



February 2008

“Whitestone, a Perfect Place to Live, Work and Play”

Members of Council

Mayor, Chris Armstrong 389-3721 mayor.armstrong@whitestone.ca
 Councillor, Bill Church 389-1956 councillor.church@whitestone.ca
 Councillor, Alan Ladd 389-1995 councillor.ladd@whitestone.ca
 Councillor, Joe Lamb 389-9542 councillor.lamb@whitestone.ca
 or 1-905-333-5951
 Councillor, Morley Moore 389-1328 councillor.moore@whitestone.ca
Note: Councillor, Joe Lamb has been appointed Deputy-Mayor for the Year 2008 in the event of an absence of Mayor, Chris Armstrong.

Public Meeting
Tuesday, April 15, 2008 @ 6:30 pm
Dunchurch Community Centre

To discuss user fees, including, landfill fees, building fees, facility rental fees, etc.

Department Heads

Liliane Nolan, CAO-Clerk
 Floyd Thomson, Facilities Manager
 Nick Thomson, Road Superintendent
 Paul Rossiter, By-Law Enforcement Officer
 Dennis Rowntree, Chief Building Official
 Bob Whitman, Fire Chief
 Tammy Wylie, Treasurer/Deputy-Clerk

Dial 9-1-1
For Police, Fire or Ambulance

Staff

Bruce Brear, Equipment Operator
 Bud Bryant, Landfill Site Attendant
 Melissa Crossman, Secretary/Receptionist
 Greg Kowal, Utility Person/Landfill Site Attendant
 Dale McDonald, Equipment Operator
 Bob Musgrave, Landfill Site Attendant
 Dyanne Roberts, Planning Assistant

October 2007 Survey Results

Would you be prepared for tax increases beyond normal inflation for any of the following:

| | Unwilling | Unsure | Willing |
|--|-----------|--------|---------|
| Roads and Bridges | 74 | 37 | 87 |
| General operating costs | 132 | 40 | 20 |
| Museums | 159 | 27 | 6 |
| Library | 127 | 43 | 29 |
| More municipal ownership of roads | 124 | 31 | 38 |
| Garbage and landfill sites | 64 | 31 | 94 |
| Recreation programs | 128 | 40 | 22 |
| Increased hours at the nursing station | 96 | 35 | 65 |
| Full Time Fire Chief | 131 | 35 | 27 |
| More by-law enforcement | 122 | 37 | 34 |
| Environmental initiatives | 75 | 62 | 62 |
| Local business development | 107 | 50 | 40 |

Important Numbers

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| MTO Patrol Yard | 389-2502 |
| Community Centre in Dunchurch | 389-3211 |
| Maple Island Hall | 389-2350 |
| Dunchurch Fire Hall | 389-3824 |
| Ardbeg Fire Hall | 389-1036 |
| Library | 389-3311 |
| Post Office | 389-2133 |
| Nursing Station | 389-1951 |
| Municipal Office | 389-2466 |
| Roads Garage | 389-2364 |

Council has implemented a new communications policy in order to keep you more informed and be more transparent. Are there any further initiatives that Council could implement to provide better communications?

Please rate the following department in order of importance. (1) being most important (8) being least important

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| General Government | 38 | 11 | 23 | 33 | 24 | 24 | 14 | 20 |
| Fire | 83 | 33 | 30 | 25 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 9 |
| Recreation | 2 | 1 | 11 | 14 | 24 | 26 | 43 | 56 |
| Landfill | 46 | 59 | 39 | 19 | 12 | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| Building | 9 | 11 | 17 | 28 | 32 | 38 | 23 | 27 |
| By-Law Enforcement | 12 | 14 | 15 | 32 | 30 | 20 | 24 | 36 |
| Roads & Bridges | 61 | 48 | 25 | 25 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| Library | 10 | 8 | 13 | 17 | 23 | 14 | 35 | 65 |

Would you consider volunteering for any committee or events for the Municipality

| | | | |
|-----|----|----|-----|
| yes | 39 | no | 143 |
|-----|----|----|-----|

Do you feel Council is dealing with the main priorities of the Municipality?

| | | | |
|-----|-----|----|----|
| yes | 131 | no | 36 |
|-----|-----|----|----|

If not, please provide your comments to assist Council in dealing with priorities during the next twelve (12) months.

Please rate your overall experience dealing with Council and Staff

| | | | | | |
|------|----|--------------|-----|-----------|----|
| poor | 16 | satisfactory | 115 | excellent | 41 |
|------|----|--------------|-----|-----------|----|

Please rate the overall performance of your Council since the 2006 election.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 8 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 26 | 18 | 28 | 51 | 11 | 7 |

Canada Day Youth Award

The Canada Day Youth Award is designed to recognize and reinforce the outstanding achievements and contributions of young people (18 years of age and younger) to their communities and by extension to the betterment of Canada. The following criteria may be useful in making your decision for nomination: community participation, promotion of Canadian values and sustainable development initiatives. For more information on submission criteria or to obtain a nomination form please contact the Municipal Office.

Vandalism

There has been a significant amount of vandalism to the heated change room trailer at the pavilion.

Please be reminded that this trailer has been located there for the benefit of all users to change in and out of skates comfortably.

This is a privilege and will be revoked if such unnecessary acts continue.

What's Happening????

