

For Immediate Release February 11, 2020

## Council Connect: Highlights from the February 11, 2020 meetings of Council

Here are the highlights from the Meetings of Council this evening:

**Zoning Application—Lesperance Road and County Road 42:** Council held a public meeting to hear from the owners of a property located on the Northeast corner of the County Road 42 and Lesperance Road intersection. The owners are seeking to have the property designation changed from “Neighbourhood Commercial” to “Medium Density Residential” to allow for the construction of four, six-unit, three-storey, multi-unit dwellings. This was the second Public Meeting on the project and Council was provided with a revised proposal and summary of how issues from the first meeting were addressed. Council directed Administration to prepare draft Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment documents for consideration for adoption at a future Regular Meeting of Council.

**Mandated Paperless Billings:** Council heard from Essex Powerlines on their mandated paperless billing initiative and supported the program. This project was the result of Council’s climate emergency declaration and their direction to Administration to identify priority action items that reduce carbon emissions. Essex Powerlines Corporation invited Tecumseh to join their Digital Transportation Strategy and Water Billing Savings Initiative that seeks to reduce paper use by moving to digital billing. 22% of Essex Powerlines Corporation customer base is currently paperless and the company hopes to raise that figure to 75% by January 1, 2021. Essex Powerlines estimates that its current paper bill printing produces more than 14,000 kg of carbon dioxide equivalent per year. Residents can sign up for paperless billing via the online account at [www.myaccount.essexpowerlines.ca](http://www.myaccount.essexpowerlines.ca).

**2020 Citizen Satisfaction Survey:** Council heard from Probe Research Inc. and received the full report on the 2020 Citizen Satisfaction Survey. This is the fourth time the survey has been conducted following Council’s commitment to conduct the survey every two years. The last survey was completed prior to the 2018 Municipal Election. The Town continues to have a high satisfaction rating with 97% of the survey respondents noting they were somewhat to very satisfied with the Town’s services.

**2020 Essex Power in Youth in Community Fund:** Council received the report on the 2020 Essex Power in Youth Community Fund. The fund was created by Essex Powerlines Corporation to distribute funding equally among its four shareholders (Amherstburg, LaSalle, Leamington, Tecumseh), to support community activities geared toward Youth. In the past, the fund has sponsored activities like Breakfast with Santa, Outdoor Movie Nights, Earth Day, free skates and swims and various youth sports groups. Tecumseh will receive \$10,000 this year and the Parks and Recreation Services Department will continue to oversee and manage the fund.

**Radar Speed Surveys:** Council received a report on radar speed surveys conducted in 2019. Public Works and Environmental Services deployed radar speed trailers to 13 locations in Town and found four streets where motorists were traveling 10 kilometres over the speed limit. This information along with details about time of day and direction of traffic were immediately provided to the OPP for enforcement purposes. Public Works is also reviewing the data to determine if additional traffic calming measures may be necessary. Radar speed surveys will continue in response to complaints as they arise.

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**Tecumseh Transit:** Council received the annual report on Tecumseh Transit. 2019 ridership increased to pre-2016 levels at over 28,000. Several route revisions were made in mid-2018 and 2019 was the first full year of their use. 2019 revenue also increased by 4.1% to almost \$25,000. Also noted in the report was the ongoing discussions Administration continues to have with their counterparts in Windsor. Transit Windsor recently completed a comprehensive review of their services and identified significant opportunities for enhanced transit in the Oldcastle Hamlet. Transit Windsor is considering introducing a pilot program to extend transit service to Oldcastle Hamlet to cover a greater area through a hybrid of conventional fixed route service and on-demand service. Discussions on this service will continue in 2020 with further detailed reports provided to Council as discussions progress.

**CIP Grants:** Council approved \$3,000 for the preparation of drawings for façade and parking lot improvements to 1222 Lesperance Road. The building was formerly home to Billiards Plus and is now occupied by Halliwill Seguin LLP Law Firm. The owners hope to complete façade improvements, repairs to the stucco and windows and install new signage.

**Financial Policy:** Council approved the Financial Management Policy, a new policy that covers eight elements of financial management and which will provide decision making guidance for financial sustainability over the long-term. The Financial Management Policy outlines the Town's philosophy on financial matters and it aligns with the Town's strategic plan.

**St. Mark's Pumping Station:** Council approved adding the St. Mark's Pumping Station—Pump Repair capital project to the 2020-2024 Public Works and Environmental Services Five Year Capital Works Plan with the approximate cost of \$36,000 funded out of the Storm Sewer Lifecycle Reserve. The project is the result of a study completed by Dillon Consulting in fall 2019 in response to high lake water levels in Lake St. Clair. The St. Mark's Pumping Station is planned for decommissioning however in the short-term if a pump failure occurs, it would require significant funding to maintain storm water pumping in an emergency scenario. In 2019, the existing stand-by pump and duty pump were assessed by Lekter Industrial Services and the manufacturer to determine scope and cost of repairs to reduce the risk of pump failure before the station is decommissioned. Lekter will be retained to undertake the rehabilitation of the second pump at St. Mark's Pump Station as a result of the assessment.

**By-laws:** Council approved the by-laws discussed at the January 28 meeting of the Policies and Priorities Committee including the by-law on the Pilot Program for the licensing of Urban Hens. Residents interested in applying for a license under this program will be able to apply by the end of the month. Full details on the licenses will be shared publicly on [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca).

The next Regular Meeting of Council is Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at the **Tecumseh Arena, 12021 McNorton Street** in the **Horwood Room**. The agenda will be made available on Thursday, February 20, 2020.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca), Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh](http://www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh)).

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