

# AGENDA

## SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL



**Thursday, April 30th, 2020**  
**9:15 a.m.**  
**Via GoToMeeting**  
**9 James Street, Parry Sound, Ontario**

---

To ensure the practice of proper social distancing measures, and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community, Council Meetings will take place through electronic means only and will not be physically open to the public. All Meetings will be recorded and will be made available to the public upon request. The minutes will remain the official record of meetings.

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- i) National Anthem
- ii) Roll Call
- iii) Approval of Agenda
- iv) Traditional Land Acknowledgement Statement

**2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**4. DEPUTATIONS**

**5. CLOSED MEETING**

**20- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council move into a CLOSED MEETING at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m., pursuant to Section 239(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended.

**OPEN MEETING**

**20- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council move out of a CLOSED MEETING at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

6. UNFINISHED PLANNING BUSINESS
7. OFFICIAL PLAN/ZONING AMENDMENTS
8. CONSENT APPLICATIONS
9. SITE PLAN CONTROL
10. SHORE/CONCESSION ROAD ALLOWANCES
11. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
12. REPORT OF TASK FORCES/COMMITTEES
13. CORRESPONDENCE
14. OTHER BUSINESS
  - i) Access to Municipal Property. Council Briefing - COVID-19 TOA Position  
  
Pages: 1-5
  - ii) Access for Non-Water-Based Contractors

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has introduced Essential Services Legislation that limits construction activities in the province;

**AND WHEREAS** the list of essential construction services includes maintenance services necessary to manage and maintain the safety, security, sanitation and essential operation of institutional, commercial, industrial and residential properties and buildings;

**AND WHEREAS** Section 30 of the Essential Services Act permits residential construction where a footing permit has been granted or an above grade structural permit has been granted or the project involves renovations to residential properties and construction work was started before April 4, 2020;

**AND WHEREAS** the Township of the Archipelago is committed to equal access for water access and non-water-access based contractors;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township of the Archipelago provide non-water-based contractors who are providing Essential Construction Services as described in the Act with access to Township docks, piers, loading sites and boat ramps upon the production of appropriate identification and on the understanding that any violation of the Act may be subject to fines to the Contractor and property owner;

**AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township of the Archipelago will not impede non-water-based contractors who are providing Essential Construction Services as described in the Act with access to Township docks, piers, loading sites and boat ramps on the understanding that any violation of the Act may be subject to fines to the Contractor and property owner.

**15. BY-LAWS**

**16. QUESTION TIME**

**17. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**18. CONFIRMING BY-LAW**

**20-** Being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Special Meeting of Council held on April 30, 2020.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

## **Council Briefing – COVID-19-TOA Position**

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **The Federal Government Position**

The March 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 30-day restriction on all non-essential (discretionary) travel at the Canadian U.S Border was extended to May 21<sup>st</sup> 2020.

### **The Province's Position**

*Declaration of Emergency* – March 17<sup>th</sup>.

42 days of continually evolving crisis and response

Declaration of Emergency extended to May 12<sup>th</sup>

*Emergency Orders* extended to May 6<sup>th</sup> (Essential businesses, closure of outdoor recreational amenities, social gathering restrictions, etc.).

No original orders have been withdrawn. Continue to see list increase.

Messaging = Emergency, Stay home, Social Distancing, Concern for vulnerable populations.

Schools closed until May 31, 2020.

A Framework for Reopening our Province released April 27<sup>th</sup> (no timelines provided).

3 Stages to reopen – to be guided by the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health

Public health and workplace safety remain the top priority while balancing the needs of people and businesses.

Concern for vulnerable populations (>65 yrs of age, underlying health conditions).

Shortages of Personal Protective Equipment

Concerns matching the services of the Health Care sector with the number of individuals requiring care.

### **The TOA Position to Date**

Emergency declaration not made.

Staffing:

Staff on Emergency Management Program Committee (EMPC) fully subscribed to managing the crisis and implications of all emergency news, guidance and activities.

Reassignment of roles, duties and priorities to accommodate COVID-19 responsibilities.

Staff working under new operating procedures and guidance (staff working from home, limited numbers of staff to work with).

## **Operations:**

Public access to all public facilities restricted

Holiday Cove Marina closed

Pointe au Baril Wharf – was closed; reopened on Friday April 24th

Pointe au Baril launching ramp closed

All water access sites closed – Monday April 6<sup>th</sup>

Posted Signs – at all facilities

Access to water for those accessing their primary residence and for essential services via our facilities has been accommodated by staff where alternative access is not available

## **Information:**

Following the lead of the Province; the Medical Officer of Health and the WPS Health Centre

## **Current TOA Environment**

Sustained occupation of many residences – predominantly road access properties.

