1. 5:30 PM - Regular Meeting - Call to Order

2. Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

4. Delegations

5. Reports
   a. Drainage Superintendent – Eric Chamberlain:

6. Consent Reports
   a. Treasurer – Michelle Feltz:
      i) Disbursements Report as at February 18, 2021 in the amount of $29,877.94

7. Recognitions
   From Mayor Durocher:
      i) Recognizing the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) for providing meals to seniors in our community.

8. Communications and Petitions
   a. Association of Municipal Clerks Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) – Recognizing the challenges municipalities have faced with COVID-19 and encouraging councils to continue to invest in staff training.
   b. Corporation of the Township of Perth South - Asking the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for clarity on the mandate of the new working group established to better focus Conservation Authorities.
   c. Ian Sinclair, Sinclair Honeybees – Expressing concern over suggestion during the Ontario Nature-Peel Island Research recent webinar that beekeeping be restricted on the island.
   d. Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – Announcing changes to regulations under the Health Protection and Promotion Act to permit independent businesses to sell home-prepared foods from their homes, or at special events like farmers’ markets, festivals and fairs.
   e. Corporation of the City of St. Catherines – Resolution and supporting documentation requesting amendments to Bill 197 as it pertains to landfill sites.
   f. Corporation of the City of St. Catherines – Endorsing legislated sick leave and asking the government of Ontario to permanently legislate universal paid sick days for all workers in Ontario during the pandemic and beyond, regardless of workplace size, type of work or immigration status.
   g. Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ontario – To request a one-year extension of all upcoming deadlines in O. Reg. 588/17: Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure under the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015
   h. Conmee Township – Requesting the Provincial Government to amend The Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act, to prevent people with a criminal record who have not had their
record cleared from the RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada, from becoming a candidate in municipal elections.

9. **Scheduled Motions**

   **Action Motions**

   **Consent Motions**
   b. Township of Pelee consents to pass the following:
      i. Disbursements Report as at February 18, 2021 in the amount of $29,877.94.

10. **Deferred Matters**

11. **Enquires**

12. **Emergent Matters**

13. **By-Laws**

14. **Adjournment**
Mayor: Ray Durocher
Deputy Mayor: Dave Dawson
Councillors: Dave DeLellis
Dayne Malloch
Sherri Smith Ouellette

Staff: Janice Hensel, CAO/Clerk
Michelle Feltz, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk
Kristine Horst, Administrative Assistant

Other: Members of the Public

1. Call to Order
Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

   a. Regular Meeting of Council Agenda, February 8, 2021
      Moved By: Councillor Sherri Smith Ouellette
      Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Dave Dawson

2. Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes
   Moved By: Councillor Dayne Malloch
   Seconded By: Councillor Dave DeLellis

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
None

4. Delegations
None

5. Reports
a. Mayor Durocher:
   i) Discussion – Stone Road Alvar Burn Webinar.

b. Councillor David DeLellis:
   i) Resolution to approve the submission of its application to the Universal Broadband Fund in partnership with Gosfield North Communications.

c. Councillor Dayne Malloch:
   i) Resolution to endorse Kevin Webb as the City of Windsor’s appointment to the Essex Region Source Protection Committee.

d. Treasurer and Tax Collector – Michelle Feltz:
i) Presentation: 2021 Tax Modeling;
ii) Resolution to extend waiver of penalties and interest to February 28, 2021.

e. Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk – Janice Hensel:
i) Service Delivery Review – Update
   1. Township of Pelee Service Delivery Review consultation is now completed.
   2. Strategic priorities are being finalized.
   3. SDR will be brought to Council shortly to determine its priorities.
ii) Destination Marketing Plan – Update
   1. Draft Destination Marketing Plan has been finalized and the implementation plan is now in progress.
   2. A formal presentation will be presented to Council shortly.
iii) Letter to Prime Minister – American Property Owners
   1. The Council of the Township of Pelee sent a letter to the Prime Minister, Premier and other officials in July 2020 regarding consideration for American property owners to be able to cross the border and access their properties on Pelee Island.
   2. Council in favour and gave the direction to administration to be updated and submitted this letter again to the Prime Minister, Premier, local MP and MPP, Canada Border Service Agency, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario requesting the Prime Minister consider amending “Essential Travel” as it pertains to the Canada – USA border closure to include travel purposes related to the care and maintenance of property in Canada that is owned by American citizens.

6. Consent Reports
a. Treasurer – Michelle Feltz:
   ii) Disbursements Report as at February 4, 2021 in the amount of $112,625.50.

7. Recognitions

8. Communications and Petitions
a. Pelee Island Businesses and Organizations – Pelee Islander 2 service start date for the 2021 season.
   i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from the Pelee Island Businesses and Organizations.
   ii) Direction given to Administration to discuss this matter with the Ministry of Transportation.

b. Statistics Canada – Advising the next census will take place in May 2021 and seeking support to increase awareness of the census among residents.
   i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from Statistics Canada.

