



Township of  
**Leeds** and the  
**Thousand Islands**

# Council Update

WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2021

## COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS SERVICES

### Recreation & Leisure

- Registration for Home Alone Safety for Kids (ages 9-11, December 20) and Babysitter Course (ages 12-18, December 22)
- Meeting to discuss streamlining receiving recreation registration receivables
- Archives Working Group meeting postponed to January

### Facilities

- Working with facility rentals to cancel in-person meetings and move online

### Events

- Municipal administrative staff made a generous donation to the Seeley's Bay Lions Club Angel Tree project (bags distributed to 34 seniors; 25 children and youth)
- Sit with Santa event at Lyndhurst Library held December 11<sup>th</sup> – approx. 30 kids and family members enjoyed sitting and chatting with Santa from a safe distance

### Communications & Marketing

- Advertising current opportunities: Mechanic, Clerk, volunteer members of Economic Development Committee
- Accessibility Guide is complete and ready for internal distribution and feedback
- Social Media Guide nearing completion
- 12 Day Holiday Countdown underway (Dec. 13 – 24)

### Business Support

- The digital footprint webpage is now live for all businesses, this page provides them with resources to help them with social media, website and to get their business noticed online. This page will continue to be updated on a regular basis
- Shop, Eat, Spend, Enjoy Local in Gananoque and Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands - We have reached our goal of tracking \$45,000 spent locally this holiday season; we are already 97% of the way toward our new goal of \$100,000 by January 10, 2022

## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

- The Committee of Adjustment met on December 14<sup>th</sup> to consider two applications for Minor Variance.

- Building staff have been working on closing active permits and old files. To date 266 permits have been issued in 2021.
- Staff are starting to review workplans for 2022.

## OPERATIONS

### Facilities

- Tour with Fire Chief of 3 halls built in the region within the last 4 years
- Water Meter readings Village of Lansdowne
- DSAO meeting attended. Biggest Concern Railways wanting to opt out of paying their portion of and Drainage Act Drain assessment.
- Ward 2 Waste shed new lock installed
- Lyndhurst Library soffit and fascia repaired - contractor completed.
- Station 3 Roof repair started.
- 1 Jessie floor preparation for waxing on December 18<sup>th</sup>
- Generator inspections.
  - 1233 generator repaired. Wiring concern.
  - Generator at St4/TC SOP being drafted
- Station 4 light replacement
- Monthly Well Head check and Steacy's Stable
- Safety supplies inventory restocked. (masks and hand sanitizer)
- 1233 Prince Street - electronic sign base repair started by contractor

### Parks

- temporary winter parks position staffed
- Garbage collected as needed

### Roads and Fleet

- One winter control event- Saturday call in (sand only)
- Emergency tree and brush removal- 3 call ins- Saturday and Sunday
- Clearing and grubbing with Brusher on various roads (continued)
- Tree removal on various roads (internal & outsourced)
- Grading and back blading gravel roads
- Road Patrol
- Fleet maintenance
- Shop cleanup

### Waste Sites

- Safety gear (masks and sanitizer) provided to WDS staff
- Ward 1 compaction and cover  $\frac{3}{4}$  completed should be completed December 17<sup>th</sup>
- Ward 2 and 3 compaction and cover.

- Malroz year-end survey for capacity completed for Ward 3 Escott and Ward 1 Lansdowne.

## FINANCE

- KPMG staff were engaged for two days to complete the interim audit for 2021
- Finance staff continue to review 2021 actuals in preparation for year end work and ensuring completeness of revenue and expenses
- The Director of Finance worked with the rest of SMT on review of the draft service delivery review report
- There have been a number of inquiries from residents about property taxes. There was an error in the finance system that resulted in a \$10 mortgage fee not being applied to the applicable final property tax bills. This charge was levied separately, resulting in a number of questions.
- The Director of Finance is on vacation from Dec. 16 to Dec 24. Please contact Jackie Jonkman or Jessica Thain in her absence.

## FIRE

- Fire Services responded to 14 calls. 2 Remote Alarms, 2 Fires (1 other / 1 machinery), 7 Public Hazards, 2 Internal smell of smoke, 1 Medical.
- Chiefs, Captains and Officers meeting held on December 14<sup>th</sup> – Guest speaker from Brockville Dispatch
- UCLG Chiefs meeting held virtually on December 15<sup>th</sup> – Annual dinner cancelled due to COVID number increase
- Notified of MTO Rate increase – As of November 1, 2021 hourly MTO rate is \$509.89.

## ADMINISTRATION

- Council follow-up
- Preparation of annual By-laws for January meeting
- IPC Annual Report – started
- Procedural By-law – Complete – will go to Council in January
- Emergency Compliance Reporting - ongoing
- Vital Statistics – Deputy Division Registrar – will be appointed ahead of Clerk's departure – January
- MNP Efficiency Report – Review and recommendations sent to consultant for final draft – Executive Summary expected for January
- Fence Viewers Award – Sent by registered mail to property owners
- Extension of the Municipal Clerk Job Advertisement to January 7, 2022
- MFIPPA Request - Jackson – pending
- Clerks Meeting

- County Clerks will meet bi-monthly in election year
- Joint Clerk's Procedures Working Group first quarter 2022
- Accessibility Reports due December 31, 2021
- Joint RFP - Intelivote Agreement forthcoming for first quarter 2022
- Weekly call with LGL Public Health Unit
  - Omicron variant is now in the PHU catchment
  - 188 Covid cases reported this week most are suspected to be Omicron
    - Brockville remains an area of concern with approximately 50% of the new cases
  - Data suggest that Omicron may be up to 8 times more transmissible than the Delta variant
  - Spread of Omicron has been noted in elementary schools
  - Vaccination rate of 5-11 year olds is approaching 40% within the PHU
  - PHU encouraging people to get vaccinated with a particular focus on those over 50 years old who have health conditions
  - PHU messaging remains the same:
    - If feel unwell, stay home
    - Maintain social distances
    - Wash your hands often
    - Wear masks
    - Get vaccinated
  - PHU is increasing staff resources to focus on vaccination clinics and getting shots in arms.
  - PHU is closely monitoring the Province and what further measures may be announced to limit the spread of the virus.