

Bayfield Ratepayers' Association

February 15, 2023

2:00 PM – Lions Building

MINUTES

In attendance: Don, John, Godfrey, Brian, Ian and Dave

Approval of Agenda: moved by Dave, seconded by Ian

1. Approval of January 24, 2023 Minutes moved by Ian, seconded by Godfrey
2. Financial Update: Ian Matthew reported we have \$2216.14 in the bank and the e-transfer on our website is operational.
3. Preliminary Bluewater Budget: Dave said we need to make a presentation to Council. A Budget without 2022 Actuals is useless.
Brian will attend the next zoom Operations Budget meeting Feb 23 ,2023 and report.
Ian reviewed numerous itemized portions of the document and found them very inconsistent. One item of Staff Retention is a huge issue, costing Bluewater almost \$1million per year.
Capital Budget is done and there are no funds for the Recreation Plan.
Don recommended that we communicate the highlights of the Budget to our members once it has been approved.
Ian wants to know when we will see 2022 audited financial statements. These will be available on FIROntario web site. The 2021 audited financial statements were just made available, on this web site, for public viewing. Seems like a long time to approve statements.
4. Short Term Rentals: Anette attended Meeting on January 26,2023. Her comments follow:

"On January 26, 2023 the Bluewater Council met to discuss the proposed short term rental by-law and a lot of good suggestions, comments and discussions were had.
The next special meeting of council is scheduled for February 23, 2023 and will include an updated proposed short term by-law for further discussions.
A couple of highlights to mention from this first special meeting:
- council discussed providing all current short term rental property owners with a deadline to register..."Get the application for short term rental in before a certain time and after such time "new licenses" will be

subject to the new rules (short term rental by-laws)", council was unsure of whether "grandfathering" would be the right word to use as everyone would still have to file an application and register and comply with all the conditions for obtaining a licence.

Proposal for "checklist for landlords" to be included with application - keep the liability with the owners instead of having municipality staff inspect each short term rental property prior to obtaining a license.

Noise by-law ..strengthened current noise by-law to include "short form", in other words, enforcement would be made on the spot by ticketing persons which could include, infractions from parking, short term renter issues including noise, dog issues, noise etc.

Below is a link to the first draft of the proposed short term rental by-law."

Proposed Short Term Rental By-law.

<https://bluewater.civicweb.net/document/47738/ACC%20Proposed%20Short%20Term%20Rental%20By-Law.pdf?handle=38847B82EFEB495ABFC4F0814637D0BD>

Grandfathering of current STRs seems to be the way to go for about 60 to 90, then open it.

Licence fee still to be decided. Bluewater still has to figure out the administration costs.

Anette will attend the next meeting and report.

Don introduced the most recent Shoreline Association Bulletin. We need to produce a similar information bulletin for our members.

5. Earth Day: Dave proposed that we should have a policy about whether we should support other NFP with or without financial contributions. Bob felt strongly that we should not be spending our members money (dues) supporting them.

Motion: We implement a policy that we support other NFP organizations but not financially. Moved by Dave, Seconded by Ian, Carried.

6. Secondary Plan: John attended the Zoom Meeting.
Mill Rd and Hwy 21 intersection is still under consideration.
Plan amendments per Bill 23 will go to final Public Meeting re: Zoning by-laws and various changes.
We will send highlights information bulletin to our members. The full information will ultimately be posted on the Bluewater Website.

7. Waste Water Plant: There is no money in the budget this year. Bill 23 has put everything on hold.

8. Membership/ Communications:

Dave M. and Anette have reviewed our web site and determined it needs to be reworked and updated. This is an expensive project. We will see if the web site can be converted to Word Press. Scott Bradford could convert it for \$250.00 to make it easier to use and make it more user friendly. Anette has made contact with Scott Bradford and she will be meeting with him to discuss our current website, conversion and new contents.

Brian reported that the brochure displays have been placed in various locations in the downtown core including the Library, Shop Bike, the Post Office, the Main Street bulletin board, The Albion Hotel and Bayfield Convenience. They will be checked regularly and refilled as necessary, by Brian.

Quarterly e-mail Blast to go to members by March 31,2023.

By then we will have more information on Secondary Plan, Waste Water, Budget and Taxes.

The Blast should include:

Our Mission Statement.

AGM announcement May 21, 2023.

Special announcement 2023/24 Dues are due by June 30, 2023.

Web site is key.

STR – Anette

Secondary Plan, including Waste Water- John

Budget – Dave with help from Ian

The above-mentioned BRA board members should submit their drafts to Don March 9, 2023. Don will then consolidate for the next meeting on the 14th.

9. Adjournment: Moved by Brian, Seconded by Dave. Approved.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2023 2:00 p.m.
At Lions Club with Zoom availability