

COUNCIL Highlights

Council Meeting – March 28, 2025

Below are highlights of what Council Committee recommended at its meeting held on Monday, March 28, 2025. These are subject to ratification by Council at its next meeting on May 12, 2025, unless pulled for ratification on the same day.

- In accordance with Section 22.3.1 of Chapter 22 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Suspension - Rules - Two-Thirds Vote, Council suspended the rules to enable a motion to be introduced to add the following unlisted item for debate under the “Closed Session Reports” section of the agenda:
 - Chief Administrative Office - re Letter to and from Lakehead University with respect to the Development Agreement.
- The confidential Report CASP-25-01 regarding the 2025 Order of Orillia Recipient Selections was received as information.
- As recommended in confidential Report CS-25-30 regarding a staffing update, Option 1 be adopted as set out in the report. A copy of Option 1 will be provided to the Director of Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer and the Deputy Treasurer for accounting and auditing purposes and any such other person required or expedient to give effect to its terms.
- As recommended in confidential Report CS-25-33 regarding a sale offer of vacant land, Option 1 was adopted as set out in the report. A copy of Option 1 will be provided to the Director of Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer for accounting and auditing purposes and such other persons as required or expedient to give effect to its terms. The Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign any document required or expedient to give effect to this resolution.
- As recommended in confidential Report EIS-25-13 regarding an update to a potential land acquisition, Option 1 was adopted as set out in the report. A copy of Option 1 will be provided to the Director of Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer for accounting and auditing purposes.
- The confidential correspondence dated April 24, 2025 from Lakehead University and April 28, 2025 from the Chief Administrative Office regarding the Development Agreement with Lakehead University was received and the confidential direction provided to staff was adopted.
- The report regarding an overview of the results from the Housing Needs Assessment including key elements of the Poverty Reduction Action Plan was received.
- The West Ridge via Old Barrie Road route will be amended to service the Lakehead University Campus stop during all operational hours from August 15,

2025 to April 30, 2026 on a trial basis. During the trial period, the following three transit stops will be removed from the West Ridge via Old Barrie Road route to facilitate timing:

- Arthur Street at Woodside Drive
- Woodside Drive at Sandra Drive
- University Avenue at the Costco entrance

Staff were directed to report back to Council Committee following the trial period with results including feedback from the Transportation and Parking Working Group, or upon a material change in circumstance.

- The set fees for Item 2 a - Brush, Tree Wood and Stumps, and Item 3 - Readily Compostable Material (as defined in Chapter 877 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Solid Waste Management and also including woodchips, but excluding sawdust and loose or bundled brush of any size) within the City of Orillia, of Schedule "A" of Chapter 457 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - User Fees - Environmental Services and Operations - Solid Waste Management was waived during the period of April 29 to May 31, 2025. City-wide brush pick up following the ice storm was also extended to May 31, 2025 with the final brush set out date of May 18.
- The 2025 tax ratios in relation to the residential tax class set to 1.0, as per Provincial Legislation, be set as follows:
 - Multi-residential at 1.378000
 - New Multi-residential at 1.100000
 - Industrial at 1.842000
 - Large Industrial at 1.842000
 - Commercial at 1.833000
 - Pipeline at 2.855968
 - Landfill at 0.597728
 - Farm at 0.250000

The 2025 graduated tax rates on two bands of Commercial assessment remain unchanged and set with the first band from \$0 to \$10,000,000 of assessment, and the second band being all assessment above \$10,000,000;

The 2025 low-band Commercial tax rate remain unchanged and set at 47% of the high-band Commercial tax rate.

- Schedule 22 - Community Safety Zones of Traffic and Parking Regulation By-law Number 2007-55, as amended, will be repealed and replaced with Schedule "A" of Report DSE-25-14.
- Option 1 was adopted as set out confidential Report DSE-25-17A for the Laclie Street Reconstruction from Fittons Road to Murray Street.
- The recommendations of Council Committee will be referred to the next regular meeting of Council to be held Monday, May 12, 2025, with the exception of the following items which shall be referred to the Consent Agenda for April 28, 2025:
- THAT the recommendations of Council Committee be referred to the next regular meeting of Council to be held Monday, May 12, 2025, with the exception of the following items which shall be referred to the Consent Agenda later today:
 - Closed Session Report Number 1 - Commemorative Awards Selection Panel - re 2025 Order of Orillia Recipient Selections
 - Closed Session Report Number 2 - Corporate Services Department - re Staffing Update

- Closed Session Report Number 4 - Corporate Services Department - re Sale Offer - Vacant Land
- Closed Session Report Number 5 - Corporate Services and Environment and Infrastructure Services Departments - re Potential Land Acquisition - Update
- Closed Session Item Number 6 - Chief Administrative Office - re Letter to and from Lakehead University with respect to the Development Agreement.
- Departmental Report Number 1 - Environment and Infrastructure Services Department - re Extension of Temporarily Waiving Brush and Tree Wood Fees at the Waste Diversion Site
- Departmental Report Number 2 - Corporate Services Department - re 2025 Tax Ratios and Policy Considerations
- Departmental Report Number 4 - Development Services and Engineering Department - re Community Safety Zones - Automated Speed Enforcement

Council reconvened at 4:13 p.m. Below are highlights of what Council adopted at its meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025:

- Council adopted the recommendations as set out on the Consent Agenda for the regular meeting of Council held on Monday, April 28, 2025.
- Councillor Fallis was authorized to attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference and Trade Show from May 29 to June 1, 2025 in Ottawa, Ontario with expenses. In accordance with Policy 1.5.1.1. - Conferences, Conventions, and Seminars, Councillor Fallis is required to submit a report to Council in written form on the information and knowledge gained by attending this training.
- Further to the deputation dated April 28, 2025 from the Mariposa Ecological Initiative and Rodenticide Free Ontario, staff were directed to prepare a report with respect to the following:
 - The impacts and risks associated with the use of rodenticides on all municipal properties;
 - The feasibility of suspending the use of rodenticides within municipal operations;
 - The feasibility of eliminating the sale and use of all rodenticide products within the City; and
 - The feasibility of developing an educational campaign aimed at promoting exclusion and sanitation as primary rodent control methods in collaboration with the Mariposa Ecological Initiative.
- The following motion was ratified, confirmed, and approved:
 - THAT, further to the Special Meeting of Council held on April 23, 2025, confidential Report CS-25-31 dated April 22, 2025 from the Corporate Services Department regarding an opinion of external legal counsel concerning Part VI.1 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, be received as information at this time, with further deliberation and requests for information reserved to a future meeting of Council; AND THAT the identity of the firm providing advice, WeirFoulds LLP, be made available to the public; AND THAT the confidential direction provided to staff be adopted; AND THAT the direction be provided to the City Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer for accounting

and auditing purposes, and any other party deemed expedient for carrying out the motion.

AND THAT the Director of Council Services/City Clerk be directed to provide a copy to members of Council with the confidential recording from the Special Council Meeting re External Legal Advice with respect to Part VI.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001, held on Monday, April 23, 2025.”

- Staff was directed to prepare a report with respect to the feasibility and associated costs of installing a flagpole at Couchiching Beach Park near the Aqua Theatre.
- Staff was directed to prepare a report with respect to the feasibility and associated costs of establishing a commemorative crosswalk, titled "Veterans' Walkway" near the Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 34, as a tribute to the bravery and contributions of veterans who served during times of war, conflict, and peacekeeping missions, as well as active military personnel.
- Staff was directed to prepare a report with respect to options to rejuvenate Orillia's tree canopy following the damage sustained by the recent ice storm.

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