

The Journal TOWN HALL

Augusta council approves zoning change by-law to create unique Aquaworld Zone

At a special meeting of council held on December 2, council approved a motion that creates a unique Aquaworld Zone on Merwin Lane south of Highway 401. The approval came following a presentation by the township's planner Glenn Tunnock, in which he led council members in a high-level review of his Aquaworld planning report. At the conclusion of his review, Mr. Tunnock provided six recommendations as follows:

AUGUSTA MATTERS

Mayor Doug Malanka



1. That the rezoning be improved in part through the passing of a by-law amendment by Council to create a unique Aquaworld Zone (AQW) that would apply to the area to be developed for the building area for the waterpark and hotel complex.

2. That additional land uses be added to the list of permitted uses in the Aquaworld Zone to

support land uses for local food production and outdoor recreation.

3. That the said rezoning by-law also contain a holding zone "h" provision to recognize rental cabins/cottages and a recreation vehicle park as a permitted use subject to meeting applicable conditions set out in section 9.4.6.2 of the township's Official Plan.

4. That a new Environmental Protection Zone be incorporated into the amending by-law to apply to the south end

of Bradley's Creek valley land area to conserve the natural heritage features and simultaneously provide for outdoor recreational uses.

5. That the applicant be directed to proceed to obtain all necessary permits and approvals related to the development and that, where enabled, by the authority of Section 41 of the Planning Act, that the relevant matters associated with the details of development required by the township and outside ministries

and agencies be incorporated into a site plan control agreement.

6. That council pass the zoning by-law amendment pursuant to the requirements of the Planning Act.

Mr. Tunnock responded to council questions indicating that outstanding issues related to such things as fencing, improvements to Merwin Lane roadway, lighting, etc. will be dealt with in the subsequent site control plan agreement with the township. Following

approval of the rezoning amendment, I thanked Mr. Tunnock on behalf of council for his thoroughness, his broad knowledge and experience, his big picture appreciation of the project and its significance to this township and region and his professionalism - all evident in his report. The quality of the report was reassuring for council concerns that the municipality's interests in pursuit of economic development are protected and that their decision is sound.

Edwardsburgh Cardinal discusses 2020 water system budget

Following the Fire-fighter and Township Employee Long Term Service Award presentations on Monday November 25, the council of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal had a long agenda to approve a number of recommendations coming forward from the various committee meetings held earlier in the month.

Council voted in favour of recommending three separate severance applications to the United Counties planning department, which has jurisdiction over land severance matters. Acting on the recommendations of the Community Development Committee, applications were approved for Chown, Lockwood, and Norton. Staff were

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Pat Sayeau



directed to forward the favourable recommendations to the county planner in Brockville for final approval. So far this year, the Community Development Committee has processed 16 severance applications, four zoning amendments and four community improvement plan applications.

Also up for discussion were the water and sewer rates for 2020, as the by-laws to set the new rates must be passed before year end in order for the new rates to become effective on January 1. The township operates and maintains four sys-

tems, which according to provincial legislation must be totally supported financially by the existing users, which includes building reserve funds large enough to replace those systems at some future date. Over the past number of years, council and staff have worked hard to optimize operating costs and invest in updated equipment to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the systems with the consequence that only modest increases in rates were approved for 2020.

The raw water supply system budget, which delivers raw water directly from the river to Greenfield Ethanol, was approved without increase. Greenfield is totally responsible for both the operating and

capital cost of this system, including contributing \$20,000 per year to the reserve fund of the system.

The Spencerville wastewater system annual flat rate base residential unit charge was increased by one percent from \$669.00 to \$676.00 (\$7.00 / year). The quarterly rate adjusts from \$176.25 to \$169.00. The reserve fund balance for that system was \$297,133.74 as of October 31, 2019.

The 2020 Cardinal water system budget was approved with a two percent (\$5.99) increase to the annual base rate, (from \$24.94 to \$25.44 per month) in an effort to increase the reserve fund balance prior to the major reconstruction and replacement of the aging water and

sewer mains along County Road 2 from Shanly Road to Sawmill Creek.

Similarly, the 2020 Cardinal wastewater system budget was approved with a five percent (\$15.00 per year) increase to the annual fixed and flat rate charges to bring in an additional \$10,500 in user fee revenue (the monthly rate adjusts from \$26.94 to \$28.29), again with the objective of increasing the reserve fund balance prior to commencing the estimated \$2.3 million reconstruction program along County Road 2.

Replacement of the aging and failing water and sewer lines along County Road 2 has been the number one township priority project for OCIF (Ontario Com-

munity Infrastructure Funding) since 2015, but our applications in 2015, 2016, and 2018 have all been unsuccessful. However, once again on Monday December 2, the committee of the whole identified this project as the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal priority project for funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program between the Government of Canada and the Ontario provincial government green stream component.

Save the date: Public Open House - Cardinal Waterfront Development Project,

Cardinal Legion, Monday, December 16 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Coffee and donuts courtesy of the Port of Johnstown.

Michael Barrett, MP, named Shadow Minister for Ethics



OTTAWA - Michael Barrett, Member of Parliament for Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes has been named Shadow Minister for Ethics by Conservative Leader, Andrew Scheer.

"Our Conservative team is strong, experienced, and ready to fulfill our role as Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition. Canadians sent us to Ottawa to hold the Liberal Government to account, and to work for Canadians from Coast to Coast", said

Barrett.

Following multiple findings of ethical breaches in the Trudeau Government by the non-partisan Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner, Mr. Barrett acknowledged the important work in this portfolio.

"The Trudeau Liberals have such a poor track record that in just four years, we saw the Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans

all found guilty of ethical breaches," he said.

Between 2015 and 2019 there were multiple findings of ethical breaches in the Trudeau Government by the non-partisan Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner including the Prime Minister's interference in the criminal prosecution of SNC-Lavalin, and his trip to the private island of the Aga Khan. Other senior members of the government also had findings against them

by the Commissioner including Minister Bill Morneau, who failed to disclose that he owned a private villa in France, and Fisheries Minister Dominic LeBlanc, who awarded a lucrative clam fishing contract to family.

"Canadians still don't have the full story regarding the SNC Lavalin scandal where the Prime Minister refused to cooperate with the Commissioner and the RCMP. Canadians need to have confidence in their public

institutions and we're going to shine a light on the Trudeau Liberal's actions to ensure they carry on the business of government in a manner that's beyond reproach. Canadians deserve nothing less," he concluded.

In the last session of Parliament, Mr. Barrett served as the Deputy Shadow Minister for Small Business and Export Promotion, in addition to serving as a regular member of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights.



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