

Town Crier, October 15, 2016

Stratford Town Crier

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedules

**PROPERTY TAX
2016 Final Levy Due Date
October 14, 2016**

ATTENTION STRATFORD PROPERTY OWNERS

For your convenience, property tax payments by cheque may be deposited in the mail box at City Hall, Rear Entrance.

Payment by Interac and on-line/telephone banking is also available. Please make cheques payable to "City of Stratford" and mail to P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1.

Pre-authorized payment is available monthly or quarterly, call to inquire.

Contact: Tax Department, 519-271-0250, ext. 212 or 213.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

This fall, the City of Stratford begins its public appointments process to fill vacancies on City advisory committees and boards. These public appointments are open to Stratford residents and eligible electors who are at least 18 years of age (with the exception of the Youth representatives). Experienced and new members are needed.

You can make a difference by serving on a City advisory committee or board. Advisory committees and boards provide advice to City Council and contribute to the development of policies, programs and initiatives that enhance our quality of life. The community benefits from your expertise, enthusiasm and civic pride. To find out more about the work of these advisory committee and boards, advisory meeting Minutes are available on the City's website.

Persons interested in being appointed to the advisory committees, committees and boards listed below are asked to complete and return no later than **October 24, 2016**, an application form that is available from the City's web site at: www.stratfordcanada.ca or the Clerk's Office, Ground Floor of City Hall, 1 Wellington Street during business hours.

Accessibility Advisory Committee – Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 11:30 am to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities and to provide for involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to full participation in the community. There are positions available for citizen representatives for 2-year terms.

Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) - Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. to serve as a forum for the public to raise their viewpoints on particular active transportation issues and/or other findings and to bring these interests to the attention of the appropriate staff, departments or standing committees. The ATAC also acts to educate, promote and enhance active transportation in the City of Stratford. There are positions available for 2-year terms for citizen representatives, a position for a member of the Avon Trail and a position for a member of the Energy & Environment Committee.

Board of Park Management – Meets on the second Monday of the month at 3:30 p.m. to deal with matters regarding the maintenance, improvement and expansion of the City's park system. There is a position available for the remainder of a 4-year term concurrent with the term of Council.

Communities in Bloom Committee – Meets the first Thursday of the month at 12:00 Noon. The mandate of the Communities in Bloom Committee is:

- To foster civic pride, environmental protection and beautification, through community participation.
- To improve the tidiness, appearance and visual appeal of neighbourhoods, parks, open spaces and streets.
- To focus on environmental awareness and preservation of heritage and culture.
- To co-ordinate a host program as required;
- To be financially sustainable.

There are citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

Energy & Environment Committee – Meets on the second Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. to advise Council relating to waste reduction initiatives, water and energy conservation and preservation of natural areas. There are citizen representative positions for 2-year terms, a position for a member of CARE for a 2 year term and a position for a youth representative for a 1-year term.

Heritage Stratford – Meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. to deal with matters relating to the promotion of architectural designing and conserving of heritage architecture and heritage designations.

There are citizen representative positions for 2-year terms. Special interest groups are invited to request a representative on the Committee at this time.

Spruce Lodge Non-Profit Housing Corporation – Meets on the third Wednesday of each month. The Board is responsible for the governance of Spruce Lodge Non-Profit Housing Corporation which operates social housing units. Housing is made available both to seniors, as well as to adults with disabilities. Rents are set both on a geared-to-income basis as well as on a market rate basis. The Board is comprised of 9 members. There is a citizen position available on the Board for a 2-year term.

Stratford City Centre Business Improvement Area (BIA) – Meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:15 p.m. to deal with matters concerning promotion and beautification of the downtown core. To be eligible for appointment, you must be a downtown property owner or business operator. There is a position available for the remainder of a 4-year term concurrent with the term of Council.

Provincial eligibility requirements for persons who may be appointed to the City Centre Committee are:

- a) persons who own property that is in either the commercial or industrial property class in the designated city centre and who are shown on the last revised assessment roll;
- b) persons who operate businesses, either owning the business premises or holding them under a lease requiring the payment of property taxes;
- c) persons operating businesses in leased space under a gross lease entered into on or before June 11, 1998;
- d) nominees of persons who qualify under (a), (b) or (c).

Incorporated members shall be represented only by a named person so designated in the corporation's official designation letter for that purpose filed with the City of Stratford.

