



# Council News & Notes

From Tuesday, September 26, 2023

## Upcoming Meetings

**Council Meeting**  
October 10

9 am

Regular  
Council Meeting

**Council Meeting**  
October 26

6 pm

Regular  
Council Meeting

[View Calendar >>](#)

## Mayors' Message

On September 12<sup>th</sup> Deputy Mayor DeMarsh, Councillor Flieler and I joined the Lions Club for dinner in celebration of two retiring members: Betty Brinson and Maril Swan. We missed Bonnie Stickwood who could not join us that evening.

On September 15<sup>th</sup> we had back to back meetings with Quinte Conservation to discuss resident development matters. We are grateful for the understanding and creative ideas shared by Brad McNevin, CAO, and Paul McCoy, Planning & Regulations Manager, at those meetings. This is what partnership is all about.

On September 27<sup>th</sup> I attended the Kiwanis Community Activity Fair and was joined by Councillors Flieler and Valiquette and Deputy Mayor DeMarsh. The Pavilion was a hive of activity with many community groups displaying their literature and looking to recruit new volunteers. That evening I attended the Belleville General Hospital Foundation Gala where over \$600,000 was raised; funds that will be directed to purchasing equipment for our hospital.

I Chaired the County Planning & Development Committee Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> which was immediately followed by the County Finance, Property & Personnel Meeting. That afternoon Council had its first review of the 2024 Capital Budget.

Rachelle Hardesty and I met with a new potential business owner on the 20<sup>th</sup>. That afternoon I attended the Food For All Committee where we discussed ideas/solutions /partnerships in an effort to address food insecurity in our community. Thank you to Gateway Community Health Centre for hosting and taking the lead on this initiative.

That evening we held an Open House to table seven potential bridge closures. All of Council was in attendance including our CAO and Roads Manager. Our Open House quickly turned into a town hall where we witnessed citizen engagement at its finest. A respectful dialogue ensued generating many possible ideas/solutions to deal with the seven bridges in question. I reiterated that there are no imminent bridge closures which buys us the time we need to complete a full evaluation. I also noted that neither our MP nor MPP were invited since we needed to firstly discuss the bridge issue with those directly impacted to hear their fears and their ideas. We will create a special "bridge" bin on our website to share what we learned at the town hall in addition to any information that we gather along the way. We make no promises. However, rest assured that we will keep you apprised of any and all possibilities well before a decision is made. Again, thank you to all who came, and to those who sent in their comments in advance. This is a journey that we will all take together.

On September 21<sup>st</sup> all of Council participated in a Council Code of Conduct training session. On September 22<sup>nd</sup> I attended the Trenton Wing Commander Gala at CFB Trenton, a fundraiser for

the Hastings Prince Edward United Way.

This weekend was like no other. A huge thank you to the Tweed Harvest Festival troop of volunteers who went all out with so many fun activities. I enjoyed the car show and planetarium. Thank you to the organizers of the Tweed & Area Studio tour for showcasing regional artists. We truly are an artistic community. And thank you to Tweed & Company Theatre. We enjoyed the play "Miss Caledonia" on Saturday evening and the highly energetic/fun musical performance by My Son the Hurricane at the outdoor stage Sunday evening. And lastly, thank you to Natalie Mitts for another mega outdoor vendor sale at the Thomasburg Store! What a weekend!

Today Sept 26 Councillors Flieler & Valiquette, some staff and I participated in a full day County Service Delivery Workshop looking at potential changes to how planning is conducted across Hastings County.

In closing, I want to thank Council for their time commitment to so many extra meetings and training sessions. As Abraham Lincoln noted: "Commitment is what transforms a promise into a reality." You all committed to serving the residents of this wonderful municipality and I can confidently say you are doing so admirably. Happy to be on your team.

### **Tweed Trunker Treat Event**

Council approved the relocation of the 2023 Event to the area off River St. at the entrance to the parking area and municipal boat launch.

### **Task Forces**

The Municipality of Tweed is establishing two Task Forces: A 13 Ways Mainstreet Rehabilitation Task Force and a Preliminary Community Centre Task Force. If interested in joining one of the task forces please fill out an application by visiting <https://tweed.ca/bidopportunitiesc12> . For additional information please contact Rachele Hardesty, [rhardesty@tweed.ca](mailto:rhardesty@tweed.ca)/ 613-478-2535.