Resolution 2021 – 14 was CARRIED
Moved By: Councillor Dave DeLellis
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Dave Dawson

“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby supports the 2021 Census, and encourages all residents to complete their census questionnaire online at www.census.gc.ca. Accurate and complete census data support programs and services that benefit our community.”

c. Corporation of the Township of North Glengarry – Requesting the Province of Ontario allow small business to immediately re-open providing all COVID-19 safety protocols and guidelines are in place.
   i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from the Corporation of the Township of North Glengarry.

Resolution 2021 – 15 was CARRIED
Moved By: Councillor Dayne Malloch
Seconded By: Councillor Dave DeLellis

“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby support the Corporation of the Township of North Glengarry, requesting the Province of Ontario allow small business to immediately re-open providing all COVID-19 safety protocols and guidelines are in place.”

d. Corporation of the Town of Gore Bay – Manitoulin Island – Resolution in support of the Municipality of Charlton and Dack requesting the Province investigate the unethical practices of preferred vendors and remuneration levels despite Covid 19 delays.
   i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from the Corporation of the Town of Gore Bay.

e. Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing – Expressing support for resolution by the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex seeking to address concerns regarding municipal drainage matters and the co-ordination with the national railways.
   i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from the Corporation of the Municipality of West Nipissing.

f. Corporation of the Township of Augusta – Requesting the Province of Ontario to reverse its decision to close the Ontario Fire College as it is the best and most cost-effective method for municipalities to train firefighters and assists in protecting residents.
   i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from the Corporation of the Township of Augusta.

g. Norfolk County – Expressing support for resolution by the City of St. Catherine’s requesting amendments to Bill 197 as it pertains to landfill sites.
i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from Norfolk County.

h. **Corporation of the Township of Asphodel Norwood** – Requesting the Province amend deadlines respecting requirements that all municipalities prepare and adopt a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan by July 1, 2021.

i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from the Corporation of the Township of Asphodel Norwood.

i. **Essex Region Conservation Authority** – 2020 Annual Report.

i) Communication received by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee from the Essex Region Conservation Authority.

9. **Scheduled Motions**

**Action Motions**

a. Resolution 2021 – 10 was CARRIED

   Moved By: Councillor Sherri Smith Ouellette
   Seconded By: Councillor Dayne Malloch

   “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby approves the submission of its application to the **Universal Broadband Fund** in partnership with Gosfield North Communications.”

   “WHEREAS the Township of Pelee does not have access to affordable, fast or reliable internet services AND recognizes that a dedicated investment in broadband infrastructure is critical to the economic and social prosperity of Pelee Island.

   AND WHEREAS:

   • This lack of connectivity severely limits:
     o the commercial viability of the island community;
     o hampers growth of tourism sector;
     o limits resident’s access to public services such as health care and education;
     o disadvantaged quality of life for residents;
   • Low population density, geography and technology limitations can make it too expensive for private sector providers to expand their networks.
   • This lack of service was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the mandated isolation. The inability to access services was detrimental to the lives of island residents, students, and businesses.”

b. Resolution 2021 – 11 was CARRIED

   Moved By: Deputy Mayor Dave Dawson
   Seconded By: Councillor Sherri Smith Ouellette
“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby endorse the appointment of Kevin Webb, City of Windsor to the Essex Region Source Protection Committee effective April 14, 2021; expiration of appointment: April 14, 2026.”

c. Resolution 2021 – 12 was CARRIED
   Moved By: Councillor Sherri Smith Ouellette
   Seconded By: Councillor Dayne Malloch

   “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby receive the presentation presented by Treasurer, Michelle Feltz: 2021 Tax Modeling.”

d. Resolution 2021 – 13 was CARRIED
   Moved By: Councillor Dayne Malloch
   Seconded By: Councillor Sherri Smith Ouellette

   “Be it resolved that the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby resolves that no late payment charges on property tax accounts and accounts receivable in either form, penalty and/or interest, through the period ending February 28, 2021. In the absence of additional financial relief measures, interest and penalties will be calculated on all past due balances as of March 1st and the first of every month thereafter.”

Consent Motions
a. Resolution 2021 – 16 was CARRIED
   Moved By: Councillor Dave DeLellis
   Seconded By: Councillor Sherri Smith Ouellette

   “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby consents to the following item:

b. Resolution 2021 – 17 was CARRIED
   Moved By: Councillor Dave DeLellis
   Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Dave Dawson

   “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby consents to the following item:
   i. Disbursements as at February 4, 2021 in the amount of $112,625.50.”

10. Deferred Matters
    None

11. Enquires
    None

12. Emergent Matters
13. **By-Laws**
a. Resolution 2021 – 18 was CARRIED
   Moved By: Councillor Sherri Smith Ouellette
   Seconded By: Councillor Dave DeLellis

   “Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby adopts By-Law 2021 - 04; Being a By-Law to Confirm Proceedings.”

