



# **Township of Georgian Bluffs**

## **Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**December 6, 2023, 5:00 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers**  
**Township Administration Offices**  
**177964 Grey Road 18, RR#3, Owen Sound ON N4K 5N5**

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

Members Absent: Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn  
Councillor Ryan Thompson

Staff Present: Brittany Drury, Director of Corporate Services  
Carly Craig, Acting Clerk  
Samantha Buchanan, Treasurer  
Niall Lobley, Acting CAO/Director of Community and  
Environmental Services  
Hailey Thomson, Communications Specialist

**This document can be made available in other accessible formats or with  
communications supports as soon as practicable and upon request.**

---

### **1. Call to Order**

Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### **2. Approval of Agenda/Additions to the Agenda**

COW2023-144

Moved By: Councillor Rick Winters

Seconded By: Councillor Tobin Day

**That item 9.2.2 – Letter of Support Grey Sauble Conservation Authority – Climate-Resilient Coastal Communities be heard following item 7.2.1 – Tim Lanthier – Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Draft 2024 Budget.**

**That the agenda be approved as amended.**

Approved

**3. Land Acknowledgment Statement**

Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle opened the meeting with the land acknowledgement statement.

**4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

None declared.

**5. Announcements**

Councillor Tobin Day acknowledged National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Deputy Mayor Grant Pringle expanded on this and noted the importance of caring for our neighbours and the importance of fostering a safe and respectful environment.

Mayor Sue Carleton thanked staff for the tree lighting on Friday, December 1, 2023, at the Shallow Lake Arena. She reminded residents about the Non-Motorized Parade in Kemble on Sunday, December 10th.

**6. Public Hearings**

Nil.

**7. Delegations/Public Question Period**

**7.1 Items On The Agenda**

**7.1.1 Food Cyclers - Farah Sherifdeen**

Farah Sherifdeen, the Municipal Programs Coordinator for Food Cyclers Science, provided a presentation. She provided an overview of the program which focuses on food waste diversion and their partnership with over 100 municipal partners. She provided an overview of the pilot program results for Georgian Bluffs, encompassing 100 households from July to September.

Results of the pilot program included:

- Reduction in the use of garbage bags
- An increased awareness of food waste
- 98.7% participants to continue the use
- An overall 4.5 out of 5 rating of the program
- 2.79 kilograms of food waste diverted, per year, per household

#### 7.1.2 CAO2023-12 - Short Term Accommodations Review and Next Steps

Juan Marzial registered to provide comments. He indicated that he was a member of the STA Working Group through the Township and is an STA operator. He noted the importance of STA's for businesses and accommodations for visitors. He hopes to continue to work with the Township.

Calvin Confer registered to provide comments. He noted that there are other accommodations in the Township that are options for visitors if needed. Further, the consideration of an owner-occupied process. He provided options and ideas to Council.

Ann Dumyn registered to provide comments. She noted the importance of providing accommodation options for individuals visiting the Township.

### 7.2 Items Not On The Agenda

#### 7.2.1 Tim Lanthier - Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Draft 2024 Budget

Tim Lanthier provided an overview of the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) and 2024 Draft Budget. Highlights included:

- GSCA's mission to promote sustainable management and leadership processes to enhance environmental awareness.
- The proposed increase across 8 member municipalities includes the proposed Category 1 and general levy increase of \$78,939 and Category 3 levy increase for 2024 of \$4,601, for a total of \$83,541.
- An overall increase of \$10,402 from 2023, to a total of \$220,725 for Georgian Bluffs.

- the GSCA Board of Directors is scheduled to meet on December 19th to confirm the budget.

He responded to questions of Council, noting that possible administrative building upgrades are not included in the 2024 budget.

#### 7.2.2 CES2023-27 - Letter of Support for Grey Sauble Conservation Authority - Climate-Resilient Coastal Communities

Tim Lanthier noted the partnership with Nottawasaga Conservation Authority, to undertake a regionally significant project focusing on the Georgian Bay coastline and hazards. As a result, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority is looking for support from municipalities and the Saugeen Ojibway Nation to forward to Natural Resources Canada for grant funding.

COW2023-145

Moved By: Councillor Tobin Day

Seconded By: Councillor Rick Winters

**That the Mayor be authorized to sign a letter of support to the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority in support of a funding application to Natural Resources Canada.**

Approved

## 8. Correspondence

Nil

## 9. Staff Reports

### 9.1 Corporate Services

#### 9.1.1 COR2023-52 - Water Rates

The Treasurer provided an overview of the proposed rates.