Expected and likely further interest in residents occupying seasonal water access properties.

Limited number of requests received to accommodate contractors (meeting essential criteria) and residents impeded by access issues. \*See Contractors section below.

General support shown by Marinas for the TOA's access controls. \* See Marina section below.

Associations (GBA and FOCA) active with messaging of delayed cottage season due to COVID-19 crisis and response priorities. \* See Associations section below.

Area municipalities working collectively on messaging and information to keep area residents informed and prepared. Resource pool of Emergency Information Officers working to execute Communications Plan.

The 7 area CEMCs have worked collaboratively to ensure one another's organizations are informed and able to support the area stakeholders including the West Parry Sound Health Center, OPP and First Responders. Efforts to continually liaise with DSSAB, Harvest Share and Salvation Army and develop assistance to area residents are ongoing and several programs such as the Senior's Grocery Assistance Program and Food Delivery have been supported by the collective work of the 7 WPS area municipalities.

## **TOA and Area Issues**

Weather – we are 4 to 6 weeks early.

Long weekend in May – Influx of residents

No changes to Provincial orders, guidance or messaging.

People are not listening to the stay home message or complying with directives

Traffic volume at sites are increasing

Concern over growing tensions

Municipal activities concerned with impacts of increased pressures - as to not overburden any one sector (business, emergency response) or organizations such as WPSHC or OPP – or also increase any additional COVID-19 risk to the community.

Transfer Sites/Landfill Site use increasing; weekend numbers have far surpassed the historic numbers for this time of the year

Limited staffing complement for our sites – cannot complete training for new staff; may need staff for traffic control

Concern over health and safety of all front line staff

Concern that we may lose staff due to illness or stress

The above could lead to temporary closures

Maintaining winter hours/restricted hours

By-law enforcement limitations

Concern over the financial impact on businesses (i.e. marinas) in the area

Concern over the potential loss of the summer season, if the spread of COVID-19 is not controlled, and the financial impact on the businesses and economy of the area

### **The WPS Municipalities' Positions - access**

Town of Parry Sound – all facilities closed until June 30<sup>th</sup>

Township of Seguin – all access points closed

Township of Carling – all access points closed. To be revisited on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Municipality of Whitestone – all water access points closed

Township of McKellar – all water access points closed

Municipality of McDougall - all access points were closed; phasing reopening of sites starting this past weekend with a phased in approach for the George Hunt access to Georgian Bay

### **Contractors**

Calls regarding access for contractors have been accommodated

## **Marinas**

Closed by Provincial direction

Many have applauded the Township's closure of water access sites as it takes the pressure off of them; would like to see them remain closed

Either completely closed or providing a range of activities

We need to continue to support and work with our marinas

## **Legal opinions**

Under the current emergency declaration and orders, the Township is not compelled to keep access points/boat launches open, nor is the Township mandated to close them. However, if they are to be opened, the Township should act responsibly and manage the use of these facilities with an appropriate plan. This plan should include, at a minimum: signage, as to what is permitted and what is not; and, staffing to promote the Province's goals (without police presence, staff's role would likely be to monitor and educate only).

Essential businesses – construction of seasonal recreational dwellings is not considered essential during current emergency

## **Associations**

Position of various Associations is similar to the TOA

<https://georgianbay.ca/news/covid-19-and-access-to-seasonal-residences-a-time-to-be-supportive-and-patient>

<https://foca.on.ca/covid-19-update-from-foca/>

## **Other Agencies**

Concerns shared by area agencies (WPS Health Centre, OPP, Coast Guard):

Lack of PPE

Ability to respond

Potential impact on all front line staff (Health Centre, Emergency Services, Municipal Staff)

## **Summary**

We have been one of the leaders in the area through this emergency

This is about peoples' lives – we should continue to be more concerned about the health and safety of people and the stability of our local businesses – cottages will always be there – people and perhaps some of the businesses that serve our residents may not

There are not different rules for road versus water access property owners, just different circumstances – they have all been told by the federal government, the provincial government, municipal governments and various agencies to stay home

By keeping our water access sites closed control remains in our hands and we will continue to assist our marina owners

The Province will be making further announcements on May the 6<sup>th</sup> (less than a week away) and May the 12<sup>th</sup> (week and a half away)

We have and should continue to follow their lead

The Province is maintaining their declaration of emergency and has a plan for reopening when the time is right

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff are strongly recommending that Council stay the course and continue to follow the advice and the lead of the government of Ontario, the Medical Officer of Health and the WPS Health Centre and therefore keep all water access sites closed;

And that this position be revisited after hearing from the Province on May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>.