14. **Adjournment**
    Regular Meeting of Council adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

    Raymond Durocher,
    Mayor

    Janice Hensel,
    CAO/Clerk
Report No: 2021 – 04 EC  
Date: February 18, 2021  
Submitted By: Eric Chamberlain  
Subject: Big Marsh Drain No. 4 - New Maintenance Schedule Final Report  
Attachments: Big Marsh Drain No. 4 Report dated January 28th, 2021  

Purpose (Information/Action): To gain approval to schedule the Meeting to Consider the engineer’s report for the Big Marsh Drain No.4.

Overview

The final report for the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 was submitted by Rood Engineering Inc. on February 5, 2021. The following is an outline of the timing related to the Big Marsh Drain No. 4:

May 11, 2020 – Council authorizes Rood Engineering Inc. to prepare a drainage report pursuant to Section 76 of the Drainage Act for a new maintenance schedule for the Big Marsh Drain No. 4.

November 12, 2020 – Administration held a site meeting to discuss the future maintenance of the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 and Patsy Carter Outlet Drain. Big Marsh Drain – Drain No. 2 and West Branch Drain No. 1. The meeting was attended by 4 landowners, 2 MNR representatives, the Township Drainage Superintendent and Gerard Rood, P. Eng., Rood Engineering Inc.

Administration is recommending that Council hold a Meeting to Consider Big Marsh Drain No. 4 be scheduled for March 22, 2021 at the Pelee Council Meeting. The consideration meeting will be a formality as there is no actually work being provided in the report.

The plan is to complete maintenance of the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 and Patsy Carter Outlet Drain in 2021 once the new maintenance schedule is adopted by Council. Currently, Pelee Council has approved $10,000 for the maintenance of the Patsy Carter Outlet Drain. The estimated cost of completing the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 is approximately $60,000. This estimate includes environmental cost for obtaining approvals from Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Ministry of Natural Resources. The plan would be to hire Natural Resource Solutions to assist in navigating the approval process.

Financial Impacts

The engineer has used the estimated value of the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 of $7,500 in the creation of the new maintenance schedule. The following is a breakdown of cost:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Township Roads</td>
<td>$1,530</td>
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<tr>
<td>Township Properties</td>
<td>$790 + assessment from Block F &amp; G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Privately Owned – Non Agricultural Lands</td>
<td>$2,178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Privately Owned – Agricultural Lands</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Cost</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,500</strong></td>
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</table>

The Township estimated assessment of $7,500.00 has been included in the 2020 Budget.
Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The report from the Drainage Superintendent dated February 18, 2021 regarding the New Maintenance Schedule for the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 BE RECEIVED;

2. The Administration BE DIRECTED to schedule the Meeting to Consider the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 at the March 22, 2021 Pelee Council Meeting.
**General - General Bank Account**

**Computer Cheques:**

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<th>Account Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
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## Township of Pelee

### List of Accounts for Approval

As of 2021-02-18
Batch: 2021-00006

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Total for General: 29,877.94

Certified Correct This February 18, 2021

______________________________  ________________________________
Mayor, Raymond Durocher        Treasurer
AN OPEN LETTER TO ONTARIO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS

Dear Council,

As a vital municipal association with membership roots that reach deep into each and every part of Ontario, we know the challenges you have faced in continuing to provide essential municipal services within your community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As elected officials, we know that you recognize the contribution made by your municipal staff, many of whom are members of AMCTO. Municipal professionals across this entire province have been at the forefront of service delivery, applying their knowledge and skills to innovate processes and procedures to meet the evolving needs of residents and businesses.

One key point that is often overlooked in this pandemic is that many municipal staff were prepared to act and innovate BECAUSE of the professional municipal training and development they receive from organizations like AMCTO. The leadership skills, education and technical training prepare your staff in getting ahead of immediate community needs, reacting and responding to new challenges brought on by COVID-19. This unique and sought-after skillset has allowed your staff to provide council with options and solutions for keeping your municipality running.

In these challenging financial times, there will be temptation to divert operational funding away from staff training budgets. Now more than ever, it is crucial that municipalities continue to invest in your most valuable resource – your staff.

In addition to increased levels of employee retention, engagement and empowerment, investments in staff professional development strengthens your council’s ability to provide reliable, effective and efficient services to your community, both today and in the future. The question is no longer “if” you innovate but “when”. Innovation comes with knowledge, training, and exposing municipal staff to new opportunities to grow and develop professionally.

On behalf of AMCTO and its over 2,200 members, please accept my heartfelt thank you for your service during these difficult times. As “Municipal Experts”, AMCTO will continue to be at your service to help you and your staff meet the needs of your community.

Sincerely,

Robert Tremblay, MPA, CMO, AOMC
President
AMCTO

CC: Graydon Smith, President, AMO
Honourable Jeff Yurek  
Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks  
777 Bay Street  
College Park - 5th Floor  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  

Re: ONTARIO ANNOUNCES WORKING GROUP TO BETTER FOCUS CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES  

Dear Minister,

The Municipality of Perth South ("Perth South") is pleased to see your Ministry's development of regulations for the Conservation Authorities Act, 1990 R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 (the "Act"). Perth South supports the proposed changes your government passed respecting conservation authorities in schedule 6 of Bill 229, the Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020 ("Bill 229"). I expressed this support in my email to you on November 5, 2020.

