



COUNCILLOR CAROL ARMSTRONG

Welcome to the **fifth** update on Trent Lakes Council activities. Council continues to work on your behalf to make this a community we can all enjoy and be proud of.

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NOTE: This Newsletter includes updates I have personally selected to keep the public informed. Any errors or omissions are mine alone.

TRENT LAKES COUNCIL UPDATE

October 1– December 31, 2019

Highlights of Trent Lakes Council Meetings

COUNCIL DECISIONS

- Approve the Facilities Master Plan and direct staff to use the Facilities Master Plan as a guide for the next 20 years of major facility investments in Trent Lakes for all departments except Public Works.
- Approve a Fireworks Bylaw that restricts private fireworks displays to four Holiday weekends a year – New Years, Canada Day, Civic Holiday and Labour Day.
- Approve an implementation project for an accessible walkway and ramp in Buckhorn, jointly with the County.
- Contract with a consulting firm for a communications review, including design for a new website.
- Approve a Bylaw to prohibit the placement of noise mitigation structures on Municipal road allowances.
- Renew an agreement with PTBO Humane Society for animal control and services.
- Authorize a 5 year contract renewal for Ontario Provincial Police services.
- Retain an outside firm to provide Human Resources services and support.
- Adopt amended Strategic Priorities, incorporating Public Comments.
- Deny the request to increase the speed limit on Galway Road.
- Amend the Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw - Housekeeping changes.
- Return jurisdiction over signs on all Private lands to the Municipality. (The County previously regulated signs within 400 meters of a County Road.)
- Approve Parks, Recreation and Culture (PR&C) Advisory Committee Workplan to prepare a resident survey and develop a PR&C Master Plan.
- Approve a Memorial Donation Policy for Trees or Benches.



ANNOUNCING:

Donna Teggart (Left) has been officially appointed to the position of CAO and Treasurer. This combination of roles is a successful model in many Municipalities. Donna joined our team as Deputy Treasurer in 2005 and was promoted to Treasurer in 2009. Donna has the knowledge, skills and experience to lead Trent Lakes, with the full support of Council and the respect of staff.

Jessie Clark has been officially appointed to the position of Clerk. Her experience as Deputy Clerk has prepared her for managing municipal procedure and protocol. She will be assisted by a newly hired Deputy Clerk, with years of experience in another municipality.



RETIREMENT AND PROMOTION

Fire Chief **Don Mitchell** (Right) has resigned, after a distinguished 15 year career with our Municipality and a 42 year career.



Steve Brockbank has been promoted to the position of Fire Chief and Director of Emergency Services. Steve's 22 years of experience will be invaluable as he assumes management of the staff, operations and 50 volunteer firefighters.

Highlights of Trent Lakes Council Meetings (Cont'd)

REFERRED TO STAFF – Outstanding

- Direct staff to prepare comments on the proposed changes to the Aggregate Resources Act - Approvals, Fees, Municipal involvement.
- Prepare a response to the proposed Building Code Services changes. The Province has proposed a new delegated authority to assume certain operational responsibilities and a "Certified Professional" model allowing certain architects and engineers to sign off on plans and inspections in lieu of Municipal building officials.
- Direct County Council reps to raise concerns over the increase in recycling costs, resulting from a new County Contract.
- Direct staff to provide their review of the Consultant Fleet Audit and an implementation strategy for high priority items.

MASTER FACILITIES PLAN

The Municipality of Trent Lakes engaged a consulting firm to prepare a master facilities plan. Experts examined current and future facilities space and functional needs and required capital investment over a 20 year horizon and recommended the relocation, expansion and/or amalgamation of facilities to best serve the municipality's delivery of services into the future.

The Guiding Principles for the study were that the recommendations be:

JUSTIFIED

RESPONSIBLE

REALISTIC/REASONABLE

STRATEGIC

Public input on the recommendations was requested. The only concerns were with the Public Works recommendations, which are under further review. Council directed staff to use the Facilities Master Plan as a guide for the next 20 years of major facility investments in Trent Lakes, and to exploit all viable opportunities for integration, synergies and leveraging of facilities and amenities across departments.

