

COUNCIL Highlights

Council Meeting – Jan. 13, 2025

Below are highlights of what Council Committee recommended at its meeting held on Monday, Jan. 13, 2025. These are subject to ratification by Council at its next meeting unless pulled for ratification on the same day.

- The confidential report from Mayor McIsaac regarding an update to a staffing matter was received. The confidential direction provided to staff was adopted.
- The confidential report from the Orillia Power Generation Corporation regarding proposed growth opportunities and a request for equity financing was received. The confidential direction was adopted as set out in Option 1 and Option 2 of the report. A copy of Options 1 and 2 will be provided to the Orillia Power Generation Corporation and to the City Treasurer and Deputy City Treasurer for accounting and auditing.
- \$30,000 was authorized from the CIL Recreation Land/Community Benefit Charge Obligatory Reserve Fund to fund the deposit anticipated in confidential Report CS-24-53 regarding a sale offer for vacant land.
- A City-Operated Medical Clinic Working Group was established to explore the possibility of a City-operated medical clinic to ease the family doctor shortage. The City-Operated Medical Clinic Working Group will be comprised of the following members:
 - Councillor Cipolla
 - Councillor Czetwerzuk
 - Councillor Leatherdale
 - Councillor Smith
 - A representative from the Orillia and Lake Country Physician Recruitment
 - A senior member of the Couchiching Ontario Health Team

The Working Group is mandated to consult with local healthcare organizations to better understand if a City-operated medical clinic would be an effective recruitment tool to bring family doctors to Orillia.

The City-Operated Medical Clinic Working Group was directed to report back to Council Committee by March 24, 2025 on the feasibility of implementing a City-operated medical clinic. \$500,000 was authorized for this initiative with \$250,000 each being funded from the Hospital Reserve and Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve respectively.

- The request for a grant from the Simcoe County Elementary Athletic Council to use the West Orillia Sports Complex for a wrestling tournament in 2025 was approved. The following sections of Policy 4.2.1.1. - Guidelines - Grants Committee were waived:

- Crown corporations and government agencies (e.g. school boards, social services, hospitals, business improvement associations, universities, etc.)
 - Sporting Groups
- The following Council Members were appointed for the remainder of the Council term to expire November 14, 2026:
 - Councillor Leatherdale to replace Councillor Lauer on the Municipal Heritage Committee
 - Councillor Lauer to replace Councillor Leatherdale on Sustainable Orillia
- The 2024 updates to the City of Orillia 2023-2028 Accessibility Plan were received as information.
- The correspondence from the Downtown Orillia Business Improvement Area Board and the supplementary memo dated December 5, 2024 from the Downtown BIA Parking Working Group regarding comments with respect to the request to dissolve the Downtown BIA Parking Working Group were received. Staff was directed to prepare a by-law for the next available Council meeting to amend Chapter 105 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Committees and Public Appointments to repeal Schedule D.6 to dissolve the Downtown BIA Parking Working Group.
- The report regarding the feasibility of designating community safety zones on Borland Street East from West Street North to Laclie Street and Peter Street North from Jarvis Street to Benner Street was received as information at this time.
- The report regarding the feasibility of implementing permanent all-way stops at the intersections of Brant Street East and Matchedash Street, as well as Tecumseth Street and Lightfoot Drive was received as information at this time.
- The recommendations of Council Committee were referred to the next regular meeting of Council on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, with the exception of the following items, which were referred to the Consent Agenda of the Council meeting of today (Jan. 13, 2025):
 - Closed Session Report Number 1 - Corporate Services Department - re Staffing Matter - Update
 - Closed Session Report Number 2 - Orillia Power Generation Corporation - re Proposed Growth Opportunities and Request for Equity Financing
 - Closed Session Report Number 3 - Corporate Services Department - re Sale Offer - Vacant Land - Administrative Matter
 - Council Report Number 1 - Councillors Cipolla, Czetwerzuk, Leatherdale and Smith - re City-Operated Medical Clinic Working Group
 - Council Report Number 2 - Mayor McIsaac and Councillor Lauer - re Waiver of Policy 4.2.1.1. - Guidelines - Grants Committee
 - Council Report Number 3 - Councillor Leatherdale - re Committee Appointments
 - Board and Committee Report Number 1 - Corporate Services Department and Accessibility Advisory Committee - re Orillia 2023-2028 Accessibility Plan - 2024 Updates
 - Council Referral Report Number 2 - Development Services and Engineering Department - re Community Safety Zones - Borland Street from West Street North to Laclie Street and Peter Street from Jarvis Street to Benner Street

Council reconvened at 5:08 p.m. Below are highlights of what Council adopted at its meeting on Monday, Jan. 13, 2025:

- Council adopted the recommendations as set out on the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting of Council held on Monday, January 13, 2025 with the exception of:
 - December 9, 2024 Council Committee Report 1B – Councillor Smith – re Support for Provincial Legislative Measures to address community safety and homeless encampments.
- The report regarding public input on the top three strategic priorities for the 2025 Local Action Plan consultations with the OPP Detachment Commander was received.
- The City of Orillia requests that the Couchiching OPP Detachment Board address the following three strategic priorities in the 2025 Local Action Plan consultations with the Orillia OPP Detachment Commander:
 - Downtown Public Safety
 - Focusing on Mental Health Responses and Collaborating with Social Services to address root causes of crime
 - Traffic Safety and Enforcement (Speeding/Loud Mufflers/Impaired Driving)
- Staff was directed to prepare a report with respect to the feasibility of implementing a No Parking Zone between 104 and 114 Atlantis Drive.
- Staff was directed to prepare a report by April 28, 2025 with respect to the following:
 - An overview of the results from the Housing Needs Assessment including key elements of the Poverty Reduction Action Plan;
 - Staff was directed to consult with the County of Simcoe and local non-profits in the sector to review any and all viable sustainable housing solutions, both permanent and temporary.
 - Staff was directed to report back by October 20, 2025 on any possible solutions identified by staff as feasible.
- Staff in consultation with the Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Working Group was directed to prepare a report with respect to the feasibility and costs of preparing a resource plan to create and implement signage for tree and plant species identification in Couchiching Beach Park.
- Staff was directed to prepare a report with respect to the feasibility of amending Chapter 22 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Council - Procedures to enable the submission of online petitions.

The full agenda is available on the City's website at orillia.ca.