

# COUNCIL CORNER

*John Hirsch*  
Councillor, Ward 9  
South Marysburgh



## It is Lilac Time

My resolution (seconded by Councillor MacNaughton) expressing the County's strong opposition to the province's Provincial Policy Statement proposals was approved almost unanimously. The lone holdout was Councillor Harrison of North Marysburgh. It went to the Premier, our MPP, cabinet and all 444 Ontario municipalities. So far Belleville has unanimously supported it as well as five other municipalities. I spoke to delegates at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities annual conference and asked all Ontario municipalities to register their support.

Our hope is that if enough municipalities join in their objections that maybe the Province will have a second look at these highly undesirable policies which strip planning power away from us.

### Council News

- Council approved a tender to GFL Environmental to spread biosolids on County farmland.
- Council approved a contract for new fire dispatch system
- Council approved the roads surface treatment and line painting contracts for 2023. The contracts came in under budget.
- Council approved a bylaw to prohibit commercial operations on the Millennium trail
- Council agreed to issue an expression of interest in the former Queen Elizabeth school property in Picton, as well as appointing a committee of councillors to select tenants for the property
- Council approved a bylaw requiring STA owners on private roads to advise clients of potential restricted fire services where roads are not up to standard
- After the resignation of Councillor Roberts, Council appointed yours truly to the Library Board
- Council approved the proposed community grants per recommendations of the County Foundation
- Council approved a tender for a single axle truck with winter implements
- Council approved a plan and cost to correct stormwater drainage around the Picton library
- The Audit Committee which I chair, started work on two initiatives – risk management and project management procedures.

- Council endorsed a housing and homeless plan
- Council approved a Councillor MacNaughton resolution condemning intimate partner violence
- Council approved the Interim Control Bylaw I had posed which temporarily stops development in environmentally sensitive shoreland areas until the already approved Shoreland study is complete

### Coming Up

- Councillor Roberts' motion to have staff report on a proposed way to save 10% on the 2024 Operating budget - options to be considered focus on technological modernization, process improvements and other forms of creative solutions that minimize impact to current service delivery
- Presentation by Quinte Waste on Blue box program extension
- Southern Fire Study presentation
- Terms of settlement with Picton terminals

### Other

There is a number of public consultations going on. They can be found on the Have Your Say website or in County Notices found on the County website home page:

- Parks and Rec Master Plan
- Comprehensive zoning bylaw review
- Development of community 10 year plan

I am continuing my five days a week community email. It has been modified to focus on Covid only in the Saturday edition. The rest of the week it includes timely notices, community events, etc. So if you are not already subscribed, just send me your email address and I will add you to the list of over 300 families.

**If you have not been receiving my email, please look in your junk mail or spam folder as there have been some issues with the County email system.**

I can be reached by phone, text and email.

[jhirsch@pecounty.on.ca](mailto:jhirsch@pecounty.on.ca)

613-846-0046

And don't forget, for immediate service the County help line is available:

613-476-2148 ext. 1023

For complaints, pothole requests, etc. Email:

[info@pecounty.on.ca](mailto:info@pecounty.on.ca)

Or submit a request using the online form on the County website: [www.thecounty.ca](http://www.thecounty.ca)

Bylaw complaints: [bylaw@pecounty.on.ca](mailto:bylaw@pecounty.on.ca)

For weekend or 24 hour situations go to the who to contact page: [www.thecounty.ca/summer-hub/who-to-call/](http://www.thecounty.ca/summer-hub/who-to-call/)