Our municipality, like many others across Ontario, has encountered longstanding conflicts regarding operational scope and costs with our principal conservation authority the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority ("UTRCA"). Despite requests made in writing and through delegations at annual Board Budget meetings no resolution has been found. It is for this reason that Perth South was pleased to see the changes made through Bill 229; however, we were disappointed when the Working Group composition was announced as it is dominated by conservation authorities who are tasked with recommending the very regulations that govern them. I am sure you can agree that the initial optics of the governed designing the governance of themselves is concerning. Conservation authorities, most of whom opposed your reforms, should not be relied upon to develop fair and objective recommendations on their own.
Further to my email of January 12, 2021, I am writing to you to confirm and clarify your full intent and scope for the Working Group your Ministry announced on December 16, 2020 to develop updated regulations. We are hopeful that you will direct this Working Group with clear, limited, and specific instructions that will focus on the intent of changes included in Bill 229.

Perth South seeks your clarity that this Working Group’s tasks will be built on the following principles in the areas of focus highlighted:

1. **Mandatory core programs and services conservation authorities would be required to provide.**

   (a) That ‘mandatory’ core programs are limited to the changes included in schedule 6 of Bill 229: conservation lands solely owned by conservation authorities, flood-control, erosion, and natural hazards;

   (b) That conservation authorities are not permitted any discretion via regulations to exit those defined and strict categories; and

   (c) That ‘services’ must be concise, limited, and have obvious direct need to fulfil core mandates not merely ‘link’ or ‘complement’ the same.

2. **The agreements between municipalities and conservation authorities and the transition period associated with non-mandatory programs and services**

   (a) That the regulations establish a clear, consistent, and template pro-forma for these agreements that includes at a minimum:

   i. a specified time limitation to prevent perpetuity;

   ii. clear intent and objectives;

   iii. clear definitions, terms, and conditions;

   iv. the identified necessity for it/them;

   v. accurate, evidence-supported budget forecasting;

   vi. the impact of items (i-iv) on each participating municipality;

   vii. supporting science-based evidence that meets or exceeds the standard(s)/threshold(s) applied to any third party deemed an applicant and/or subject to an
agreement’s provisions including on any items requiring peer review;

viii. municipal and public input mechanisms and timelines;

ix. dispute resolution processes that adhere to the legislation and the timelines proscribed therein; and

x. municipal refusal/opt-out clause(s) where proposals do not have the support of the participating municipality and/or do not reasonably benefit a participating municipality or municipalities given their geographical extent or limit within the watershed of the conservation authority in question.

(b) That the “transition period,” associated cannot be greater than one (1) fiscal year from the date of Bill 229’s passage in the case of any pre-existing agreement and no more than two (2) years from the date of Bill 229’s passage; and

(c) That the Working Group must understand the principle that one “cannot do by regulation what one cannot do in law.”

3. How local members of the community can participate in their conservation authorities through community advisory boards

(a) That these advisory boards and the conservation authorities that they ‘advise’ are not delegated responsibilities or tasks that are a normative function of a conservation authority’s operations and not delegation(s) or devolution(s) of a conservation authority’s board and its committees’ obligations and normal work;

(b) That voluntarily submitted proposals for programs, projects, and services cannot be for activities either not contemplated or permitted under either conservation authorities’ mandated functions or approved non-mandatory agreements;

(c) That advisory committee’s recommendations and work are neither binding nor required under a conservation authority’s administrative by-laws;

(d) That any aspect of an advisory committee’s work that requires public consultation becomes a function of the conservation authority’s board or its approved board-fulfilled committees not the advisory committee/group;

(e) That membership on any advisory committee or group must be balanced and reflect its composition to watershed citizens who are
resident and contributing ratepayers in participant municipalities of
the conservation authority in question;

(f) That conservation authorities’ obligations to conduct deliberate,
regular, thorough, and transparent public consultation on matters of
policies, programs, and services cannot be delegated to an
‘advisory’ committee or group. That such functions remain a core
and mandatory function of a conservation authority’s board; and

(g) That community advisory boards neither relieve nor substitute a
conservation authority’s obligation to incorporate citizens into
consultative and/or input processes that are board-led or directed.

We understand and agree that partnerships and collaboration are critical but want to
ensure that there is balance in the parties that will represent the Working Group.

Perth South also looks forward to greater clarity from the Ministry with respect to
conservation authority budget and levy processes in the regulation updates. We are
very pleased with the avenues of appeal Bill 229 will now provide, after recently
exploring the costly and difficult appeal process that previously existed.

As you work to reach the final outcome on these long overdue changes, Perth South
and its residents are relying on you to ensure that the development of regulations will
align with the spirit of the changes requested by Perth South and other municipalities
across the province during the consultations that occurred in early 2020.

I thank you for the work you are undertaking and trust our comments will be received
and conveyed with your support to this Working Group. I am confident many more
municipalities in this province would echo our points of view.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Wilhelm
Mayor
Township of Perth South

cc: All municipalities in Ontario

Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks Working Group members on
Proposed Regulations under the Conservation Authorities Act.

