



## May 1, 2025 Council Highlights

### **Development Charges Presentation**

Council received a presentation from Byron Tan (Watson and Associates) regarding development charges. Development charges are a fee levied on new development at the time when a building permit is issued. This ensures that new development is not subsidized by existing landowners.

Bayham already has development charges in place for water and wastewater. These potential new development charges would be for fire services, parks and recreation, and roads.

Council provided some general input on the proposed development charges. A Report will be returning to Council on May 15 for Council to provide additional input so the Background Study can be finalized and published.

### **Additional Well for SCC**

The Manager of Public Works presented a Report regarding an additional well for the Straffordville Community Centre to primarily service the expansion. The current well is insufficient to service a new expansion. Council directed a test well and hydrogeological study be conducted as a part of the installation. The test well will be studied to determine the flow rate, which will then be used to finalize the design for the SCC expansion.

### **Rezoning Applications**

Council received three (3) reports regarding Zoning By-law Amendments:

- Rezoning Application ZBA-07/25 Banman 55541 Main Street
- Rezoning Application ZBA-08/25 North Urban Homes Inc. 9405 Plank Road
- Rezoning Application ZBA-11/25 Beard 55197 Green Line

All three applications were approved by Council. By-laws to authorize the amendments were approved later in the meeting.

### **2026 Municipal Election Method**

Council received for a second time a Report from the Clerk regarding the Method of Vote for the 2026 Municipal Election. This Report was deferred from the April 17, 2025 meeting so councillors could seek additional information prior to making a decision. The Report discussed the historical vote patterns and methods for the

previous Bayham election, and then spoke to the costs associated with various vote methods based on 2026 estimates. Staff recommended proceeding with internet/telephone voting in 2026 to improve election accessibility and reduce overall costs.

While the Report recommended a shift to internet/telephone voting, Council opted to reject this option and instead passed a motion to proceed with traditional paper ballots again in 2026 at a cost of twice the recommended option.

### **Municipal Assistance**

Council received a Report on the first intake of 2025 Municipal Assistance applications. \$9,000 is budgeted for 2025 Municipal Assistance. Staff received financial requests totaling \$12,300.

Council opted to approve facility and material requests for all events. Council decided to not fund the Santa Claus Parades, saving \$3,000. Council pro-rated the remaining financial requests to 80 percent of the requests. \$7,440 was allocated at the meeting, with \$1,560 remaining for the second intake or for municipal usage for matters such as traffic control, if needed.

### **IT Services**

The Clerk presented a Report on IT services, seeking Council's support to re-align our shared service from Elgin County/Stronghold to Zouling Technologies. Zouling Technologies is used by five other lower-tier municipalities in Elgin County including Malahide and Aylmer.

Council supported staff's recommendation, and a by-law and agreement for a two-year term will be brought back to Council at a later date.

### **Second Transfer Payment Agreement – Fire Protection Grant**

The CAO presented a second Report about the Fire Protection Grant and requirement to enter into a transfer payment agreement to additional funds of \$361.73 as a program residual. The funds are to be used to support minor capital upgrades in support of cancer prevention and firefighter safety.

Council adopted a by-law for the transfer payment agreement. The planned minor upgrades to both fire halls will take place in 2025.

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

DATED at the Municipality of Bayham this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

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