



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council - February 8, 2021

MAYOR UPDATE

Mayor Clarke opened up the meeting and reported that Brock Township lost their Mayor, Debbie Bath-Hadden, to cancer on January 24th, 2021. Basil sends his condolences and deepest sympathies to her family and friends and all those at Brock Township. Debbie Bath-Hadden was elected in 2018 and was the first female Mayor in Brock Township and was a strong community advocate and volunteer for her community. Basil also reported that himself, CAO John Pinsent, Planning Supervisor/Zoning Administrator Deb McCabe and Planning Technician Eric Brathwaite met with the City of Orillia Council to discuss the Rama Road Corridor and to clarify some questions and issues raised. For more information on the current designations, process, requirements and next steps with the Rama Road Corridor, please visit www.reachoutramara.ca/rama-road-corridor.

CAO UPDATE

CAO, John Pinsent, reported that at this time the Township has started to expand internet services in Ramara, but understands that there is still need for improvement. The Township is asking residents to send in their comments with their address on the current service being offered and their needs to responses@ramara.ca. This information will not be shared, but is critical in determining the future needs of the community. Council will be briefed in March as to potential next steps in expanding internet services.

Next Council meeting is on February 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME NEW TRAIL MEMBERS

Council appointed Laura Readman, Kate White and Jack Heitzner to the Ramara Trails Committee until November 2022. Welcome new Trail Members!

Come and explore the trails in Ramara! Our Ramara Trails Committee works fiercely to plan, build and fix trails in Ramara for residents, visitors and stakeholders to use. Learn more at www.ramara.ca/trails/.

INTERNET

Grant Street from Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) presented to Council on their initiative to build a better online Canada by offering high quality internet tests that is focused on speed. CIRA collects information about individuals and businesses on their internet upload and download speed, jitter, latency, packet loss, test date and time. Grant reported that 896,000 Canadian tests have been done through the site with more than 850 municipalities using the data and mapping. Council approved that a report be brought back to Committee of the Whole on the SWIFT and CIRA surveys. This report will build out the information required to decide as to how to support an expansion of internet services in the Township of Ramara.

GUN (SHOOTING) RANGE - COUNTY OF SIMCOE SUPPORT

Mayor Basil Clarke reported that the County of Simcoe approved the Township of Ramara Official Plan Amendment No.19 Gun (shooting) clubs and/or firearm shooting ranges. The Official Plan Amendment is now in the appeal period which ends on February 22, 2021. The purpose and effect of the amendment is to establish planning policies and definitions within the Township Official Plan to regulate the use of land for gun (shooting) clubs and/or firearm shooting ranges throughout the Township.

[Click here for County Council Highlights](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Council received a letter to say 'Thank you' to volunteer firefighters who arrived on scene following a 911 call and provided exceptional service and comfort during a stressful situation.

[Click here for the full Council Agenda and Minutes](#)

RATIONALE FOR LAKE SIMCOE PROTECTION PLAN (LSPP)

A report came to Council as a follow up from the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 1st, in order to get a clear understanding on next steps with the LSPP and Bayshore Village Sewage Treatment Plant. The Province of Ontario has initiated a 10-year review of the LSPP and staff and Council will be providing comments to the Ministry and ask the Ministry to recognize the Bayshore Village Sewage Treatment Plant as an existing municipal sewage treatment plant. However, as the Township is uncertain of the Province's decision, staff are looking for direction on the short, medium and long-term initiatives. Given the current status of the lagoons and the land associated with spray irrigation, the following is recommended as part of the ongoing desire to replace the current system:

- Resolve the Infiltration & Inflow problem; and
- Establish a time frame and costs associated with a Class EA Schedule B (addition to the spray fields) vs Schedule C (upgrade to a mechanical plant).

RAMARA CENTRE CELEBRATING 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Township of Ramara Recreation Department and Ramara Township Public Library are partnering to host a logo design contest to celebrate 20 years of the Ramara Centre.

We are calling all **LOCAL** artists to get their creative juices flowing and submit their logo designs by **Friday, February 12th**. Please email your submissions to Melody: mmadden@ramara.ca.

Contest guidelines are as follows: please use only one (1) colour, the design is your choice, but needs to incorporate Ramara Centre 20 Years.

A \$100 prize will be awarded to the successful artist. This is a great opportunity to get involved in your community while sharing your creative flare!



Follow us on @Ramaratwp on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter first access to news and information.



CONTACT US - MEDIA

Phone - 705-484-5374 ext. 322

Email - awatson@ramara.ca



Visit the Township website at www.ramara.ca for up to date information on changes to services and programs.



HAVE A COMPLAINT?

Submit it online using our 'Report a Concern' form at www.ramara.ca