

NOTL NEWS

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

Issue # 189 – June 2, 2010

REVIEW APARTMENTS FOR SHORT TERM RENTAL

The Planning Advisory Committee supported a recommendation to review the use of apartment units in commercial buildings for the use of small scale tourist accommodation. The background staff report noted the use of apartments for tourism rentals will require amendments to the Zoning and Licensing By-laws and a public consultation process before Council considers the amendments.

Committee received a delegation from the owner of 10 Queen Street and his solicitor, supporting the tourism rental use for two apartments planned for 10 Queen. A representative of the B & B Association indicated while their group was not necessarily opposed to the use they wished to see similar requirements applied to apartments as are required for licensed B & B's. They also wished to see a comprehensive review of all the applicable regulations.

In reply to Committee's questions staff noted the process will take some time and suggested a goal of having information back to Committee for consideration at the August 2010 meeting.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS – 2010

The Corporate Services Advisory Committee endorsed a staff report establishing the advance polls and voting hours for institutions for the upcoming October 25, 2010 Municipal Election.

The staff report noted nominations for Lord Mayor, Councillor and Regional Councillor may be accepted up to 2:00 p.m. Friday, September 10, 2010 and the Voters' List is available at the Clerk's Department and the Public Library during normal office hours. Person wishing to confirm they are on the list will be required to produce government approved ID to view their own information.

Advance Polls are scheduled for Saturday, October 16, 2010 at Virgil Centennial Arena and for Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at the Community Centre.

Persons wanting further information or clarification are asked to contact the Clerk's Department.

NUISANCE BY-LAW ENDORSED

The Planning Advisory Committee modified a proposed Nuisance By-law for Council's consideration removing references to regulations related to keeping or attracting animals.

Following up on a Council request to review complaints regarding certain nuisance activities staff recommended a similar by-law to one currently in effect in the Cities of Niagara Falls and St. Catharines noting Regional Police have requested the Town pass the By-law which will assist the NRP in controlling the problems.

The staff report notes the by-law may be enforced by Town staff but primary enforcement will be through NRP.

2010 TAX RATES AND WASTE FEES

The Corporate Services Advisory Committee endorsed the 2010 Tax Rates and Waste Management Fee for 2010. The staff report indicated the basic rate for waste management for 2010 is \$165.77 representing a 2.54% increase over 2009.

The staff report noted 2010 is the second year of a four-year reassessment phase-in resulting in an increase in typical residential assessment value. The staff report provided a comparison based of the typical 2010 residential assessment of \$306,000 to the 2009 assessment of \$291,000 indicating the combined increases for Region, School and Town in the rural area to be \$67.02 and for the urban areas to be \$75.27.

The report also advised pending final approval of the tax rate, the final dates for residential tax installments are July 30, 2010 and September 24, 2010.

COUNCIL SUMMARY – May 17, 2010

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs opened the Council meeting with a summary of recent community events, including Shaw Festival tourism night, Upper Canada Lodge volunteer appreciation night, the Lord Mayor's first Mayfair event, a visitation to the Town by a delegation from Poland, the 40th anniversary of Regional government, and the opening of the lawn bowling season. He noted many of these events are only successful through the contribution and dedication of many volunteers from the community. The Lord Mayor also read a proclamation designating the week of June 21 to 27, 2010, as United Empire Loyalist week.

The recommendations of the May 11, 2010, Committee of the Whole meeting were adopted without change.

Council approved the appointment by-law for Mr. Mike Galloway as Chief Administrative Officer with a start date of June 7, 2010. Council also endorsed a resolution supporting Mr. Galloway in putting his name forward for Secretary/Treasurer for the Board of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Under New Business it was noted the Senior's Strawberry Social is scheduled for June 16, 2010, to be held at the Community Centre.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2010, with regular business starting at 7:00 p.m. This Newsletter, as well as information on meeting schedules and deputation procedures, is available on the Town's website at www.notl.org. Further questions may also be directed to the Town 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