



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

TUESDAY,
JULY 25, 2023

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COUNTY COUNCIL APPROVES INNOVATIVE OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT FOR VIBRANT GROWTH IN AYLMER

The Acting Manager of Planning for Elgin presented County Council with Official Plan Amendment (OPA) No. 23 for the Town of Aylmer's Official Plan.

This amendment adds a Special Policy Area to re-designate the subject lands from "Low Density Residential" to "Special Policy Area Medium Density Residential 3". This change will allow for a general commercial (office) use on the ground floor of the building and permit up to six residential dwelling units in the rest of the building.

County Council approved this amendment as staff confirmed that it meets all policy and regulatory requirements.



*Please note that this is not an actual rendering of the changes proposed to the subject lands.

A TRANSPARENT APPROACH: UNDERSTANDING ELGIN COUNTY'S FEE CHANGES

Every year, Elgin's Management Team and County staff evaluate the fees and charges for administrative activities in each department to ensure that they reflect the cost of materials, activities, and services. County Council has approved the following list of fee changes from the previous year:

- Additional charge for lost and damaged Yoto players at Elgin County Library Branches
- An increase to the fees associated with room rentals at the County Administration Building, and an increase to the Single Move Overweight Permit Fee to reflect cost recovery
- A rate change for services provided by the Barber/Hairdresser at Terrace Lodge (one of Elgin's three (3) Long Term Care Homes)
- A change to research fees from \$50.00/hour to a cost recovery basis to align with the provisions of the shared services agreement.
- A reimbursement for additional costs incurred for professional services related to technical studies/reports determined necessary by the Manager of Planning
- Tourism Membership fees have been eliminated as the fees are now contained within the department budget.
- Provincial Offences fees have increased to recover costs associated with the preparation of transcripts.

COMMUNITY SAFETY IN FOCUS: ELGIN COUNTY AND OPP TO EXTEND POLICING AGREEMENT



The agreement between Elgin County and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) concerning policing services for six Municipalities will come to an end on December 31, 2023.

County Council has granted approval for the Elgin Group Policing Agreement to be sent to the local Councils in Bayham, Malahide, Central Elgin, Southwold, Dutton-Dunwich, and West Elgin to approve the agreement for an additional two years.

REVITALIZING HEALTH: STRENGTHENING SWPH AMIDST COVID-19 CHALLENGE

The Southwestern Public Health (SWPH) catchment area has been experiencing a decline in population health due to Covid-19. As a result, SWPH's Board of Health has approved additional investments by the Ministry of Health and its Municipalities, as outlined in their Further Investments in Public Health Priorities Report.

The County of Elgin is required to provide SWPH with an extra levy of \$61,254. In response, Council has agreed to allocate \$15,313.50 per month, effective September 1, 2023.

FUELING SAFETY: ELGIN TO COLLABORATE WITH MUNICIPAL PARTNERS TO TACKLE LEGACY OIL & GAS HAZARDS

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has allocated \$7.5 million in funding to municipalities to manage the hazards caused by legacy oil and gas wells and subsurface gas mitigation. County Council has instructed staff to collaborate with Local Municipal Partners in order to create a submission package for funding through the Legacy Oil & Gas Wells Municipal Transfer Payment Program.



*Map of Abandoned Oil Wells

ELGIN COUNTY BACKS BAYHAM IN STORM WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

The Municipality of Bayham requested a letter of support from Elgin County to accompany their application to the Disaster Mitigation Adaption Fund. County Council directed staff to generate a letter of support to assist the Municipality of Bayham's efforts in attaining funding to help offset the costs of replacing storm water infrastructure in Port Burwell.

For the complete July 25, 2023, County Council Agenda Package, please visit the Elgin County [website](#).