



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Committee of the Whole - May 17, 2021



Please note that all Committee of the Whole decisions are subject to Council approval. The next Council meeting is scheduled for May 31, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions regarding agenda items or decisions made at Committee or Council meetings, please email council@ramara.ca.

INTERNET UPDATE

John Pinsent, CAO, presented an internet update advising that staff will be presenting internet options for Council's consideration in a meeting in June. To encourage investment, it is proposed that the Township subsidize broadband companies of their initial capital up to \$100 K for a two year period. Committee endorsed the option of loan guarantees in the negotiation process and that the initial authority be capped at \$100K for a two year period. Information regarding the Township, Ministry and other internet plans can be viewed on our [Internet page](#).

Next Council Meeting is on MAY 31, 2021 at 7:00 pm

INFLOW AND INFILTRATION (I&I) REDUCTION STRATEGY

Dyana Marks, Resource Manager, presented the Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Reduction Strategy as a result of inflow and infiltration contributing to excess sewer flows in Ramara's wastewater systems. Dyana reported that a critical part of managing wastewater treatment performance is reducing excess flow as it significantly affects the capacity of the treatment system. This strategy will begin the longer term effort of excess flow reduction, while focusing on the immediate steps necessary to collect data during the 2022 spring melt.

WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS COST OF SERVICE

Dyana Marks, Resource Manager, presented the cost of municipal water supply systems that includes the revenue, operating and capital costs, number of connections and 2020 collected data. Dyana reported that many factors impact a cost of a system: water supply, age of distribution system, maintenance and loss due to leakage. She also noted the 10-year capital plan provides actions or project recommendations to address deficiencies in order to achieve optional system performance. Based on discussions at Committee today, the Township is going to explore all opportunities to operate and maintain its water systems in the most cost effective way that will be in the best interest of water users. Committee approved to receive this report as information and asked staff to examine the feasibility of eliminating smaller systems that run a negative cost as a means of reducing the overall cost to other users.

CONCESSION ROAD 3 - WATERMAIN STATUS REPORT

Dyana Marks, Resource Manager, provided a report regarding the Concession Road 3 watermain extension that services four residential properties on Concession Road 3. In 2017, the new watermain extension was constructed privately, in accordance with Township specifications, and that the Township would then be responsible for the distribution of treated water to the individual users. Before commissioning the watermain, the Township will need to register the easement where the watermain is located into the Township of Ramara's name and determine the costing. A report will be brought to a future Council meeting with this detailed information.

[Click here for County Council Highlights](#)

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Walied Zekry, Chief Building Official, presented a report to Council regarding the increase building inquiries and permit applications received by the department. Permit applications issued between January to April in 2021 compared with 2020, has almost doubled; however, staffing has not increased. At this time, the building department is taking the designated 10 business day Provincial requirement to issue permits and booking inspections with 48 hours notice. However, if demands increase, the time designated may increase. In order to help residents and contractors, Ramara is setting up an electronic permitting system that will provide a quick system for individuals to submit permits, book inspections, and ask questions. This new system is expected to be live by June 2021.

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

CITY OF ORILLIA 2021 OPTIONAL "PANDEMIC" PARKING PROGRAM

The City of Orillia has implemented a "Pandemic" Parking program for the summer of 2021 that provides the residents of the City of Orillia free parking and use of the boat launch free of charge. The City of Orillia extended the program to neighbouring municipalities at its **May 10th Council** meeting at a cost of \$50.00 per permit for the season. The City's parking program is in effect from June 4th to September 12th, Friday thru Saturday including holiday Mondays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Committee approved to participate in the program that will require residents to pay \$50.00 (plus 4.5% transaction fee) through the Township of Ramara's parking permit form. Once this program has been adopted at the May 31st Council meeting, residents can apply online, if they don't already have a Ramara parking permit, or email bylaw@ramara.ca if they want to add Orillia's parking to the permit.

PROPOSED ROAD CLOSING AND SALE BYLAW

The Township is proposing to close a portion of the unopened road allowance known as Concession Road B-C, Sideroad 15-16, and Concession Road D-E in the Township of Ramara, County of Simcoe and authorize the sale of the lands. Committee heard from Konstantine Stravrakos from O'Connor Macleod Hanna LLP, representing BOT aggregates, Steve Andrews from BOT aggregates, and comments from five other residents/stakeholders in the area. The bylaw will be presented at the Special Council meeting on May 31st. Residents can watch it live on the Township of [Ramara's YouTube channel](#).

TOWNSHIP NEWS AND REMINDERS

VACCINATION REMINDER

The Health Unit continues to roll out vaccinations to more residents and age groups across Simcoe County. Residents who are 18 years of age or older can book their vaccine appointment through the [Province's online booking system](#) or call the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line: 1-833-943-3900; Hours of Operation - 8AM-8PM, Monday-Sunday. For current SMDHU guidance, go to smdhu.org/.

Ramara Resident Parking Permit

Parking passes are in the mail! Those who registered for their parking passes before May 14th, should receive their parking pass this week. Anyone who registered after May 14th will receive their parking pass within five (5) business days. Beginning Thursday, residents who don't have a parking permit will not be able to parking in the designated permit parking areas until they receive their permit. Register for your permit today at ramara.ca/parking.



CUSTOMER SERVICE STRATEGY

Participate today and take the survey to provide **YOUR** input on Township of Ramara's current customer service practices, and provide information about the services/programs important to **YOU!** Every person that participates in the survey has a chance to win 1 of 3 \$50.00 gift certificates to a local business of their choice.

[Complete the Survey](#)



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CONTACT US - MEDIA

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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