

# WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 8, 2024

Here is a brief update from the Regular Meeting of the Council on **March 6, 2024**. Full agendas can be found here: <https://whitewaterregion.civicweb.net/Portal/>. The video is available on our YouTube page. The next meeting is March 20, 2024. This summary does not constitute the official record of the meeting and approved Minutes should be consulted for that purpose.

### Presentations and Public Meetings

Allen Wren & Jennifer Laymen from The Pembroke and Area Airport Commission presented to Council an update on their operations and advocated for their organization as a continued asset to the people of Whitewater Region. A highlight of the presentation included:

- An example of their community services such as the free Bearskin Airline flight for vision or hearing-impaired children to travel to a Brantford school for the Blind, Partially-Sighter or Deafblind children.

Steve Osipenko CEMC for the County of Renfrew provided an overview to Council regarding Renfrew County Freshet for 2024. The presentation discussed how the CEMC has improved its processes and encouraged the use of the Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board for information on freshet; <https://ottawariver.ca/>. Another highlight included:

- The County of Renfrew received a grant for a sand bagging machine which is a resource available to our municipality.

### Mayor's Address

Mayor Nicholson noted his attendance at thirteen (13) meetings since the last Council meeting, some highlights include:

- Non-for-profit event organizers gathered to discuss the four larger events of, Beachburg Fair, Cobden Fair, WDRA Tour de Whitewater, and Taste of the Valley.
  - Highlighting, that together these volunteer-run events draw 25,000 tourists and residents to Whitewater Region
- The AGMS for the Upper Ottawa Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Renfrew County Chamber of Commerce.
- Held a delegation with the Ministry of Infrastructure Parliamentary Assistant Sandhu, raising the matter of unaffordable rural and small urban water and wastewater rates.

Mayor Nicholson also recognized the importance of International Women’s Day (March 8<sup>th</sup>)

## Community Development

Council received and passed two Zoning By-law amendment applications:

- 2450 Beachburg Road; to amend the existing exception zone of Rural - Exception 46 (RU-E46) to allow an Antique furniture restoration workshop, cabinet-making workshop, and showroom as an additional permitted use.
- Logan Lane; to re-zone from Limited Service Residential (LSR) to Limited-Service Residential - Exception 7 (LSR-E7) to reduce the minimum separation distance from the Mineral Aggregate Reserve – Sand and Gravel (EMR-SG) zone on the adjacent lands from 60 meters to 0 meters.

A part lot control extension by-law to extend the 36-month time period was approved for Wren Subdivision Phase 2 on Bamagillia Street to allow more time for the semi-detached dwellings to be built.

Council reviewed and approved the proposed design of new main street banners, with minor modifications.

- The Township was awarded a Wayfinding Signage Grant in 2022 in the amount of \$40,000.00; the funding was utilized for wayfinding signage and for the design of new seasonal banners along the main streets of our villages and hamlets. There are two designs for the banners, a summer and a winter theme.

**Contact:** Alex Benzie, Planner/ EDO  
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## Finance and Administration

Council received the 2023 Statement of Council Remuneration and Expenses Paid.

**Contact:** Kurtis McGonegal, Treasurer  
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## Public Works

Council awarded two (2) tenders:

- Tender 2024-02 to Finch Chevrolet Cadillac Buick GMC Ltd. for the purchase of a 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 WT 4WD at a cost of \$69,836.30 inclusive of non-refundable H.S.T. to replace TR-26 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT Regular Cab.
- Tender 2024-05 to A1 Carp Pavement Marking Limited for pavement markings including stop sign markings, center line, edge line, stop bars, and parking lines for municipal facilities.

**Contact:** Lane Cleroux, Manager  
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## Office of the CAO

Council approved the following:

- The Extension of the seasonal alternative hours of operations pilot program to run from May 19 to October 5, 2024.
- Updates to the Routine Disclosure Policy. Changes relate to the disclosure of common building files.
- The appointment of Beverly Lance to the Whitewater Public Library board.
- The changes made by the Municipal Emergency Program Committee to the Emergency Response Plan and the Flooding Plan. These changes will help ensure the Municipal Emergency Control Group can efficiently manage during flooding.

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### **Additional information:**

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