

Stratford Town Crier

Town Crier, January 7, 2023

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedules

CHANGES TO SET FINES FOR OVERNIGHT PARKING AND OBSTRUCTION OF SNOW CLEARING

To help enhance the City's overnight parking and winter maintenance strategies, Stratford City Council approved updates on August 8, 2022, to the City's Traffic and Parking By-law to prohibit parking in a manner that obstructs municipal snow clearing operations. In doing so, Council also approved an increase to the set fines for overnight parking. Effective immediately, parking in a manner which obstructs municipal snow clearing operations and/or parking overnight (between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.) will each carry a set fine of \$80, or \$60 voluntary payment if paid within 7 days.

Drivers are reminded that overnight parking in the City of Stratford is not permitted on any roadway, shoulder, or City parking lot between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., unless otherwise designated. The City of Stratford also has a winter maintenance strategy in place to provide safety and mobility to motorists and pedestrians. Vehicles parked on the road overnight and during snowfall events often cause difficulty for snow clearing and winter maintenance activities.

For questions regarding this or other parking enforcement matters, please contact the Clerk's Office at 519-271-0250 extension 5237.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO BUSINESS LICENSING BY-LAW 187-2004

Stratford City Council will hold a public meeting on **Monday, January 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**, to hear all interested persons with respect to amendments proposed to the Business Licensing By-law 187-2004. The purpose of the amendment is to increase the minimum commercial general liability requirement from \$2 million to \$5 million, and that such requirements should apply to all business license types covered under the by-law. This amendment is being proposed in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001.

This will be an electronic meeting. A link to watch the meeting live will be provided on the agenda, which will be posted to the City's website. A video of the meeting will also be posted to the City's website once available.

For those persons who wish to participate orally at the public meeting, please contact the City Clerk at clerks@stratford.ca no later than **10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 16, 2023. Following confirmation of the request to speak, details for participating in the meeting will be provided.** During the meeting there will be an active chat function where any member of the public can provide written comments during the meeting. The comments received will be read by the moderator during the public comment portion of the public meeting.

Your opinion on this matter is important. Please call, mail, or e-mail your comments to Chris Bantock, Deputy Clerk at:

1 Wellington Street, Stratford, ON, N5A 6W1
cbantock@stratford.ca
519-271-0250 extension 5233

by **Friday, January 6, 2023**, for your comments to be included with the public meeting agenda. Comments received after this date will be included with a future staff report on this matter.

2023 BUDGET MEETINGS

The Finance and Labour Relations Committee will meet on the following dates and times to formulate recommendations to City Council regarding the 2023 draft budget:

| Date | Time | |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| January 10, 2023 | 5:30 p.m. | Electronic Participation |
| January 24, 2023 | 5:30 p.m. | Electronic Participation |
| February 7, 2023 | 5:30 p.m. | TBD |
| February 21, 2023 | 5:30 p.m. | TBD |

For the meetings to be held electronically, members of the public can watch the meeting while in progress by clicking the link that will be available on the agenda. Agendas and minutes of the meeting will be posted as available to the City website under the Council Calendar at <https://calendar.stratford.ca/meetings>.

If you have any questions regarding the 2023 budget process, please contact us by phone at 519-271-0250 Extension 5202, or by email at wpartridge@stratford.ca.

2023 PET TAGS NOW ON SALE

Register your dogs and cats before March 1 and save!

All dogs and cats in Stratford are required to wear a registration tag at all times. Dog and cat tag registrations expire each year on December 31 and are renewed annually to ensure your pet's information is up to date. A tag allows the Humane Society to return your pet to you should they ever be found wandering. The first time your pet is found wandering by the Humane Society, your pet receives a free ride home!

The cost for a pet tag is:

| | Before March 1 | As of March 1 |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| Dog/Cat – sterilized | \$20.00 | \$30.00 |
| Dog/Cat – not sterilized | \$50.00 | \$60.00 |
| Dog or Cat under 1 yr. | \$20.00 | \$20.00 |
| Special Needs Dog - No charge; registration required | | |

Seniors (age 65 or older) receive a discount on annual identification tags. New residents to Stratford may exchange their current identification tag from another municipality at no cost for a current City of Stratford tag (one time only).

Identification tags may be obtained at:

- Stratford-Perth Humane Society – 125 Griffith Road, 519-273-6600

- City Hall, Clerk's Office – by calling 519-271-0250, ext. 5237
- Various Veterinary clinics and pet stores in Stratford (visit the Pet Ownership Page on the City's website for a complete list)

Owners of exotic animals are required by By-law 195-2002 to register their animals. Contact the Humane Society at 519-273-6600 to register your exotic animals. There is no cost for registration.

PARKING REMINDERS

1. **Payment is required** Monday to Saturday* from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (November 1 – March 31)
2. For Sundays and Holidays payment is not required.
3. Those with accessible parking permits that are visibly displayed are not required to pay the meter but must be parked in a legally marked parking spot and abide by posted time limits.
4. Parking is prohibited across from a driveway when the road is less than 28 feet in width
5. Parking rates:
 - \$1.25 per hour off street
 - \$1.50 per hour on street
6. Pay by Plate machines are located in most lots and accept coin, debit and credit cards.
7. The HotSpot app can also be used to pay for parking.

If issues arise when attempting to make payment for parking the best course of action is to try a different meter/machine, try the HotSpot app, or to call the Clerk's Office at 519-271-0250 extension 5230 in order to avoid being ticketed.

*Every motorist on **Saturdays** from December 1, 2022 until April 30, 2023 will receive four (4) hours of free parking in the downtown core. This means that those individuals parking in the downtown core on **Saturdays** during this time will receive 4 hours of free parking and will not be required to pay the meters or machines.

After the 4 hours of free parking, motorists are required to pay the respective meter or machine. Compliance is required with all other provisions of the City's Traffic and Parking By-law including maximum parking time limits.

MEETING SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|---------------|---|-----------|--------------------------|
| Jan 9 | Committee of the Whole In-camera | 5:00 p.m. | Electronic Participation |
| Jan 9 | Regular Council and Standing Committees | 7:00 p.m. | Electronic Participation |
| Jan 10 | Social Services Sub-committee | 4:30 p.m. | Electronic Participation |
| Jan 10 | Finance and Labour Relations Committee – Budget | 5:30 p.m. | Electronic Participation |
| Jan 12 | Community Services Sub-committee | 4:30 p.m. | Electronic Participation |

Please check the City's website for the Sub-committee, Committee, Council and Advisory Committee Meeting Schedules as these schedules are subject to change. Agendas, including a link to watch the meetings while in progress, are available on the City's website.

The Town Crier is also posted on the City's website.

www.stratford.ca