" - User Fees - Tree and Bench Dedication Program as set out in Schedule "A" of report EIS-24-04 to update the City of Orillia's Tree and Bench Dedication Program to become a full cost recovery program. The Tree and Bench Dedication user fees in Schedule "E" of Chapter 456 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - User Fees - Recreation, Youth and Culture will be subject to an automatic 2% increase rounded to the nearest dollar effective January 1 of each year. The Tree and Bench Dedication Program will be limited to five new bench locations per year. The sunset clause for the Tree and Bench Dedication Program will be updated to include the following two provisions:
    - A requirement for applicants to update their contact information with the program administrators should it change from the initial application; and
    - A statement allowing the release of previously dedicated locations to new applicants following any unsuccessful attempts by staff to renew a location/asset at the completion of its useful life through the first right of refusal process.
  - The report regarding an update on property taxation arrears and the status of the tax sale process was received as information.
  - The report regarding 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.
- The following were appointed as the City of Orillia's representatives to the Couchiching OPP Detachment Board for a term commencing April 1, 2024 and expiring November 14, 2026:
  - Councillor Ralph Cipolla, Elected Representative
  - Angela Harwood, Community Representative
- Further to the correspondence dated March 13, 2024 from Metroland Media, the following member was appointed to serve on the Simcoe Advisory Council for the remainder of the 2022-2026 term of Council:
  - Councillor Durnford
- The correspondence dated March 15, 2024 from Jason Kerr was received and referred to Council Committee with a request for staff to prepare a report on the feasibility and costs of establishing raised garden beds at Lakeview Park.
- Further to the correspondence dated November 16, 2023 from the Town of Aylmer and February 21, 2024 from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding a resolution with respect to Provincial consideration for amendments to the *Residential Tenancies Act*, the following supporting resolution was passed:
 

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the City of Orillia hereby supports the resolution passed by the Corporation of the Town of Aylmer on November 15, 2023, regarding Provincial consideration for amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act;*

*AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Associate Minister of Housing, Rob Flack; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Member of Provincial Parliament for Simcoe-North, Jill Dunlop; and all Ontario Municipalities.*
- Proposed Chapter 920 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Fireworks - Regulation was adopted as set out in Schedule "A" to Report DSE-24-03, subject to amending the Chapter to prohibit the discharge of fireworks at all times, unless authorized under a Council-approved special event at this time. Chapter 938 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Noise was amended to repeal the noise restrictions related to fireworks. Chapter 490 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Inspection Fees will be amended to implement an inspection fee of \$200 related to non-compliance with Chapter 920 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Fireworks – Regulation. Policy 6.1.2.1. - Fireworks - Conditions be amended as set out in Schedule "B" to Report DSE-24-03.
- Staff were directed to prepare a CIP memo with respect to an outline of the detour, construction signage, and wayfinding signage modifications, as well as traffic calming measures that are planned for Laclie Street Reconstruction Phase 2.

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