Randy Pettapiece, MPP Perth-Wellington
Re: Ontario Nature Webinar
Ian Sinclair

Janice Hensel

To whom it may concern,
I noticed that the Ontario Nature webinar is on the agenda for this week's council meeting. I thought I should contact you and mention that I was disappointed that one of the speakers (Scott Macivor) singled out honey bees and suggested restricting beekeeping on the island. I thought that was a fairly unreasonable thing to suggest and showed some disregard for agriculture on the island without ample evidence. I thought council might want to object to the idea of restricting farming that is near the natural areas.
Thank you,

Ian Sinclair

www.facebook.com/sinclairhoneybees
February 11, 2020

Michelle Feltz
Clerk
Township of Pelee
m.feltz@pelee.ca

Dear Michelle Feltz:

The best small businesses are born out of a passion and a dream.

When it comes to many home-based food businesses, they start with a love of food and a cherished family recipe. Whether passionate about making grandma’s coveted baked goods or a new take on homegrown pickles, jams and preserves, we are making it easier for Ontarians to share their homemade goods with their communities and turn their passion into a successful business.

As our government recently announced, Ontario has made changes to the Food Premises Regulation under the Health Protection and Promotion Act that allow more flexibility for small, independent businesses to sell their low-risk, home-prepared foods from their homes or at special events like farmers’ markets, festivals and fairs. While these changes came into effect on January 1, 2020, the desire to start low-risk, home based food businesses has only increased during COVID, which is why we’re clarifying the rules now.

Low-risk foods are non-hazardous and do not require refrigeration. They include such items as baked goods, pickles, jams and preserves, chocolates, hard candies and brittles, fudge and toffees, granola, trail mix, nuts and seeds, and coffee beans and tea leaves.

These regulatory changes support Ontario’s entrepreneurs in running a home-based food business, without compromising our high standards for food safety. The changes also give Ontarians new opportunities to buy locally produced foods.
The Ministry of Health has published a guide to help such entrepreneurs take the recommended steps to succeed, in a food-safe way, in their homemade food business efforts: 
www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/selling_low_risk_food.pdf I welcome you to use your networks to share this important information with those who may be interested.

Starting a home-based food business is an excellent opportunity for people across Ontario to share their culinary creativity, build a business for themselves and be part of the province’s agri-food sector. Our government is committed to encouraging this growing part of the economy and to support all the good things that are grown and produced right here in Ontario.

Thank you for your support of this initiative and for all your efforts to partners with us as we strive to build strong communities and a vibrant economy in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Ernie Hardeman
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

COVID-19 Reminders
- Practise physical distancing – stay 2 metres away from others in public
- Wash your hands – with soap and water thoroughly and often
- Get the facts - www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-stop-spread
October 7, 2020

Honourable Jeff Yurek
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park 5th Flr,
777 Bay St, Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Sent via email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Re: Development Approval Requirements for Landfills - (Bill 197)
Our File 35.2.2

Honourable and Dear Sir,

At its meeting held on October 5, 2020, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS Schedule 6 of Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 considers amendments to the Environmental Assessment Act relating to municipal autonomy and the principle that municipalities can veto a development outside their municipal boundary in an adjacent municipality; and

WHEREAS Bill 197 empowers multiple municipalities to ‘veto’ development of a landfilling site within a 3.5 km zone inside the boundary of an adjacent municipality; and

WHEREAS Bill 197 establishes a dangerous precedent that could be expanded to other types of development; and

WHEREAS Bill 197 compromises municipal autonomy and the authority of municipal councils to make informed decisions in the best interest of their communities and municipal taxpayers; and

WHEREAS amendments in Schedule 6 could cause conflict in the effective management of landfill sites, put significant pressure on existing landfill capacity, and threaten the economic activity associated with these sites;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the City of St. Catharines calls upon the Government of Ontario (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) to amend Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020, to eliminate the development approval requirement provisions from adjacent municipalities and that the ‘host’ municipality be empowered to render final approval for landfills within their jurisdiction; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local MPP's, the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) and Ontario’s Big City Mayors (formerly Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario-LUMCO)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Ontario municipalities with a request for supporting motions to be passed by respective Councils and copies of the supporting motion be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Jeff Yurek the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Steve Clark the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the local MPP's, the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO).

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1506.

Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk

Cc.  Hon. Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca
     Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Housing minister.mah@ontario.ca
     Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines, JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca
     Jeff Burch, MPP - Niagara Centre, JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca
     Wayne Gates, MPP - Niagara Falls, wgates-co@ndp.on.ca
     Sam Oosterhoff, MPP - Niagara West-Glanbrook, sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
     Association of Municipalities of Ontario amo@amo.on.ca
     Chair of Ontario’s Big City Mayors, Cam Guthrie mayor@guelph.ca
     All Ontario Municipalities (via email)
**Bill 197 – City of St. Catharines Resolution**

The following draft council motion and correspondence additions are provided as suggestions to support the efforts of Council and to assist municipal Clerks.

