

Hello fellow Buckhorn Rate Payers

The Municipality of Trent Lakes Council Meeting of October 6th, 2015 was an interesting and controversial meeting on a number of subjects.

1. Windover Property on Hwy 36/Buckhorn Road specifically Lots 1 & 2.

An application has been submitted to re-zone these two lots from rural to commercial. People voiced their concern about what the property would be used for and how it would be further developed. There was also concern about whether or not the stone/gravel area would be somewhat shielded from Buckhorn Road by either a berm or fencing. You may want to review the background studies that have been done and you can find this information on www.trentlakes.ca

2. Boyd Island

It would seem that council has taken it upon themselves to pledge \$75,000 towards the Boyd Island Campaign (Kawartha Land Trust). Two hundred and seventy five letters were sent out to business and seven hundred and fifty were sent to residents. I'm not sure how this was done or who or why certain businesses or households received these letters. I did not receive one and would like to hear from you if you did. The bottom line is "Could we not use this \$75,000 for a better purpose like parking spaces and washroom facilities in Buckhorn?" for example. Now if the Kawartha Land Trust does not raise the one million dollars by November 30th, the deal is off the table. They have currently raised over \$500,000. My question is "Why do we need to invest municipality money to save an island that is privately owned and who will be responsible for taxes, insurance and land maintenance in the future?" These will be questions I will be asking at the next council meeting.

3. Listened to an interesting presentation from MHBC Planning, Urban Design & Landscape Architecture (Jim Dymant).

He presented several before/after photos of certain Buckhorn properties which with very little investment could go a long way in getting these projects started. Municipal incentives to business owners could allow for some road frontages to become very attractive with simple cost effective changes. Check out the MHBC

Planning – Community Improvement Plan – Buckhorn to learn more about the plan and see the pictures.

4. Marie Windover – Wetland Conservation in Ontario.

There is an excellent discussion paper that you should read if Wetland Conservation is of interest to you. You can find it on www.trentlakes.ca and follow the links to agendas/regular council meetings/Oct 6, 2015.

- 5. There were many more items brought up at this meeting from the fact that the handicap parking at Sandy Beach is being misused, the entrance/exit at Sandy Beach should be enlarged to be made safer and the fact that the fire equipment/trucks will cost more than expected due to the low Canadian dollar and the fact that some of these items must be purchased in the U.S. The fire hall is expected to be completed on target even though there was a delay in getting the steel. A feasibility study was done on the cost of installing sanitary sewers in Buckhorn and the cost is just too much with the residents having to bear part of the cost. (perhaps \$120,000 for residents and overall cost of more than \$15 million dollars for waste treatment etc)**

All the agendas and minutes for this and all council meetings can be read at the Trent Lakes website (www.trentlakes.ca) Follow the links for agendas/regular council meetings/Oct 6, 2015 At the time of writing this, the minutes were not available but there is documentation in the agenda section.

Looking forward to seeing you at the roadside clean-up on October 17th at 9:00am at the BCC. Please respond by email or telephone if you are available to help out. It's just a couple of hours out of your Saturday to help show that people in Buckhorn care about their community.

Hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving with your friends and family. We have a lot to be thankful for.

Most importantly, don't forget to VOTE. Think about which candidate will work the

hardest for this area.

Michael Scinski

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