

WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 24, 2025

Here is a brief update from the Regular Meeting of the Council on **January 15th, 2025**. Full agendas can be found here: <https://whitewaterregion.civicweb.net/Portal/>. The video is available on our YouTube page. The next meeting is February 5th, 2025. This summary does not constitute the official record of the meeting and approved Minutes should be consulted for that purpose.

Presentations and Public Meetings

Council received the fourth Quarterly Administration Report for 2024. Staff leads from each department presented key points from the full report which can be found on the Township's website at <https://www.whitewaterregion.ca/services/administration/administration-report/>.

Community Development

Council approved three zoning by-law amendments:

- File D-14-201, 19D Moores Beach Road, was submitted as a condition of consent to reduce the minimum road frontage for the enlarged lot.
- File D-14-202, 1654 Queens Line, was submitted as a condition of consent severing a surplus residential farm dwelling, to prohibit residential uses on the retained agricultural lands.
- File D-14-203, 2370 Zion Line, was submitted to permit agricultural uses on a lot with an area less than 20 hectares and to reduce the rear and side lot line setbacks for farm use structures.

Contact: Alex Pysklywec, Planner/EDO
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Community Services

Council repealed By-law 24-02-1662, dissolving the Community Services Advisory Committee. Established in February 2024, the committee fostered collaboration among recreation leaders. Staff will now hold informal meetings with all community groups, including agricultural organizations, and continue the community services email newsletter.

Contact: Stephanie Plebon, Manager of Parks & Recreation
splebon@whitewaterregion.ca Ext. 143

Fire Services

Council approved for the Township to enter into two transfer payment agreements to access funding through the Ontario FireSmart Communities Grant and the Ontario Fire Protection Grant.

- The project identified for the Ontario FireSmart Communities grant is to improve wildland fire risk reduction, planning, and mitigation by preparing a community Wildland Fire Protection Plan.
- The project for the Ontario Fire Protection grant will be used to purchase a SCBA cylinder fill station in an effort to improve firefighter cancer prevention initiatives. Currently, the fire department travels to Renfrew or Pembroke to fill air cylinders. Having a fill station in the Township will help ensure firefighters always have access to full cylinders which prevent the inhalation of harmful chemicals.

Contact: Jonathan McLaren, Fire Chief
jmclaren@whitewaterregion.ca

Office of the CAO

Council approved an amendment to the Recreation Vehicles/Trailers Licensing By-law to remove an exception that allows a trailer to be used for up to 10 days without a license and reduce the water setback specifically for recreational vehicles/trailers.

Council awarded a sole source contract to Cornerstones Management Solutions Limited for services related to job evaluation, pay equity, and salary review. Full job classification reviews are required at least once every five years as per the Township's Organizational Structure Policy.

Council authorized the execution of a partnership agreement with Bonnechere Valley and North Algona Wilberforce for the implementation of the Rural Transit Solutions Fund.

- In 2024, the Township partnership with the two neighboring communities was notified of the successful grant application for the Rural Transit Solutions Fund. Please see the [news release](#) which outlines the details of the project.

Contact: Ivan Burton, CAO
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Closed Session

Council moved in closed to discuss litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the Municipality or local board; including communications necessary for that purpose (2024 Legal Claims Update), and personal matters about an identifiable individual (Community Development Department), with the CAO/Deputy Clerk remaining in the room.

Announcements

Members of Council announced the following:

- Councillor Bell highlighted that the Foresters Falls outdoor rink is open.
- Councillor Tabbart announced that the Trinity Unity Church in Foresters Falls is hosting a spaghetti dinner on January 24th at 5 pm.
- Also announced that the Cobden Civitan is selling tickets for their annual fishing derby on February 1st.
- Councillor Olmstead extends sincere gratitude from the Olmstead family to the EMS, paramedics, and OPP of Renfrew County for their professionalism, excellent care, and prompt response during a family medical emergency.
- Council congratulated Roads Superintendent, Kyle Eady, who was awarded the CRS designation from the Certified Roads Supervisor program by the Roads Supervisor Board.
- Councillor Moore commended the staff members who responded quickly on New Year's Day to the water main break in Beachburg.
- Councillor Trimm on behalf of a resident commended the Whitewater Region Fire Department for their excellent help in a time of need.

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Additional information:

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