



July 17, 2025 Council Highlights

Rip Current Presentation

Council received a presentation from Nathan MacIntyre on Understanding Rip Currents. This topic is important as Bayham's East Beach and provincial park beach each experience rip currents. The presentation explained the difference between a rip current, riptide, and undertow, and suggested ways to improve communication and education-related collaboration both locally and across the County on rip currents. The presentation has been shared with the Municipality's Waterfront Advisory Committee.

Councillor Motion re Harassment

Councillor Emerson presented a motion on harassment of municipal staff and representatives. While aimed mostly towards protecting staff from harassment and abuse, the motion also includes council, contractors, and volunteers, and specifically addresses matters in writing and on social media.

The motion was adopted, and staff will be investigating options within municipal policy to enhance protections against unacceptable conduct toward municipal representatives.

Residential Building Height

There was a lot of discussion regarding residential building heights in the R1 and R2 zones. Council received a delegation on the topic, requesting that Council increase the Maximum Building Height in the R1 and R2 zones from 7.0 metres to 10.5 metres. Council then received a joint Report from the Planning Coordinator and Fire Chief. The Report identified operational concerns regarding residential buildings over 7.0 metres, and recommended that the status quo be maintained.

Council opted for a middle ground, and passed a motion to increase the maximum height in the R1 and R2 zones to 8.0 metres. Staff will be proceeding with a housekeeping zoning by-law amendment over the coming months.

The Report also included the option to refer discussion on the acquisition of a single-axle aerial pumper truck to the 2026-2035 Capital Budget in October. This option was not supported by Council.

Development Applications

Council received three (3) reports regarding development applications:

- Consent Application E45-25 2757886 Ontario Inc. (Neil Hiebert) 9407 Elgin Street
- Consent Application E43-25 Dan Froese Farms Plank Road
- Rezoning Application ZBA-15/25 Nezezon Howlett 46 Chapel Street

Council recommended both consent applications for approval to Elgin County Land Division Committee. The rezoning was to remove two Holding Provisions on the subject lands as a condition of a previously-approved consent application. Council approved the rezoning and the by-law was adopted later in the meeting.

Q2 Reports

Staff presented three Q2 2025 Reports to Council:

- Q2 Drainage
- Q2 Building
- Q2 Finance

Drainage maintenance was steady in Q2, whereas building activity was down compared to budget projections and Q2 2024. The Treasurer noted that municipal total revenues and expenditures were in line with expectations for half way through 2025, and received direction from Council to include as a part of the Q3 Finance Report an investment approach for the Municipality's cash and reserve balances.

**For further details, view the meeting agenda and minutes [HERE](#)
and watch the YouTube live-stream [HERE](#)**

DATED at the Municipality of Bayham this 18th day of July, 2025.

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