



Township of Georgian Bluffs Special Council Minutes

**June 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Council Chambers
Township Administration Offices
177964 Grey Road 18, RR#3, Owen Sound ON N4K 5N5**

Members Present: Mayor Sue Carleton
Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn
Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle
Councillor Rick Winters
Councillor Tobin Day
Councillor Isaac Shouldice

Members Absent: Councillor Ryan Thompson

Staff Present: Brittany Drury, Deputy CAO/Director of Corporate Services
Carly Craig, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Samantha Buchanan, Treasurer
Niall Loble, Chief Administrative Officer
Michael Benner, Director of Development and Infrastructure
Nicole Courtney, Deputy Treasurer
Brian Anderson, Acting Deputy Treasurer

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1. Call to Order

Mayor Sue Carleton called the meeting at 9:10 a.m. following brief technical difficulties.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

Mayor Sue Carleton opened the meeting with the land acknowledgement statement.

3. Approval of Agenda/Additions to the Agenda

RES2024-132

Moved By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

5. Strategic Session

RES2024-133

Moved By: Councillor Rick Winters

Seconded By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

That the By-Law 2019-125 - Procedure By-Law be waived to allow Council to hold a strategic session regarding Township fees and charges; and

That Council of the Township of Georgian Bluffs hereby moves into a strategic session at 9:11 a.m.

Carried

5.1 Fees and Charges

The Treasurer provided an overview of the following: [PowerPoint Presentation \(escribemeetings.com\)](#). She noted the objective was for Council to discuss proposed user fees and provide direction to staff to prepare a Draft User Fee Policy.

Members of Council provided comments throughout the session highlighting the importance of consultation, comparisons, and asking questions of staff and their respective departments.

Councillor Isaac Shouldice left the meeting at 10:25 a.m. and returned at 10:27 a.m.

Council took a brief recess at 10:30 a.m. and returned at 10:41 a.m.

To watch the full fees and charges discussion visit: [Strategic Session - June 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. \(youtube.com\)](#)

RES2024-133

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

Seconded By: Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn

That Council of the Township of Georgian Bluffs move back into its regular session at 12:03 p.m.

Carried

Following Council returning to regular session, the following motion was presented regarding the discussion throughout the strategic session:

RES2024-134

Moved By: Councillor Rick Winters

Seconded By: Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn

That in drafting the Fees and Charges Policy, staff be directed to consider the following goals and objectives of Council:

- 1. Ensure the principles of affordability, fairness, and equity .**
- 2. Consideration of fee types for Georgian Bluffs residents vs. non-residents.**
- 3. Consideration of rate subsidies for facilities for registered not-for-profit and youth sports organizations.**
- 4. Ensure our fees are competitive with direct urban/rural mix comparators with similar population and services.**
- 5. Consider incentives such as reduced fees for climate and environmental renovations and upgrades.**
- 6. Consider upcoming changes to waste collection and maintain a fee for these services.**

7. Aim to decrease the burden on the tax base for parks and recreational user fees, at a target of 20% and consider increasing public drop-in fees.
8. Introduce a cap on boat launch passes that are available to residents only and make remaining launch passes be available to non-residents on a first come first served basis.
9. Investigate whether booking outdoor spaces such as pavilions is suitable for the Township.
10. Investigate cemetery fees and charges and opportunities to decrease the tax burden.
11. Maintain the pay-by incentive for dog tag fees.
12. Investigate opportunities for police and fire user fees.
13. Aim for a 100% recuperating rate for the Short-Term Accommodations licencing program.
14. Consider including annual CPI increases for inflation; and

That the areas parks and recreation, planning and engineering, and police and fire be prioritized in 2025.

Carried

RES2024-135

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

Seconded By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

That Council recess for lunch at 12:14 p.m.

Carried

Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn and Councillor Isaac Shouldice left the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

Council returned from lunch at 1:00 p.m.

6. Closed Session

RES2024-136

Moved By: Councillor Rick Winters

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

That Council waive the Procedure By-Law and recording requirement of the Closed Session Policy due to technology limitations required to facilitate the training session.

Carried

RES2024-137

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

Seconded By: Councillor Rick Winters

That the Council of the Township of Georgian Bluffs move into closed session at 1:01 p.m. with the CAO, Deputy CAO/Director of Corporate Services, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk, Director of Infrastructure and Development, and Kim Vogel of Leaderability Consulting remaining in the room for:

6.1 The purpose of educating or training the members (pursuant to section 239(3.1) of the Municipal Act, 2001) - Leadership Workshop

Carried

Council returned to open session at 4:19 p.m.

Mayor Sue Carleton reported out of closed session that Council moved into closed session for the purpose of educating and training members. As a result of closed session discussions, training was completed.

7. Confirming By-law

RES2024-138

Moved By: Councillor Tobin Day

Seconded By: Councillor Rick Winters

That By-law No. 2024-036, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Special Council meeting on June 17, 2024, be read a first, second and third time, finally passed, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, sealed with the Seal of the Corporation and engrossed in the By-law Book.

Carried

8. Date of Next Regular Meeting/Adjournment

Committee of the Whole will meet as regularly scheduled on June 19, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle

Seconded By: Councillor Tobin Day

That the meeting be adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Carried

Mayor, Sue Carleton

Clerk, Carly Craig