

NOTL NEWS

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF *Niagara-On-The-Lake*

Issue # 181 – December 9, 2009

UNSAFE BRIDGE – MEWBURN ROAD

The Public Works Advisory Committee endorsed a staff report directing signage to be installed on Concession 6 Road indicating the Mewburn Road Bridge is unsafe, even for pedestrians, and for a letter to be sent to the City of Niagara Falls regarding this matter. The report also expresses the Town's support for a City application for funding the bridge's replacement.

PRIDEAUX STREET RECONSTRUCTION

The Public Works Advisory Committee endorsed a staff recommendation confirming the proposed reconstruction design regarding Prideaux Street, incorporating gravel parking shoulders, and swales with catch basins. The staff report summarized the comments from a recent open house, which indicated of the 48 properties, 27 owners preferred curb and gutter, 6 wanted the approved treatment, and 15 did not give their preference. A separate survey was also conducted by one of the residents. Committee discussed various related design issues, including street lighting and overhead services prior to endorsing the staff report.

COMMUNITY CENTRE UPDATE

Staff provided a verbal update to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee advising the Community Centre Steering Committee is working through several design issues, although it is anticipated site work will begin during the week of December 14, and opening remains scheduled for March 2011. Also, fundraising efforts will be initiated with a community mailing next week.

USER FEES AND CHARGES - 2010

Corporate Services Advisory Committee endorsed a staff report establishing user fees for various services, facilities, licenses, and applications provided by the Town effective January 1, 2010. The fees are aimed at cost recovery and incorporate all municipal departments, effecting items such as recreational services, hall rentals, ice time, waterline installations, photocopying, hunting licenses, sign permits, fire inspection fees, etc. A complete list of fees will be available on the Town's website at www.notl.org.

HERITAGE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Planning Advisory Committee received a summary report on the 2009 Heritage Incentive Program. The report noted the program essentially achieved the maximum grant level of \$22,500, with a total dollar value of \$100,504 approved in 2009 for maintenance and reconstruction work to Part IV designated properties. The report recommended the program be continued in 2010 in conjunction with the Regional contribution. Applications for the program will be processed on a first come, first served basis once 2010 budgets have been approved. In a related matter, Committee endorsed a motion directing staff to review and report on the actions of other municipalities regarding how to subsidize the restoration program without using taxpayer funds.

COUNCIL SUMMARY – NOVEMBER 23, 2009

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs opened the Council meeting and remarked on a number of recent community events, including NDSS graduation ceremonies, Border Mayors meeting, Remembrance Day services, and the initial meeting of the NDSS Strategy Committee.

The annual Inspector Rich award was presented to students of Col. John Butler Elementary School.

Mr. Patrick Gedge of the Niagara Economic Development Corporation made a presentation to Council regarding the Corporation's efforts to assist local businesses and to attract new businesses to Niagara.

After receiving several deputations supporting the continued location of a temporary trailer at 66 Queen Street, Council defeated a staff recommendation to have the trailer relocated on site to comply with the Heritage Permit and zoning requirements. Council further endorsed a resolution to permit the trailer to stay in its current location for a year, provided a minor variance is obtained for the reduced side yard set-back.

The recommendations of the Committee of the Whole, including recommendations following a public meeting regarding the Glendale Secondary Plan, were adopted without change.

Council endorsed a staff report to request the Traffic and Parking Committee to convene and work with Project Niagara, their consultants, Town Staff, Regional Staff, and concerned residents, including residents of Chautauqua and Garrison Village, to develop a terms of reference for a Traffic and Parking Management Plan for Project Niagara.

Council endorsed a motion requesting the Lord Mayor and Regional Councillor to submit a motion for Regional Council's consideration. The motion would direct the Region to share benefits from uploaded social services to lower tier municipalities via a tax levy restatement in 2010 to distribute savings to each municipality based on assessment.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. This Newsletter, as well as information on meeting schedules and deputation procedures, is also available on the Town's website at www.notl.org. Further questions may also be directed to the Clerk's Department at 905-468-3266.

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs, Councillors: Jim Collard, Dennis Dick, Terry Flynn, Andrea Kaiser, Jack Lowrey, Martin Mazza, Art Viola, Gary Zalepa