**SUGGESTED DRAFT COUNCIL MOTION**

On (date), (municipality) Council met for their Regular Council Meeting at which they considered a letter and resolution from the City of St. Catherine’s regarding the Ontario Bill 197 (attached hereto).

As a result, the Council of (municipality) resolved the following:

**Moved By:**

**Seconded by:**

**That** (municipality) Council support the resolution from the City of St. Catharine’s, requesting an amendment to Schedule 6 of Bill 197 (Environmental Assessment Act), eliminating the adjacent municipality overreach powers and

**That** Administration be directed to send correspondence in support of the City of St. Catharines request to amend Bill 197, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 to all parties referenced in the City of St. Catharines resolution.

**Carried**

**SUGGESTED CORRESPONDENCE ADDITIONS**

_The (municipality) agrees with the need to request the Provincial Government to amend Schedule 6 of Bill 197 (Environmental Assessment Act), which impacts municipal autonomy and waste management infrastructure (landfills)._

_Further, the (municipality) supports the need to eliminate the development approval requirement provisions from adjacent municipalities and that the ‘host’ municipality be empowered to render approval for landfills within their jurisdiction._
Ontario’s garbage crisis is urgent.

Opinion: Every bag of garbage we throw out brings us one step closer to running out of landfill space

Author of the article:
Mike Chopowick, Special to Financial Post
Publishing date:
Jul 30, 2020 • July 30, 2020 • 3 minute read

Ontario’s garbage crisis has just become more dire. With new legislation making it all but impossible to build new landfills, it is more likely the province will run out of waste disposal capacity by 2032.

Ontarians are now sending almost 12 million tonnes of waste to landfills every year. That’s 70 per cent of the material we throw out despite efforts to improve waste diversion with blue boxes and green bins. In 2018, Ontario residents sent 750,000 more tonnes of waste per year to landfills than in 2008.

About one-third of that garbage is trucked to landfills in the United States — a flow that continues through the pandemic, even with the border closed to private travel. But this waste disposal option is increasingly precarious politically, especially now that Ontario has shown itself to be unwilling to build its own new landfills.

Because it takes at least 10 years to plan and construct a new landfill, our only domestic disposal option is the less than 120 million tonnes of landfill capacity left in Ontario — unless we build more.

Part of the problem is that Ontarians are misled by some popular fallacies. One is that we can recycle our way out of this problem. More recycling, composting and waste diversion are core objectives of Ontario’s waste management strategy. But those efforts merely dent the vast amounts of material we send to landfill disposal. In fact, over the past decade, recycling levels have basically flatlined in Ontario. Even 30 per cent of what we toss into our blue boxes ends up in landfills.

There is growing interest in energy and resource recovery from waste, yet energy-from-waste facilities in Ontario have a very limited capacity. And building new energy-from-waste facilities is fraught with the same political difficulties as constructing a new landfill.
Bill 197, introduced earlier this month, creates a further barrier to waste disposal investment by requiring local municipalities to approve new landfills — in addition to the provincial government’s stamp of approval.

Wanting local approval for new landfills is understandable. And very few landfills are ever built without local community support. But Bill 197 creates a new, unprecedented layer of red tape: requiring the explicit approval of neighbouring towns and cities, not just the municipality where the landfill is to be located.

This means that Markham can halt a project in Pickering, and Toronto can veto a project in Vaughan or Mississauga — and vice versa. In the new world of Bill 197, municipal governments will cede control over what’s built in their communities to neighbouring local councils. “Not in my backyard” becomes “not in my neighbour’s backyard, either.”

Ontario needs to face up to its garbage crisis. Every bag of garbage we throw out brings us one step closer to running out of landfill space. Recycling, composting and energy recovery are important solutions, yet leave us with millions of tonnes of garbage every year.

The environmentally safe, cost-effective and reliable disposal option for this growing amount of garbage is made-in-Ontario landfills. Our landfill capacity deadline of 2032 will arrive even sooner — by 2028, just eight years away — should the U.S. government decide to close the border to Ontario’s garbage.

Ontario’s waste sector is more than ready to work with local communities, residents and the provincial government to mitigate issues related to odour, environmental impact and traffic that are often associated with landfills. Active landfills usually aren’t pretty but they are vital to managing the garbage we all throw out. Landfills ensure waste is managed responsibly, not illegally dumped or tossed into our public spaces and natural environment.

Landfills really are critical infrastructure, necessary for the economic and environmental well-being of our province. Changes to the environmental assessment process should remove barriers to landfill projects, not create new ones. Ontario needs more landfills before it’s too late.
REQUEST TO SUPPORT CITY OF ST. CATHARINES RESOLUTION

OWMA is a not-for profit organization representing both private sector companies and municipal stakeholders in the Ontario waste management sector

A Request
- Support of the City of St. Catharines’ request to: (1) endorse their position on Bill 197; and (2) pass a supporting motion.

Background to Bill 197
- Bill 197, the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020 deals with COVID-19 issues, but obscured in a Schedule to the Act is a significant change to the Environmental Assessment Act impacting municipalities.