Stratford Town and Gown Advisory Committee - Meets three times per year on the 3rd Thursday of September, February and April at 5:00 p.m. to serve as a forum for the exchange of information on issues and initiatives involving the University of Waterloo, The Corporation of the City of Stratford and the community. There is a position available at this time for an alternate student representative from the University of Waterloo Stratford Campus for a 1-year term to August 31, 2017.

Stratford's of the World - Ontario Committee - Meets periodically throughout the year at the call of the Chair. The mandate of the Stratford's of the World – Ontario Committee is:

- To encourage community partnerships which provide additional opportunities;
- To assist with the recurring reunion program with other Stratfords' every two years
- To ensure that the annual Friendship Flower Bed is updated;
- To be financially sustainable.

There are citizen representative positions available for 2-year terms.

Upper Thames River Conservation Authority – Meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in London to deal with the implementation of a program designed to further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources other than gas, oil, coal and minerals. There is a citizen representative position available for a 3-year term. UTRCA's Board of Directors' Policy Handbook can be found at <http://thamesriver.on.ca/about-us/boardofdirectors/>.

Additional information regarding these advisory committees is available upon request from the City Clerk's Office, 519-271-0250, ext. 237.

Attention: City Clerk
The Corporation of the City of Stratford
City Hall, P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON N5A 6W1

The deadline for receipt of applications is October 24, 2016

Personal information collected through the appointment process is under the Municipal Act and will be used by City Council for the purpose of making appointments to boards and committees. Questions regarding this collection should be directed to the City Clerk, 1 Wellington Street, P.O. Box 818, Stratford, ON N5A 6W1, telephone 519-271-0250, Ext. 235.

2017 BUDGET MEETINGS

The Finance and Labour Relations Committee of Stratford City Council has scheduled the following meetings to review draft 2017 operating and capital departmental budgets, and to formulate recommendations to Council concerning approval of the 2017 budget. All meetings to be held in the City Hall Council Chambers at 5:15 pm.

- Tuesday, October 25, 2016
- Monday, November 7, 2016
- Monday, November 21, 2016
- Wednesday, November 30, 2016
- Monday, December 5, 2016

Members of the public are welcome to attend and observe. Agendas and Minutes will be posted as available to the City website under the event calendar.

As dates, times and location are subject to change, please contact the Office of the Director of Corporate Services if you wish to confirm a meeting date and time, or if you require further information. Updates to the budget meeting schedule will also be posted to the City's website at www.stratfordcanada.ca under 2017 Budget.

Contact information is by phone at 271-0250 ext. 202, or by email at stfdbudget@stratfordcanada.ca.

PURCHASING

The City of Stratford is pleased to announce that in November we will be launching our fully integrated online eProcurement tool which will allow vendors to view, register and submit bids entirely online in one quick, easy and convenient location. We invite vendors to attend a free online webinar where we will provide a hands-on live demonstration of the new tool.

More information is available on the City of Stratford website (www.stratfordcanada.ca) under News and Public Notices including webinar registration information and vendor demo day information.

FLUSHING OF FIRE HYDRANTS

Beginning October 11, 2016, and continuing for approximately four weeks, flushing of fire hydrants will take place within the City of Stratford. Customers could experience some discoloured water. Water quality is not affected by this colouration. Discoloured water will clear, but before doing laundry, please check to see that water has cleared. If you have any questions, please call the City Water Division at 519-271-0250, ext. 222 during business hours.

EVENING HOT MEAL PROGRAMS IN STRATFORD—OPEN TO ALL—DROP IN

Oct 17	The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street	5:15 pm
Oct 24	The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street	5:15 pm

Additional Weekly Meals at The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street. Breakfast is served every Thursday morning at 8:30 am. Seniors' Lunch 60 years and older is served every Wednesday at 11:30 am.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Oct 18	Finance and Labour Relations Sub-committee	4:30 pm	Council Chamber
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Meetings are open to the public to attend with the exception of In-Camera sessions. Agendas can be accessed from the City's web site or may be picked up from the City Clerk's Office the Friday before the scheduled meeting. Also, check the City's web site for the Sub-committee, Standing Committee and Council Meeting Schedules, Agendas, and Advisory Committee Schedules as the schedule is subject to change. The Town Crier is also posted on the City's website.

Telephone: 519-271-0250 www.stratfordcanada.ca TTY: 519-271-5241