



# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council - October 26, 2020

## MAYOR UPDATE

Mayor Basil Clarke, advised that on Friday, October 16, he attended the groundbreaking event in Brechin with Xplornet Communications Inc. to commence the construction on the new wireless Internet tower. The Mayor, M.P.P Jill Dunlop, CAO John Pinsent and COO Cathy MacDonald of Xplornet attended the event with other staff from both Ramara and Xplornet. The investment in high speed internet will provide up to 50 Megabits per second (Mbps) with unlimited data to over 5,700 rural households and small businesses. For more information, please visit [www.ramara.ca](http://www.ramara.ca). The Mayor stated that he met with the new Chief of Rama First Nations, Ted Williams on October 22, but the scheduled Joint Council meeting was cancelled due to a small outbreak of COVID-19 on the reserve. The Mayor reported that the outbreak is contained.

## CAO UPDATE

CAO, John Pinsent, advised that staff are busy getting ready for budget and that the Special Committee of the Whole Budget meeting will take place virtually on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. John reported that staff will be working on setting priorities for 2021 and an economic development project concerning Rama Road Corridor that will be brought to Council on Monday, November 2, 2020.

## PUBLIC MEETING FOR ZONING AMENDMENT Z-4/20

Council adopted the Zoning Bylaw Amendment for 1811 Concession Road 10 to sever a surplus farm dwelling lot from the property in order to allow the consolidation of the retained parcel with a larger agricultural operation. No comments or concerns were raised during the circulation process or by Council.

**Next COW meeting is on November 2, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.**

## THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Mayor, Basil Clarke, recognizes the efforts of all of our volunteers in the Community. We want to thank Terry Driffield for all his years of service on the Brechin Community Centre Board.

## SIMCOE NORTH CONSERVATIVE ELECTORAL DISTRICT ASSOCIATION (EDA)

Council approved for the Simcoe North Conservative Electoral District Association to use the Ramara Centre to hold the Election to replace Bruce Stanton, Conservative M.P., as he sets to retire. When using the Ramara Centre, Simcoe North Conservatives EDA advised that they will follow all COVID-19 protocols to ensure the safety of all staff and community members.

# LCPWC BUDGET AMENDMENT

Council approved a budget amendment to transfer \$60,000.00 from Footbridge Repairs to Shorewall Repairs in order to repair 105 meters of shore wall along the northern shoreline of the outlet from Lagoon City to Lake Simcoe.

## ELECTORAL REVIEW

Council awarded the Electoral Review Tender to StrategyCorp for \$33,000. This is \$8,000 more than what was budgeted for, so the remaining amount will come out of reserves. The Township of Ramara's electoral system has not been reviewed since amalgamation in 1994. The need for a comprehensive review is necessary to develop an effective and equitable system of representation with reference to overall projected growth within the municipality. As some electoral wards have grown dramatically and others have not, this review will provide some insight on necessary changes.

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

## COUNCIL INITIATIVES

Council approved to remove the Long Term Initiatives from the Council Agenda and to have a Priority Setting Exercise in order to come up with shared priorities for the Township of Ramara. These shared priorities would then be added to the Strategic Plan that will be reviewed by the public and other stakeholders in 2021.

[Click here for County Council Highlights](#)

## WELCOME OUR NEW SENIOR BYLAW OFFICER

We want to welcome our new Senior Bylaw Officer, Winston Poole. Before Ramara, Winston worked for the City of Toronto for the past 13 years as a Bylaw Officer and brings a wide range of experience and skills that we believe will be a great addition to our team here in Ramara. Welcome Winston!

## UPCOMING REPORTS AT NEXT MEETING

The following reports will be on the November 2 agenda:

- GIS Update
- Waterfront Access Plan
- Short-Term Rental Update
- Draft 2021 Budget

*Coming Soon*

**Remember to follow us (@Ramaratwp) on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for up-to date information.**

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