Municipal Autonomy Compromised
- The Environmental Assessment Act change, while dealing with landfill development, undermines municipal autonomy and establishes the principle that municipalities can ‘veto’ a development outside, and adjacent to, their own municipal boundaries.
- Bill 197 would empower multiple municipalities to ‘veto’ development – currently a landfill development - within a 3.5 km zone inside the boundary of an adjacent municipality - even if the host municipality supports the development.
- This veto empowerment to adjacent municipalities is overreach.

Overreach Consequences
- The potential consequences are real and substantial.
- The overreach is a dangerous precedent – the ‘thin edge of the wedge’.
- It is landfill development today, but if the principle remains unchallenged, what next? Consider the implications for: other waste management infrastructure like organics processing, composting and recycling facilities; agricultural developments and activities; transit infrastructure; waste water treatment facilities; etc.
- The overreach compromises the autonomy and the authority of elected officials to make decisions in the best interest of their communities and taxpayers.
- It will cause political entanglements between local municipal neighbours.

Bill 197 Does Contain Supportable Change
- Bill 197 does change the landscape around landfill developments and environmental assessment.
- In the past, while local municipalities were intimately involved in the process, the province made the final decision on development.
- Bill 197 now establishes that the province cannot issue a positive development decision without the approval/support of the ‘host’ municipality.
- While this will make it more challenging to get new landfill developments approved and potentially exacerbates our current landfill capacity crisis, it is a reasonable and supportable change.

The Solution
- The City of St. Catharines’ resolution accurately reflects the issues and concerns around the ‘adjacent municipality’ overreach.
- The answer is a simple amendment to Schedule 6 in Bill 197, removing the reference to adjacent municipalities while maintaining the ultimate right of host municipalities to have the final say.
February 9, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P.
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: Universal Paid Sick Days in Ontario
Our File 35.31.99

Dear Premier Ford:

At its meeting held on February 1, 2021, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

“WHEREAS workers in Ontario without paid sick leave often feel forced to work when unwell so they can feed and support their families and are at risk of losing a paycheque or even their jobs if they stay home; and

WHEREAS the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit is temporary, not accessible to all and not usable for the crucial first few days of an illness; and

WHEREAS had legislated paid sick leave been in place before the global pandemic, lives would have been saved because infection rates would have been reduced; and

WHEREAS the lack of paid sick days has especially hurt Black, Indigenous, workers of colour, women and migrant workers who are over-represented in low-paying frontline jobs with few benefits and a reduced ability to work from home; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Medical Association, 11 GTHA Mayors and Chairs representing Ontario’s largest municipalities, the editorial board of the Toronto Star, the Toronto Board of Health, the Decent Work and Health Network, the Ontario Nurses Association, and several other professional associations representing thousands of healthcare workers have all called on the provincial government to legislate paid sick days;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of St. Catharines endorses legislated sick leave and calls on the government of Ontario to permanently legislate universal paid sick days for all workers in Ontario during the pandemic and beyond, regardless of workplace size, type of work or immigration status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this motion be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Labour, all Regional MPPs, Niagara Region, and all Ontario Municipalities.”
If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1506.

Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk
:ra

Cc  Minister of Labour, Hon. Monte McNaughton, Minister.MLTSD@ontario.ca
    Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines, JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca
    Jeff Burch, MPP - Niagara Centre, JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca
    Wayne Gates, MPP - Niagara Falls, wgates-co@ndp.on.ca
    Sam Oosterhoff, MPP - Niagara West-Glanbrook, sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
    Niagara Region
    Ontario Municipalities
Hon. Laurie Scott  
Minister of Infrastructure  
5th Floor  
777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  

October 22, 2020

Dear Minister Scott,


I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Finance Officers’ Association of Ontario, and the municipalities it serves, to request a one-year extension of all upcoming deadlines in O. Reg. 588/17: Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure under the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015 (O. Reg. 588/17).

The Municipal Finance Officers’ Association of Ontario (MFOA) is the professional association of municipal finance officers with more than 2,300 individual members. We represent individuals who are responsible for handling the financial affairs of municipalities and who are key advisors to councils. MFOA is a strong advocate for best practices that encourage long-term fiscal sustainability, including long term financial planning and asset management planning.

In recent years, MFOA and the Province have worked together to support municipalities on their asset management (AM) journeys. Our collaboration has resulted in a range of useful resources, including tip sheets, a strategic AM planning policy development toolkit, a guide on creating AM communities of practice, an AM framework, a self assessment tool, training, and the provision of professional one-on-one AM consulting, among other supports. MFOA, like the Province, believes in the fundamental importance of AM planning.