Whitestone Rod & Gun Club

2nd Annual Fishing Derby & Pancake Breakfast – March 8th

Walk-Fit

Mon, Wed & Fri –Dunchurch Hall– 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Royal Canadian Legion

Irish Stew Dinner – March 15th 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Bid Euchre – Mondays @ 7:30 pm

Euchre – Tuesdays @ 8:00 pm & Saturdays @ 1:30 pm

Cribbage – Thursdays @ 8:00 pm

SunnySlope Darts – Fridays @ 8:00 pm

Horseraces – March 1st & April 5th & 19th

Meat Draws – March 1st & 15th & April 5th & 19th

Recycling

Two streams of recycling are available as follows:

Recyclable Fibres – Newspapers, magazines, catalogues, telephone books, corrugated cardboard, boxboard egg cartons, mixed papers, office papers and brown paper bags.

Recyclable Containers – Glass bottles and jars, metal cans or containers, plastic bottles, aluminum trays and foil.

Upcoming Council Meetings

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Regular Council | Monday, March 3 rd |
| Committee of the Whole | Tuesday, March 11 th |
| Regular Council | Monday, March 17 th |
| Regular Council | Tuesday, April 8 th |
| Committee of the Whole | Monday, April 21 st |
| Regular Council | Monday, May 5 th |
| Committee of the Whole | Tuesday, May 13 th |
| Regular Council | Tuesday, May 20 th |

All meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Hagerman Community Centre in Dunchurch unless otherwise stated.

Recreation News

A Committee has been established to organize craft projects and events. These may include workshops, and events such as “Christmas in July” and a 2-day sale in November. At the discretion of the Recreation Committee, items for sale may be required to be hand-crafted.

I am looking for input relating to this area. If anyone is interested in conducting a workshop, attending a workshop or participating in a sale, please contact Jan Hill at 705-389-1091 or kip2@canada.com.

Volunteers are required for all Recreation Committee events and activities. Please contact any member for more information.

Further details are available on the website at www.whitestone.ca

Have you registered for your new library card yet?

By Summer 2008, the Whitestone-Hagerman Memorial Public Library will launch an exciting new feature, the Joint Automation Server Initiative (JASI) for public libraries in Northern Ontario. JASI will bring access to the library catalogue from your home computer. Browse the books and movies, reserve or renew materials, and even read the first chapter of the next book on your must read list.

Caring For Your Sewage System

As outlined in the Official Plan, the Municipality of Whitestone’s objective is to ensure that water supply and sewage services are planned and utilized in accordance with long-term planning and growth management objectives.

The municipality is in the process of researching the possibilities of implementing a sewage re-inspection program. Remember, sewage systems are the responsibility of the property owner. You can contribute to the protection of the ground and surface waters that are very important to all of us with proper knowledge and care of your sewage system.

Check out our website at www.whitestone.ca under the Building Department for care and maintenance tips for your sewage system.

A Message from the Mayor and Members of Council

Well, as we start our second year of Council it was sure great to receive our auditor’s report for 2007 showing a surplus of \$99,000 from our 2007 budget. Council and staff have worked very hard this past year to control expenses and prudently spend your tax dollars. This result is particularly impressive when you consider we started the year with a \$31,000 deficit from 2006. Council is currently deliberating on the 2008 budget and our website would be a good way of monitoring the results of Council’s decisions.

Our Community Development Committee will be focusing its efforts this year on the development of walking trails within our community with proper mapping of proposed trails to be submitted to Council for their approval. This year our Recreation Committee will be looking after our Municipal Recognition of Canada Day on Saturday, June 28th with our traditional fireworks display.

We are as a municipality fortunate to have many volunteer groups in our community providing programs and events for all to enjoy.

Please look at our What’s Happening Section of the Newsletter as there may be some dates that you wish to mark on your calendar.

We have included in this newsletter the results of the Municipal Survey which we conducted last fall. We thank all who participated.

You have provided excellent input which will definitely assist us in our future planning. If you visit our Municipal website at www.whitestone.ca you can also review all the various comments made by all the participants. Speaking of our website we have had it completely updated. It is now handicap accessible and far more user friendly. Anyone wishing to receive agendas, minutes, etc. by electronic format should submit their e-mail address to the municipal office by e-mailing dyanneroberts@whitestone.ca. This is another of our initiatives to keep you informed of what is happening in Whitestone and to improve our regular communication with you.

Council has been informed by Bell Mobility and our MP that the Wah-Wash-Kesh cell tower will be up and running this summer.

Tom Lumley from the MTO has confirmed that the HWY 520 rebuild project is still on for this year with 2.8 km starting from Maple Island and continuing west to be done in 2008 with the balance in the next two years.

By-Law No. 04-2008 to regulate the movement of “All Terrain Vehicles” also known as ATV’s on any highway or road allowances under the control of the Municipality of Whitestone was passed at the Council meeting of January 21, 2008. Therefore, ATV’s will be allowed on all Municipally Maintained Roads with provisions as outlined in By-Law No. 04-2008. Copies can be obtained from the Municipal Website or by contacting the Municipal Office during regular office hours. There are six ATV’s sold for every one snowmobile in Ontario and it is appropriate that we recognize this important activity from both a pleasure aspect and the growing economic impact they have in terms of tourism dollars.

Council has received the soil analysis report for the Farley’s Road Bridge and with that information has prepared a grant application for this year. Staff and Council will be lobbying our province hard to make this a reality.

We are pleased to announce that the Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce is planning to hold their May Board meeting in Whitestone. This is the first time this has occurred and recognizes the need to include the surrounding communities in their planning.

Hope you are enjoying your winter!

The Mayor and Members of Council.