# Keeping Track City Council Highlights

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

To watch the Council Meeting or any previous Council Meetings please visit: <u>Archived Council Videos - City of St. Thomas</u> (stthomas.ca)

To view Council Agendas and Minutes please visit: <u>Council Agendas and Minutes - City of St. Thomas</u> (stthomas.ca)

Next Meeting: September 11, 2023 at 5:00pm

### Declaration of Surplus Property -423 Talbot Street

The City rented office space in 423 Talbot Street (the property) for Ontario Works/St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services from 2001-2017. After its 2017 purchase, Ontario Works/St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services staff continued to occupy the property until the construction of 230 Talbot Street in 2020. Aside from providing a daytime drop-in area during COVID in 2020, the property has remained vacant.

Council declared 423 Talbot Street as surplus - and that the sale proceeds will pay off the outstanding encumbrance on the property. The remaining money would be placed in a Housing Reserve to fund future affordable housing development opportunities.

#### ACCESSABILITY OPEN HOUSE -FREE TRANSIT

Council received & supported to have an additional Afterhours On-Demand bus and to waive the transit fare for riders traveling to and from the AccessAbility Open-House at Memorial Arena on September 28, 2023.

The 2023 AccessAbility Open House will be held at the Memorial Arena on September 28, 2023 from 2:00pm to 7:00pm. This event is being hosted by the St. Thomas Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee, in partnership with the Elgin County-Central Elgin Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Schedules			
WEEKDAYS		MONDAY-FRIDAY	
Morning Afterhours On Demand		6:15 am–7:15 am	
Regular conventional routes		7:15 am-5:45 pm	
Parallel Transit and Daytime On Demand Zones		7:15 am–5:45 pm	
Night Afterhours On Demand		5:45 pm-9:45 pm	
WEEKENDS	SATU	RDAY	SUNDAY
Regular conventional routes	9:15 am– 5:45 pm		9:15 am– 5:45 pm
Parallel Transit and Daytime On Demand Zones	9:15 am– 5:45 pm		9:15 am– 5:45 pm
Afterhours On Demand	5:45 pm– 9:45 pm		No Service

## STAY CONNECTED

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## Upcoming Proclamation and Flag Raising

- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day -September 9, 2023
- Big Brother Big Sister Month - September 11, 2023
- Childhood Cancer Awareness Month -September 18, 2023
- Legion Week -September 19, 2023
- Orange Shirt Day -September 30, 2023

#### Santa Claus Parade

Council approved the temporary closing of First Avenue from the north side of Talbot Street to the south side of Redan Street from 3:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (East northbound lane available for emergency vehicles) and Talbot Street from the east side of First Avenue to the east side of William Street from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday November 18, 2023.



Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative-Ontario Housing Priorities Initiative

On February 3, 2023, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) provided a letter informing Service Managers of their planned COCHI-OPHI funding for 2023-24 and 2024-25 which included an increase in funding in St. Thomas-Elgin over previous fiscal years.

Council approved the COCHI-OPHI 2023-24 and 2024-25 Investment Plan which aligns with the guidelines and permitted uses of funding, for a total of \$1,070,700 in provincial COCHI-OPHI funding for 2023-24 and \$1,281,000 for 2024-25.



The Municipal Heritage Committee has reviewed the heritage alteration permit application for the property at 345-347 Talbot Street on August 9th, 2023.

Council issued a Heritage Alteration Permit for the property at 345-347 Talbot Street, relating to Application HAP-11-23, subject to the following:

a) The second storey windows be capped.

b) Complete restoration of the parapet is addressed.

## **Strategic Plan Refresh - Community Town Halls:**

\*All sessions are drop in\*

St. Thomas City Council is refreshing the City's Strategic Plan. Drop in and let us know your thoughts and feedback to plan for the future of our community.

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER!

