

# WHITEWATER REGION COUNCIL SUMMARY



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 16, 2024

Here is a brief update from the Regular Meeting of the Council on **May 15, 2024**. Full agendas can be found here: <https://whitewaterregion.civicweb.net/Portal/>. The video is available on our YouTube page. The next meeting is June 5, 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

Council extended congratulations to the Cobden Civitan Club on celebrating its 50-year anniversary. President Joanne Hodgens, Secretary Miriam Hunt, and Member Don Helferty were in attendance to receive recognition from Council in gratitude to the Club.

- The Cobden and District Civitan Club is a volunteer organization dedicated to serving their community through fundraising, events, and other community initiatives.

Phil Cottrell presented concerns regarding the potential impacts of short-term accommodations on neighbouring residents in the Township.

### Mayor's Address

Mayor Nicholson noted his attendance at seven (7) meetings and events in the last two weeks. Including a Renfrew County and District Health Board Committee meeting and two County of Renfrew Committee Meetings. Other highlights of the address include:

- Deputy Mayor Cathy Regier attended, on behalf of Council, the Civitan Club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner and the RCATV Charity ride which raised over \$3,600 for the SPCA.
- Beachburg Off Road Cycling Association held their sold-out Spring Chicken event on May 11<sup>th</sup>. The importance of our trail systems was noted, and gratitude was extended to RCATV and BORCA for the maintenance they do on our trail systems.
- On behalf of Council, congratulations to Ambrose Wattie and Carter Hamilton on achieving 4<sup>th</sup> place at the National Bowling Championship.

### Office of the CAO

Council received a report relating to delegation requests at the 2024 Associations of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) Conference to be held August 18 – 21, 2024.

Council received a report regarding Short-Term Accommodations and the findings from the public consultation conducted over the past few months. Potential options to address short-term accommodations were discussed including enacting licensing and/or regulating by-laws, and the software Granicus which consists of a monitoring and administration program.

- Chantelle Regier presented comments in favour of short-term accommodations in the Township and the potential benefits.
- Council directed Staff to address the inquiries made by members of Council and report their findings at a future council meeting.

**Contact:** *Carmen Miller, Clerk*  
[cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca](mailto:cmiller@whitewaterregion.ca) Ext. 123

## Community Services

Council approved the appointments of Gwen Bennett and Ted Schnare to the Whitewater Seniors Home Support and Active Living Working Group.

Council received a report regarding an update on the Kinsmen Pool in the City of Pembroke.

- Council directed staff to negotiate the continuation of the youth swim lesson program which provides a fee subsidy by Whitewater Region - lowering the fee from the non-resident to the resident cost.
- Council also directed staff to support the City of Pembroke in advocacy initiatives to obtain upper-level government funding for the necessary repairs to the pool.

**Contact:** *Stephanie Plebon, Manager of Community Services*  
[splebon@whitewaterregion.ca](mailto:splebon@whitewaterregion.ca) Ext. 143

## Public Works

Council approved quotations from Armtec. Inc. for the purchase of culverts through Canoe Procurement contract.

Council awarded tender 2024-10 Gravel Crushing to G.P. Splinter Forest Products Ltd. for the crushing of 20,000 tons of granular "A". The raw product is being purchased locally from the Bromley Pit.

Council approved an unforeseen capital expenditure to replace the septic system at the municipal building located at 2022 Foresters Falls Road used by the Whitewater Seniors Home Support and Active Living and the Whitewater Historical Society.

**Contact:** *Lane Cleroux, Manager of Public Works*  
[lcleroux@whitewaterregion.ca](mailto:lcleroux@whitewaterregion.ca) Ext. 128

## Corporate Services

Council authorized an increase of the 2024 operating budget and directed staff to bring forward a by-law to set the property tax rates for 2024.

- For Residential properties, per \$100,000 of assessment, the total impact of the 2024 tax rates is an increase of \$43.95 or 3.5%, which includes the County of Renfrew and School Board portion.

**Contact:** Kurtis McGonegal, Treasurer  
[kmcgonegal@whitewaterregion.ca](mailto:kmcgonegal@whitewaterregion.ca) Ext. 138

## **Closed Session**

Council moved to a closed session to discuss personal matters about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employee (Renfrew Detachment Board Opp Appointments) and the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege relating to the Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant.

## **Announcements**

Members of Council announced the following:

- Councillor Moore highlighted *Airborne Petawawa*, a skydiving center, opening on May 25<sup>th</sup> at the Pembroke and Area Airport.

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## **Additional information:**

*Ivan Burton, CAO*  
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