

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

TUESDAY,
JUNE 27, 2023

IN THIS ISSUE:

Leading with Excellence:
Inspector Jennifer Neamtz Takes
the Helm of Elgin County OPP

Building Hope: Hospice of Elgin
Plans to Bring Compassionate
Care to Our Community

Terrace Lodge Fundraising
Report Unveils Community's
Generosity

Navigating Land Use and
Building Regulations in the
Municipality of Bayham

Long-Term Care Homes Update

CAO & Engineer Recruitment

LEADING WITH EXCELLENCE: INSPECTOR JENNIFER NEAMTZ TAKES THE HELM OF ELGIN COUNTY OPP

Elgin County Council warmly welcomed Inspector Jennifer Neamtz as the new Detachment Commander of Elgin County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

Inspector Neamtz officially assumed command on June 6, 2023, following her stint as the Interim Detachment Commander at Norfolk County.

With 18 years of experience in Haldimand County and the Peterborough area, Inspector Neamtz has also served as Detachment Commander in the remote northern Indigenous community of Pikangikum, where she earned the 2020 Ontario Women in Law Enforcement Award for developing a community-based suicide prevention program.



In her address to Council, Inspector Neamtz expressed her eagerness to work together in the coming years and welcomed the opportunity to speak with Councillors at any time to better understand the pulse of the Elgin County community.

BUILDING HOPE: HOSPICE OF ELGIN PLANS TO BRING COMPASSIONATE CARE TO OUR COMMUNITY

During the recent Elgin County Council meeting, Laura Sherwood, Director of Hospice Partnership for Hospice of Elgin, presented a comprehensive update on the progress made towards establishing a hospice in our local community.

Ms. Sherwood emphasized the urgent need for a hospice in Elgin County, given its aging demographic, gaps in the healthcare system, and the mounting pressure on end-of-life care services.

Since the last update in 2019, Hospice of Elgin has acquired a centrally located property at 8 South Edgeware Road, which is expected to open its doors in 2024. The hospice will offer more than just beds, but a cottage-like environment with a palliative care clinic, family suites, children's space, and ten private suites with balconies.



Conceptual Drawing for Hospice of Elgin

It is estimated that the hospice will provide annual care for 500 individuals and families, create job opportunities for several people, and rely on the support of 200 volunteers from the community. The hospice will help provide care where and when individuals need it.

Council members directed staff to consider Hospice of Elgin's request for \$300K/year for four years during the 2024 budget deliberations.

TERRACE LODGE FUNDRAISING REPORT UNVEILS COMMUNITY'S GENEROSITY

Councillor Dominique Giguère, Chair of the Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Fundraising Committee presented Council with the 2022 Annual Comforts of Home Campaign Fundraising Report. This report provides a summary of the Fundraising Committee's 2022 activities and accomplishments.

Councillor Giguère encouraged her fellow Council members to share the fundraising opportunities with their friends, families, and community groups to continue the journey towards reaching 2023's fundraising goals.

NAVIGATING LAND USE AND BUILDING REGULATIONS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAYHAM

On April 20, 2023, the Municipality of Bayham's Council passed OPA No. 32. This amendment aims to add a new section to the Municipality's OP, specifically Section 2.1.5, which grants site-specific permission for an electrical services business to operate as an on-farm diversified use.

However, the establishment should be within a building that is not larger than 520 square metres. Moreover, the amendment proposes a redesignation of the lands from "Agriculture" to "Site Specific Agriculture" to accommodate the intended changes. It is worth noting that the applicant constructed the proposed use, including a single detached dwelling, without obtaining the necessary planning and building permissions. As a result, the applicant submitted the proposed OPA to legalize the use of the property.

Staff from the Municipality of Bayham have recommended rejecting the application due to its inconsistency with the Provincial Policy Statement and failure to comply with the intent of Bayham's Official Plan.

Elgin County Council directed staff to work with local municipal partners to investigate ways to promote adherence to the approved building inspection process.

LONG-TERM CARE HOMES UPDATE

Michele Harris, Director of Homes & Seniors Services presented Council with three reports related to Elgin's three (3) Long-Term Care Homes (Homes).

Hiring of Additional Administrative Staff

Elgin's three (3) Homes will be implementing a new software to assist with scheduling and robocall, beginning this September. As a result, this implementation process has demonstrated the need to hire additional administrative staff support for training, set up, testing and implementation of the software. Council approved continuing the current temporary part-time administrative support position for seven (7) more months.



Homes Policy & Procedure Manual Updates

Elgin County Homes and Seniors Services policy and procedure manuals are regularly reviewed to ensure their alignment and compliance with current Ministry of Long-Term Care legislation. The Fixing Long-Term Care Act Phase II Regulations were recently released and are now in force. As a result, all Homes policies and procedures that focus on staffing qualifications, medication management and drug administration, and the resident experience, have been updated.

COVID-19 Policy Updates

In March, Administration policy “1.35 Visitors and Residents Absences During a Pandemic” was updated to support the removal of visitor COVID-19 vaccination requirements with a shift to strongly encouraging vaccination including medically recommended booster doses.

Seeing as there has not been an increase in COVID-19 cases/outbreaks across the Homes since March 2023, Council approved updating policy 2.10 Immunization – Staff COVID-19 to remove the mandatory vaccination requirement for staff with a shift to strongly encouraging COVID-19 vaccination including medically recommended boosters.

It should be noted that if there are future provincial directives related to COVID-19 vaccination, staff will return to Council with updated information.

CAO & ENGINEER RECRUITMENT

Elgin County Council directed staff to proceed with recruiting for a permanent CAO and a County Engineer.

For the complete June 27, 2023, County Council Agenda Package, please visit the Elgin County [website](#).

MISSED A MEETING...

To watch previous Council Meetings, please visit our [YouTube page](#) or read our past [Council Highlights](#).

STAY CONNECTED WITH US



@ELGINCOUNTYADMIN



ELGINCOUNTY.CA