Questions and comments from Council included:

- Consideration of the Township's water system fees independently, rather than compared to neighbouring municipalities.
- The timeline of the Township's Asset Management Plan

- The importance of water being an essential source.
- That a presentation and further information from OCWA is needed.
- Whether there is a system in place to assist residents with the impacts of increases.

Staff noted that the Asset Management Plan will be a late 2024 process but will include water systems in the Township and are hoping for a water rate study in 2025/2026. In the case of unpaid water bills, the balance is transferred to the applicable tax account.

COW2023-146

Moved By: Mayor Sue Carleton

Seconded By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

**That Council approves increasing all Consumption fees by 7.1% to \$3.92 per cubic meter; and**

**That Council approves increase Base fees by 7% for the East Linton, Pottawatomi, and Oxenden Water Systems; and**

**That Council approves a 10% increase to Base fees for the Shallow Lake Water System; and**

**That staff be directed to bring forward a by-law for enactment to the December 13, 2023, Council meeting to be in effect for January 1, 2024.**

Approved

#### 9.1.2 COR2023-53 - Cemetery Fees and Charges

COW2023-147

Moved By: Councillor Rick Winters

Seconded By: Councillor Tobin Day

**That the revised 2024 Cemetery Fees and Charges as appended to report COR2023-53 be endorsed; and**

**That staff be directed to present the revised fee structure with the 2024 Fees and Charges By-law for adoption.**

Approved

9.1.3 COR2023-54 - Committee of Adjustment Appointments

As Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn and Councillor Ryan Thompson were not present, Council deferred the item to the Council meeting on December 13th.

Moved By: Mayor Sue Carleton

Seconded By: Councillor Tobin Day

**That report COR2023-54 be received; and**

**That staff be directed to present a by-law for enactment at the December 13, 2023, meeting of Council to appoint Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn and Councillor Ryan Thompson to the Committee of Adjustment from December 13, 2023, until December 13, 2024.**

Deferred

COW2023-148

Moved By: Mayor Sue Carleton

Seconded By: Councillor Rick Winters

**That the Procedure By-law be waived to allow for deferral to Council, rather than Committee of the Whole, on December 13, 2023.**

Approved

9.2 Community and Environmental Services

9.2.1 CES2023-26 - Food Cycler Pilot Results

The Acting CAO responded to questions of Council and indicated that staff can investigate the purchasing process, as a way to avoid unsold product.

COW2023-149

Moved By: Councillor Tobin Day

Seconded By: Councillor Rick Winters

**That Council direct staff to include as part of Budget 2024 an extension and expansion of the Foodcycler Pilot to a further 200 households and,**

**That staff provide a further report back in late 2024 on the program.**

Approved

### 9.3 Office of the CAO

#### 9.3.1 CAO2023-12 - Short Term Accommodations Review and Next Steps

The Acting CAO provided a detailed presentation of the Short Term Accommodation research and engagement process: [Topic Title \(escribemeetings.com\)](https://www.escribemeetings.com). He highlighted the increased tourism throughout the Township, survey and engagement results, comparison among neighbouring municipalities, and the work of the Short-Term Accommodation Working Group. As a result, staff hope to continue the work to support residents and the short-term accommodations in the Township.

Council provided comments in support of ensuring that the process continues as a proactive measure.

COW2023-150

Moved By: Councillor Rick Winters

Seconded By: Mayor Sue Carleton

**That, subject to budget approval, staff be directed to develop a bylaw before April, 2024 to regulate short term accommodations and,**

**That, subject to budget approval, staff resources (part time position and/or contracted services) be identified for oversight of a Short-Term Accommodation Program and,**

**That, subject to budget approval, staff bring forward an amendment to the Fees and Services bylaw before April 2024, to implement fees for being a licensed Short-Term Accommodation with the intention to make the program cost neutral.**

Approved

**10. Unfinished Business**

Nil

**11. New Business**

Nil

**12. Notice of Motion**

Mayor Sue Carleton provided a notice of motion regarding Township input in the renewal of the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan.

**13. Closed Session**

Nil

**14. Date of Next Regular Meeting/Adjournment**

Special Council – CAO Recruitment is scheduled for December 11, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Moved By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

Seconded By: Councillor Rick Winters

**That the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

Approved

---

Mayor, Sue Carleton

---

Acting Clerk, Carly Craig