KEY Approved Strategic Recommendations:

PROJECT	FIRE	COMMUNITY HALLS	RECREATION	ADMINISTRATION
Renovate Cavendish to accommodate vehicles and equipment	2020			
Provide storage for ATV trailer and Boat at Galway	2020			
Divest of Deer Bay Hall and relocate Outreach Centre		2020		
Remove administration vault and renovate for workstations				2021
Move Recreation and Parks to new facility, colocated with Roads depot			2022	
Renew Cavendish Play structure			2024	
Build new Buckhorn Fire Hall	2025			
Build new Cavendish Fire Hall	2030			
Replace Cavendish Hall/Library and combine with Fire Hall		2030		
Build new Galway Fire Hall	2035			
Replace Galway Hall and combine with Fire Hall		2040		

NOTE that the proposed strategy for Roads Depot renovations, expansions, consolidations is currently under review

JUNE 1 PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE

On June 1st, Council held a facilitated roundtable for members of the public to share their views on topics of interest. What has happened with those conversations and recommendations? Here is a brief update:

Cottager/Ratepayer Meeting

The delegation at the June 1st meeting requested the return of Council and staff updates at the annual cottage association meeting. This will be met with having two separate meetings. Council has scheduled separate meetings in 2020 for:

Saturday, June 6, 2020 Annual Cottager/Ratepayer Association meeting
Saturday, September 12, 2020 Public Roundtable Discussion

Waste Management

Council approved a Trial Suspension of the Quarterly restrictions on the resident waste card for the balance of 2019, that went into effect in the summer of 2019. IF waste increased by 15% or more, as a result, the suspension would not be continued. For the three-month period, July-August-September, waste was lower year over year by 7.7%. However, waste increased over 30% in the month of October. Council will wait until January to see year end data and decide how to proceed for 2020.

Council has requested a presentation by PurEnergy. PurEnergy Inc., in conjunction with Drain Bros., is planning the construction of a biogas plant east of Havelock that will use organic waste to generate biogas and feed into the Enbridge distribution line as a renewable energy source. The project, entitled "Kawartha Biogas", has received all required environmental permits for the location, and is capable of servicing multiple large Municipal clients. PurEnergy has received support from the County of Peterborough for the project in order to begin applying for grants that will fund construction.

Short Term Rentals

Trent Lakes recognizes this is a growing phenomenon which is creating issues for some residents, but is also a source of rental income helping some residents offset the costs of ownership. Most other Municipalities are grappling with how best to deal with short term rentals, and Trent Lakes has looked at many different approaches.

Trent Lakes has in place robust Bylaws that regulate noise, fires, nuisance animals, and property standards. Enforcement of these is not as effective as all of us would like. To that end, the Municipality is in the process of expanding its Bylaw enforcement with additional resources. We expect this will be in place in time for the 2020 Summer season.

Off Road Vehicles

There was concern expressed about the current regulations that apply to off road vehicle usage in the Municipality, and where this information is available. Council and staff have reviewed the existing Bylaw and have made changes to permit the use of Off-Road vehicles uniformly throughout the Municipality, under specific conditions. The revised Bylaw allows ATV usage only during daylight hours. Local associations have been encouraged to disseminate more safety information.

Public Engagement and Consultation

This is a priority area for Council and Staff. A consultant with expertise in communications and public engagement strategy was engaged in December, to provide guidance on how to improve Municipal communications to taxpayers, including a redesign of the website, and how to solicit more public input on important issues relevant to taxpayers.

Docks on Municipal Land

There are many instances of private docks on Municipally-owned property throughout our area. Staff are working on a proposed Policy and action plan for Council. Their recommendations will include removal of these, and/or entering into selective encroachment agreements.



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