



Keeping Track

City Council Highlights



MISSED A MEETING?

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NEXT MEETING

April 17, 2023 at 5pm

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING: APRIL 11, 2023

KEEPING OF BACKYARD HENS/CHICKENS

The Manager of Planning Services presented a report to Council regarding the keeping of backyard hens/chickens. The report is in response to a request received at the March 6, 2023 council meeting asking Council to permit backyard hens/raise to eat chickens. This request would require amendments to the Animal Control By-law and Zoning By-law.

Staff presented three options to Council for consideration:

- Do nothing. The keeping of backyard hens/chickens would continue to be prohibited.
- Direct staff to prepare amendments to the Zoning By-law and Animal Control By-law, including draft regulations for Council's consideration, to permit the keeping of backyard chickens.
- Initiate a pilot project to permit a "control group" of 6-10 residents to keep backyard chickens on a temporary basis (minimum 2 years with possible extension). Participants would need to register and meet regulations to be drafted for the pilot. This will allow staff to monitor complaints, issues that arise and evaluate potential costs before reporting back to Council on next steps.

Council voted to receive the report as information and directed staff to prepare a pilot project report relating to the keeping of backyard hens/chickens.

SPEED CONTROL

Council received a report as information from the Manager of Roads and Transportation on speed control for newly assumed roads (Ron McNeil Line, Yarmouth Centre Road, and Edgeware Line). Staff conducted a speed limit review on the roads and it was determined that a reduction in speed along these corridors will improve safety for truck egress and prepare the public for the future increase of traffic volumes.

Location	Existing Speed Limit (kph)	Proposed Speed Limit (kph)
Ron McNeil Line – Highbury Ave to Yarmouth Centre Rd	80	60
Yarmouth Centre Road – Ron McNeil Ln to CN rail line	80	60
Edgeware Line – Highbury Ave to Yarmouth Centre Rd	60 & 80 in segments	60

Council has directed staff to prepare a by-law for their consideration to amend By-law 45-89.

BLUE BOX TRANSITION

With the passing of the Waste-Free Ontario Act (2016), producers will now be responsible for collecting and managing their products and packaging after consumers use them. This has prompted a change to the blue box program currently in use by the City as outlined in the report submitted to Council by the Waste Management Coordinator.

Circular Materials Canada has provided a financial offer to the City to provide recycling collection services as well as provide promotion and education related to the recycling program to residents. The offer is \$2.64/eligible unit/month based on 18,914 single family and multi-residential households for an annual payment of \$599,227 as well as \$1.50/unit/year for promotion and education covers the City's recycling costs fully based on the recently awarded GFL contract. In addition to this offer and the complete removal of the processing fees with this transition to IPR, the waste management operating budget will be reduced by approximately \$500,000.

Council has directed staff to prepare a by-law to authorize the execution of the agreement between CMO for the City to act as a service provider.

NOTICES

- Administration intends to introduce a report at the April 11, 2023 Council meeting requesting approval of:
 - An increased capital expenditure relating to the Highbury Ave – S. Edgeware Rd class environmental assessment project
 - An unbudgeted capital expenditure relating to an industrial subdivision development

BY-LAWS

First, Second, and Third Reading

- Confirm proceedings of the April 11 Council Meeting
- Delegate certain authority to the Industrial Development Project
- Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute and affix the Seal of the Corporation to a certain agreement between the Corporation of the City of St. Thomas and:
 - London District Catholic School Board
 - Smart AMS Inc.

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