

TRENT LAKES COUNCIL UPDATE

Dec 2018 – Feb 2019



COUNCILLOR CAROL ARMSTRONG

Nearly three months have passed since my fellow Councillors and I were inaugurated to Trent Lakes Municipal Council. Our constituents deserve to know what we have done, what we're working on and what's planned. The Municipal website can sometimes be cumbersome to navigate, so I will endeavor to summarize KEY Council activities.

With your feedback, I will continue to modify this UpDate to best meet your needs.

The plan is to publish this Update every two to three months.

CONTACT

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FROM MY CAMPAIGN: MY WHY:

- To represent all property owners and ensure an open, transparent and accountable Council
- To focus on the continued economic, environmental and social viability of our community
- To contribute my business and professional skills to a more strategic, responsive Council
- To do my part in protecting the natural beauty and precarious ecology we are privileged to enjoy

Highlights of Trent Lakes Council Meetings

NOTE: These are updates selected by me to keep the public informed. Any errors or omissions are mine alone.

More details can be found at

www.trentlakes.ca/council/meetings-agendas-minutes/

COUNCIL DECISIONS

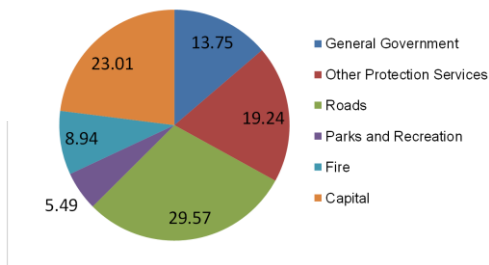
- **Opted IN** to allow the retail sales of **Cannabis** in Trent Lakes. This means that a Provincially licensed and approved retail outlet could sell cannabis in the Municipality, with restrictions on distance from schools and community centres. Staff presented a comprehensive report and recommended Opting In.
- Approved the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to look at the impact of **Short Term Rentals** on our community and determine any actions that should be considered to manage these.
- Approved agreement with **Trillium Foundation** to accept a grant of \$80K to complete necessary upgrades to the **Cavendish Rink** (total of \$120K).
- Approved the continuation of **Tire Collection** at all Landfill sites, despite the termination of the grant program.
- Approved a revised Procedural Bylaw. **NOTE** that effective May 1st, **Council Meeting Agendas** will be available on line by 5 pm Tuesday the week before the Meeting and any person or group wishing to present a delegation for any topic on the Agenda may submit a written request by noon the Friday before the Council meeting.
- Approved the start time for the **July and August Council** meetings be 6 p.m., as a trial to encourage greater community attendance.
- Approved continuation of current **Committees of Council** and their members until the earlier of December 31, 2019 or until the current review of the Committee structure is completed and successors are appointed.
- Approved hiring a full-time **Supervisor** for transfer stations
- Approved Delegation Requests to **MNR** regarding 1) the Provincial Growth Plan and 2) Quarry and Pit Approvals

2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Approved the 2019 calendar year Trent Lakes Budget for \$13.1 Million. This will raise the Municipal tax rate by 0.81%. For every \$100,000 of appraised value, there will be an increase in Municipal tax of \$3.10.

NOTE that there may still be changes to the tax rate later in the year. The Province has announced a decrease in the annual Municipal Grant program. In 2018 this was \$1.3 Million, and the 2019 budgeted estimate is \$1.0 Million.

% Municipal Budget Apportionment



SELECT BUDGET INITIATIVES

- Approved a Strategic Facilities Review – to assess existing facilities and plan for future requirements
- Approved an annual Internal Audit Program - assess risk and recommend efficiencies and effectiveness for a priority service, program or process.
- Approved a Fire Master Plan – to assess existing risks and capabilities and make recommendations for fire protection and emergency management
- Approved a Council Strategic Priorities Session (tentative March)

Highlights of Trent Lakes Council Meetings (Cont'd)

REFERRED TO STAFF / COUNCIL

- Directed staff to present a plan to separate the roles of Legal Counsel from that of the Integrity Commissioner and other Accountability Officers.
- Directed the Waste Management Committee to recommend changes to the Waste Card program that address the concerns of residents.
- Directed Staff to investigate emergency coverage for after hours and report back with recommendations.
- Directed Staff to investigate a Fireworks Bylaw.
- Directed staff to move forward with negotiations for the Greater Harvey Historical Society to move into the Galway Hall
- Directed Staff to bring a report with other options for a septic inspection program.
- Directed Staff to schedule a constituent town hall meeting for April.
- Directed Staff and Council to consult with Galway roads employees to better understand their operations and proceed with estimates to refurbish Galway depot.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETINGS

- **March 5, 11 AM:** Joint County/Municipal public meeting on the Buffalo Bay Subdivision/Condominium Application
- **March 19, 11 AM:** Public meeting on the Development Charges Bylaw

2019 MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Based on an average residential dwelling valued at \$377,102 (MPAC), the average Municipal tax amount for 2019 would be \$1,456.75. Here are the services you receive for your Municipal taxes:

