



Council News & Notes

From Tuesday, June 27, 2023

Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting
July 11 9 am

Regular
Council Meeting

Council Meeting
August 8 9 am

Regular
Council Meeting

[View Calendar >>](#)

Mayors' Message

On June 26th our community was hit by a presumed micro burst which caused extensive damage to the property of residents primarily in the Stoco Lake, Marlbank Rd. and Potter Settlement areas. Today I convened an Emergency Management Meeting to assess what we can do to help. It is our understanding that all hydro connections will be operational by midnight. If not, we will provide access to water for all those without hydro for drinking and showering purposes. We will also reach out to Hastings County to provide emergency temporary lodgings and food cards to all those who have to vacate their residence. Unfortunately there will be no funding from the federal and provincial government to help with the clean-up since their parameters for assistance are unrealistic. Nonetheless, we will be creating a spreadsheet for residents to track expenses so that we can approach both levels of government to request assistance. Perhaps it is an exercise in futility, but our governments need to know that local businesses and residents incur significant clean-up costs that are not covered by insurance. Our governments need to know that although we support helping those in need in other countries, we cannot, that we must not, turn our back on fellow Canadians in their time of need. This spreadsheet will be sent to all those impacted by yesterday's storm including those that were hit with the EF2 tornado on July 24th 2023. We also ask that your spreadsheet be accompanied by photos. Thank you Rachele Hardesty for accompanying me in our effort to visit a number of the sites experiencing significant damage.

As many of you may have heard, my mother passed away a couple of weeks ago. She was a most amazing woman. She always saw the best in those around her, encouraging everyone to be the best they could possibly be. Never judgmental, Mom made everyone feel welcome in her home. She was my biggest champion and I will miss her greatly. Thank you to all those who called, sent cards/emails, attended the visitation or funeral. Your acts of kindness mean more to me and my family than you will ever know.

I want to thank Deputy Mayor DeMarsh for stepping in and stepping up during my absence, as well as the rest of Council and staff. Knowing that I could count on you meant I could focus on my family.

On June 20th I Chaired the County Planning & Development Committee Meeting. I also attended the County Finance, Personnel & Property Committee that day. In the evening I joined Deputy Mayor DeMarsh and Councillors Flieler and Valiquette as we celebrated Barry Tebo and his 40 years as a volunteer fire fighter. It was a wonderful evening hosted at our Firehall.

On June 22nd I attended the Belleville General Hospital Foundation AGM and following Board Meeting. That evening I enjoyed another evening of celebration. This time it was retiring County CAO Jim Pine. There will also be a farewell luncheon following our June 29th Hastings County Meeting. Fellow Councillors and our CAO are more than welcome to attend.

On June 24th we had our official Grand Opening of the new Kiwanis Accessible Playground. I was joined by Deputy Mayor DeMarsh, Councillor Flieler, MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, MPP Ric Bresee, Mayor Joanne Albert and Kiwanis Playground Co-Chairs Fred Albert & Jim Hanna. It was apparent from the comments shared that we are very fortunate to have Rachelle Hardesty on our Team. That afternoon I made my way to the Central Hastings Support Network charity art fundraiser.

One of my roles that I enjoy the most is sitting as a member of the Hastings County Community and Human Services Committee. It was via this Committee that I learned of programs operated by the County that would also be of benefit to our community. Yesterday I brought together four County program representatives; Derek Potts, Principal at Tweed Elementary School; Tina McCauley, Principal St. Carthagh; Mayo Hawco, Executive Director at Gateway Community Health Centre and her co-worker Emily Rashotte to discuss food security. It was such a fruitful meeting with many ideas exchanged, other programs tabled, and other partners identified. Gateway will take the lead on this Committee on which both Rachelle Hardesty and I will sit. There is also another Committee afoot which is dealing with mental health. I have asked Councillor Valiquette to bring us up to speed.

There is much happening in our community over the next two weeks. Be sure to visit our Community Calendar because there is definitely something there for everyone.

I want to thank this Council for their commitment to this Municipality.

2024 Budget Meetings

Council received the 2024 Budget Initialization Process Report and authorized staff to arrange and advertise 2024 budget meeting dates of September 19, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. and October 30, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Council directed managers to prepare capital budgets reducing the impact on the tax levy.

New Fire Dispatching Service

Council approved the tender from the Corporation of the City of St. Catharines for dispatching services as listed in the 15-year contract proposal.

Appeal of Application for Beach Sand - Tweed Memorial Park

Council received a notice of decision denying the appeal of the application for beach sand at Tweed Memorial Park. Council authorized staff to file an appeal of the decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

Lemonade Stand at Splash Pad

Council approved the request from Teresa Sharbot on behalf of Kaleigh to Have a Lemonade Stand at the Splash Pad meeting the requirements set out by the Community Development Manager for a hand washing station and a business plan.

British Home Child Awareness Day - September 28, 2023

Council proclaimed September 28, 2023 as British Home Child Awareness Day in the Municipality of Tweed.