But we have also heard our members. As noted in your statement to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs on July 30, 2020, municipalities were “among the hardest hit” by the economic shutdown necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This hit has and continues to be both financial and operational in nature. Since March, municipalities have declared states of emergency, redeployed resources, contained costs (including hiring freezes), and rightly prioritized the immediate needs of stakeholders. Given these pressures, municipalities have not had the capacity to work on meeting the 2021 deadline in O. Reg. 588/17 and as we are in a second wave and a return to a modified stage 2 in some parts of the Province with no end in sight and the possibility of extended restrictions elsewhere, it is unlikely that current capacity challenges will be resolved in the short-term.
We are also concerned that revenue losses in some municipalities will result in re-evaluations of capital plans, including AM plans. AM planning completed during a period of high revenue uncertainty is unlikely to be very reliable. Plans done after a revenue re-evaluation post COVID provides confidence that AM plans have taken into account the COVID impacts and that they are more up to date and robust.

Similar to the Public Sector Accounting Board’s one-year deferral of the effective date of upcoming standards, MFOA recommends a one-year extension of all upcoming deadlines in O. Reg. 588/17. In the short-term, an extension will help municipalities focus on pandemic management. In the long-term, extending timelines will ensure municipalities can produce meaningful work that embodies the spirit of AM that reflects new post COVID realities.

Throughout the pandemic, we have seen how much can be achieved when municipalities and the provincial government work together to achieve a common goal. Should you wish to follow up on this letter, please contact MFOA Executive Director, Donna Herridge (donna@mfoa.on.ca).

Sincerely,

Trevor Pinn, CPA, CA
President

Cc. Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The following resolution was passed by the Council of the Township of Conmee at its regular meeting on January 26th 2021:

Resolution No. 2021-022
Moved by: Councillor Arnold
Seconded by: Councillor MacMaster

WHEREAS duly elected Officials of a Municipality, or a Township are expected to be above reproach and to conduct themselves with integrity, truth, justice, honesty, transparency and courtesy.

AND WHEREAS there are people of dubious character who have a Criminal Record, having been convicted of a Federal Offence of any of the Federal Statutes of Canada, but not limited to the Criminal Code or Narcotic Control Act, who are currently on Council of a Municipality or have let their name stand for election for Mayor, Reeve or Councillor as a municipal candidate.

NOT WITHSTANDING the provisions of the Ontario Human Rights Code

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Conmee lobby the Provincial Government to amend The Municipal Act and Municipal Elections Act, as may be, so that people with a criminal record who have not had their record cleared from the RCMP Data Base by order of the Governor General of Canada, be prohibited from becoming a candidate in municipal elections.

AND THAT an elected local government official be disqualified from office upon conviction of a serious criminal offense and must resign

AND THAT Council of the Township of Conmee direct the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Attorney General Doug Downey, Solicitor-General Sylvia Jones, Minister of Municipal Affairs Steve Clark, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipal Association, Northern Ontario Municipal Association, Thunder Bay District Municipal League, MPP Judith Monteith-Farrell, and all Ontario municipalities

CARRIED
The Corporation of the Township of Pelee  
Regular Meeting of Council  
COUNCIL RESOLUTION  

Date: February 22, 2021

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“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Pelee hereby receives Report No 2021 – 04 EC from the Drainage Superintendent dated February 18, 2021 regarding the New Maintenance Schedule for the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 and direct administration to schedule the Meeting to Consider the Big Marsh Drain No. 4 at the March 22, 2021 Pelee Council Meeting.”

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MAYOR-Raymond Durocher  
CAO/Clerk-Janice Hensel

The above is a certified to be true copy of resolution number 2021 –

Janice Hensel  
CAO/Clerk
The Corporation of the Township of Pelee
Regular Meeting of Council
COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Date: February 22, 2021

| Resolution 2021 – | Moved by: | Seconded by: |

“Be it Resolved that the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby consents to the following item:

i. Disbursements as at February 18, 2021 in the amount of $29,877.94.”

RESOLUTION RESULT | RECORDED VOTE
--- | ---
CARRIED | YES NO
DEFEATED |
DEFERRED |
REFERRED |
PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED |
RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT) |
WITHDRAWN |
MAYOR-Raymond Durocher |
CAO/Clerk-Janice Hensel |

The above is a certified to be true copy of resolution number 2021 –

Janice Hensel
CAO/Clerk
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PELEE

BY-LAW: 2021 – 05

"CONFIRMATION OF PROCEEDINGS"

(February 22nd, 2021)

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council

WHEREAS the Municipal Act 2001, as amended, states that the powers of a municipal corporation are to be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Pelee wishes to confirm the proceedings and business conducted by Council;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Pelee does hereby enact as follows:

1. That the action of the Council at its Council meeting held on the 22nd day of February, 2021 in respect to each motion, resolution and other action passed and taken by Council is hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; save and except resolutions resulting from closed meetings.

2. That the Mayor and the proper Officers are hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents as may be necessary and the Clerk is authorized and directed to affix the Corporate Seal to all such documents.

3. That this by-law shall be cited as the “Confirmation of Proceedings By-law” (February 22nd, 2021)

4. That this by-law shall come into force and take effect on the date of passing thereof.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS 22nd day of February, 2021.

_________________________________
MAYOR, Raymond Durocher

____________________
CAO/Clerk, Janice Hensel