



Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 20, 2023

Here are the highlights from the South Dundas Council meeting held June 19, 2023.

For more information, contact **Shawna O'Neill, Communications Coordinator** at 613-543-2673 ext. 4768 or 613-577-3157.

Zoning By-law amendment for Cherry Street, Williamsburg

A public meeting was held during the first portion of the regular Council meeting relating to a proposed amendment to Zoning By-law 2010-48 (Notman).

The zoning amendment was made in effort to reduce the minimum lot frontage for a severed and retained portion of land at 5688 Cherry Street in Williamsburg. The amendment also requested that the minimum lot area for the severed and retained portions of land be reduced.

"The planning department takes no issue with this proposed Zoning By-Law amendment as it... is consistent with provincial policies and... conforms to the Official Plan of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (2018)," reads a statement in the meeting agenda.

Public feedback included residents expressing both support and opposition for the amendment. Some residents expressed concern over how the change will affect their property value and/or taxes. Others questioned why current regulations do not consider future climate change and what Council's vision of the hamlet is.

"This Council has set a precedence that we make decisions based on data... the (SDG Counties) has reviewed it, South Nation Conservation (SNC) Authority has reviewed it... and I am supporting it," said Coun. Danielle Ward.

"There was a hydrogeological study completed," said Deputy Mayor Marc St. Pierre, supporting Coun. Ward's comments. "We talk about housing... it always seems like it's a fight of 'not in my back yard but it's good in your back yard'... we need housing, and our urban land is getting smaller and smaller."

Ultimately, Council voted in favour of the Zoning By-law amendment.



"It's a tough job we do: our residents depend on us and in a public meeting where a decision needs to be made, there will always be various perspectives. I commend the effort, research and time of all parties involved in the discussion," said Mayor Broad.

South Dundas vacant land report

Cornwall SDG's housing services manager Lisa Smith presented Council with a South Dundas Vacant Land Report, requesting a motion to defer any decision to the next Council meeting.

"We are at the point where we're ready to look at parcels of land and actually start to now bring in a consultant to work with us... the next steps would be... testing those parcels for geotechnical to determine the soil, also doing archaeological and geographical so we can determine what to build on them..." said Smith.

Smith spoke about the exciting development planned for 12446 on County Road 2 in Morrisburg, which will include 17 two-bedroom units.

Three parcels of land have been identified as favourable for building future community housing on, said Smith, including the Morrisburg location. Two more parcels, owned by the Municipality of South Dundas, are in Iroquois — one on County Road 2 and the other on Beach Avenue.

"Certainly our housing needs continue to grow and we want to look at how we can support future affordable developments..." said Mayor Broad.

Pride Month and raising of Pride Flag

Council passed an action request presented by CAO Mills, officially declaring June as Pride Month in the Municipality and agreeing to raise the Pride flag at a later date.

"In the past, the Municipality of South Dundas has not formally recognized Pride Month, nor has the Pride flag been raised at any municipal buildings," said Mills.

Mills said the Municipality has a responsibility to do much more community engagement, outreach, and Staff training in relation to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

"There is definitely a rise in online comments and hate and attempts to push back towards the progress we have made as communities..." said Mills.



"I truly believe in inclusion, diversity and equity, as well as accessibility," said Mayor Broad. "I think it's really important for myself that we continue to face bullying and hatred and treat everyone equally."

Mills said that a resolution by Council recognizing Pride Month will support the Municipality's commitment to DEI, as well as increase awareness and acknowledgment of the 2SLGBTQ+ community by celebrating equality, inclusion, and empowerment for every member of the Municipality of South Dundas 's LGBTQ+ community.

2022 Financial Statements approved

Council accepted a report approving the 2022 Financial Statements as presented by MNP LLP during the May regular Council meeting.

Treasurer Julie Stewart stated that surpluses from 2022 will be transferred to reserves, as indicated in report.

This includes \$128,587 being transferred to the Working Capital Reserve, \$95,882 being transferred to the Fire Reserve, \$68,518 being transferred to the SD Water Reserves, \$83,463 being transferred to the Iroquois Sewer Reserves, \$295,162 being transferred to the Morrisburg Sewer Reserves, and \$7,290 being transferred to the Williamsburg Sewer Reserve Fund.

Appointments

Council officially appointed Tim Mills as CAO, Jeremy Alldred-Hughes as acting Director of Fire Services/Fire Chief, Tyler Thorne as a By-law Enforcement Officer, and Tia Fraser-Dupuis as a Marriage Officiant during the meeting.

"It's been a busy year with appointments and changes within our organization. New to our team this year includes CAO, Clerk, Treasurer, acting Director of Fire Service, Communications Coordinator, Costumer Service Representative and Deputy Chief Building Official. Other positions have become permanent, and some staff members have taken on additional responsibilities," said Mayor Broad.

"Team South Dundas is much stronger today with renewed passion and commitments with these additions."



SDG Counties update

Safety concerns on County Road 31 at the intersection of County Road 18 in Williamsburg were discussed during a June 19 SDG Counties Council meeting.

Mayor Broad reported that during the upper-tier meeting, County staff indicated that accidents have occurred more frequently at the intersection recently.

At this location, County Road 18 is stop-controlled while County Road 31 is a through road. As with many of the County's older villages, the historic buildings at the intersection are built very close to the road. In the past, this intersection has functioned with relatively few incidents (no collisions reported in 2018 and 2019, and one collision reported in 2020 and 2021). This trend is noted to be changing, however, as two collisions were reported in 2022 and six reported in 2023 to-date.

"The collision reports are expected to be made available to the County soon and staff intend to review the information and determine if there is a common mode of accident that requires an engineering intervention or further analysis. Our findings will be presented to Council as soon as possible," said Mayor Broad.

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Upcoming Meetings

Special Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 6 p.m.

Regular Council Meeting: Monday, July 10, 2023 at 6 p.m.

Regular Council Meeting: Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6 p.m.