



Council Meeting Highlights

April 3, 2018

Delegations

Wayne Fraser

Wayne Fraser from Highland Heights Developments made a donation of \$17, 300 to the Township of Zorra to assist in development of a new full sized soccer pitch at Embro Zorra Community Centre. This will assist in completing this project and will see an irrigation system installed as well as a drainage system.

Chris White

Chris White, President and CEO of ERTH Corporation, presented a cheque in them amount of \$17, 500 as part a solar panel project at Thamesford District Recreation Centre and Embro Zorra Community Centre. This project will see solar panels installed on both roofs to generate almost half of a megawatt of power per year or enough hydro to power 55 homes per year.

Over the life of the 20-year contract the Township will receive almost \$250,000 in rent from ERTH. ERTH will also benefit by receiving payments from the Province for generating electricity to sell back into the grid.

The Township is a shareholder in ERTH so this project will not only be financially beneficial for both parties but also environmentally responsible. Zorra has undertaken many “green” initiatives over the past several years such as retrofitting streetlights to energy efficient LED fixtures, relamping municipal facilities to LED’s, installing electric vehicle charging stations at the Municipal Office and partnering with the County of Oxford to install one at Thamesford Library and Resource Centre.

Brian Donlevy

Brian Donlevy appeared before Council seeking support from the Township for the Cancer Society Relay for Life on June 8. Mr. Donlevy provided insight on his own battle with cancer and journey that he has gone through.

Public Meetings

Maple Corner Farms (Arjan Haanstra), 256733 25th Line

The applicant is the MDS provisions of the Zoning By-law to reduce the minimum distance separation requirement from the nearest residential dwelling from 327 m to 265 m to permit construction of a new dairy barn. Council, sitting as Committee of Adjustment, approved the application.

Department Reports

Fire

Zorra Fire & Emergency Services have responded to 13 calls in March and a total of 67 year to date. For the same period in 2017, the Fire Service responded to 51 calls.

Recreation

The March Break Camp in Embro was a success with 21 families having an average of 17 children per day. Partnerships with Zorra Caledonian Society, Brooksdale 4-H and Zorra Fire and



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Emergency Services were an excellent source of community building and provided great programming for the children.

Council authorized calling of tenders for a spray pad and skate board project in Thamesford. The Water and Wheels Committee has been working diligently on fundraising for this project and has also applied for a Trillium Foundation Grant.

Building and Drainage

The Building Department issued a total of 21 permits in March and a total of 40 for this year. During the same period in 2017, there were 23 permits issued. There were six new housing permits issued in March bringing the total to 13. During the same period in 2017, there were five new housing starts.

Public Works

Tenders for asphalt patching on Road 64 and three sections on Road 84 recently closed and the tender was awarded to Permanent Paving at a cost of \$59,000. The tender for the shared project with the Town of Ingersoll for reconstruction of North Town Line recently closed and was awarded to Blue-Con Construction. Zorra's portion of the cost is estimated to be \$789,000 down from the budgeted estimate of \$995,000.

Tenders for the pulverizing, repaving and placement of gravel shouldering for Road 60 from Ingersoll town limits to 27th Line also recently closed and the tender was awarded to Capital Paving at a cost of \$210,000.

FARM 911: The Emily Project

Further to a delegation at a previous meeting, Council approved a request waive fees for the installation of 911 signs at vacant farm properties and other remote areas of the Township not having buildings. This will aid first responders in locating properties should an emergency occur.

Next Meeting

The next Council meeting is to be held on April 17, 2018, at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.