



The Corporation of the Municipality of Whitestone

Addenda

**Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 17, 2024**

In the Dunchurch Community Centre,
Zoom Meeting (Video) and Phone Call

*Every effort is made to record meetings with the exception of the Closed Session matters.
Both the audio and video are posted on the Municipal Website.
The written minutes are the official record of the meeting.*

12 Correspondence

Addition of items

H – Jackie Albrecht and Bryan Smith – email concerning Parking and Trailer By-law (33-2024)

I – Terry and Darlene Connor – email concerning Parking and Trailer By-law (33-2024)

J – Kelly and Grant Rutherford - email concerning Parking and Trailer By-law (33-2024)

From: Jackie Albrecht/Bryan Smith
Date: 2024-09-15 5:27 p.m. (GMT-05:00)
To: mayor.comrie@whitestone.ca
Cc: councillor.bray@whitestone.ca, councillor.lamb@whitestone.ca,
councillor.nash@whitestone.ca, councillor.woods@whitestone.ca
Subject: Shawanaga Lake parking - please read before council meeting on Tuesday

Sept 15, 2024

Attention: Mayor George Comrie
Councillor Janice Bray
Councillor Joe Lamb
Councillor Scott Nash
Councillor Brian Woods

Re: Shawanaga Lake Beach Road Boat Launch Parking

New Bylaw 33-2024

From : Jacqueline Albrecht, [REDACTED]

I own a water access property on Shawanaga Lake. Your recent announcement requiring no long term vehicle and trailer parking, meaning more than 14 days, is unreasonable. You have had no difficulty issuing numerous more building permits for this lake giving you a larger tax base. With increased building comes an increase in traffic, boats, trailers all around the lake including Beach Road and the boat launch. Already the road is too narrow and when people park on both sides it can be a safety issue getting a truck and boat through. Your increased tax base should be able to widen the road with dedicated truck and trailer parking. Perhaps an area for long term parking is needed for owners of water access properties. Otherwise, you cannot expect to charge us the full property tax, as then we cannot use and access our property fully. We purchased this property without any parking bylaw restricting our access. You have issued these building permits so you have to provide the accommodations needed for access. Possibly another boat launch further down the lake can be a solution. Perhaps make public, the extension of Shawanaga Lake Road, to make all of those water access properties, road access can be a solution and also give you a higher tax rate on these properties. This can decrease the truck and trailer parking needed on Beach Road. The new parking lot for cars at the top of beach road is wonderful for cars but has no truck and trailer parking.

It is apparent, there was an issue for you to initiate the 14 day maximum. However, your solution does not address access to those owning water access properties on the lake. We have a right to use our property as much as any road access property and you are denying us these rights. I appreciate you finding a solution to this.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Albrecht

September 10, 2024

Municipality of Whitestone
21 Church St.
Dunchurch, Ontario
P0A 1G0

Re: By-Law #33-2024

Mayor George Comrie, Deputy Mayor Joe Lamb, Councillors Janice Bray, Scott Nash, and Brian Woods.

We are writing to you today to bring your attention to a concern we have relative to your new By-law #33-2024 regulating traffic and control of the parking of vehicles, boats, camping units and trailers within your municipality.

Our names are Terry and Darlene Connor from Victoria Harbour, Ontario. In the year 2000 we purchased property known as [REDACTED], being RP plan [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. The property is also known as Macfie Island and the only access to the property is by boat.

Since owning the property for the past 24 years, we have utilized the Whitestone Resort for launching and parking our vehicle and trailer as well as the Dunchurch Marina. Both have changed ownership a number of times over the years, with the Resort now being privately owned.

For the past number of years we have been launching our 14' aluminum boat at the Church Street location and parking our vehicle and trailer along the fence line on Church Street. When we first started utilizing the boat launch we were advised by the administration staff of the Whitestone Office, we could either park where the nursing station is now built (was vacant at the time) or at the Community Centre. When the building of the nursing station was being completed we were then advised we could park our vehicle and trailer along the fence line of Church Street, which is what we have been doing for the past number of years, we were also advised by staff at that time to place a note in our window with our phone number, so if there were any issues that came up while we were parked in that location, someone would be able to contact us. That is the way your By-Law officer was able to contact me.

Prior to this year, we were only ever up to the cottage on weekends with the exception of two weeks vacation during the summer. However, we retired this year and frequent the cottage for longer periods of time during the months from May to October.

It came to our attention today by your by-law officer Paul Rossiter a new by-law was passed on June 18, 2024 with respect to parking regulations.

It was outlined to us that Parking is permitted along Church Street with restrictions as outlined in section 3.5.1 exceeding 72 hours as well as section 3.8.3 exceeding 14 days annually.

As now retired cottage owners of an island we find ourselves spending a lot of time up north enjoying the great outdoors and our retirement, a lot more than the 14 days per year, or 72 hrs

at a time allotted in your bylaw for parking. This leaves us in a very precarious situation with nowhere for us to park our vehicle/trailer for any extended period of time.

The boat launch and parking area on Church Street is the only option we have as a taxpayer that allows us to get to our cottage. The marina is not an option for us due to the hours of operation which do not fit into our lifestyle being retired, as well as a very costly expense for retirees who also pay land taxes, and the old Whitestone Resort is now owned by a private individual.

Therefore, we respectfully request your consideration to make an exception to section 3.5.1 and 3.8.3 and grant consent as per section 3.4.1 for us to be able to park along the fence line opposite of the Community Centre on Church Street as we have done for many many years! We do not feel that this request would set a precedent or create issues as we seem to be the exception to the rule of having no road access to our cottage as most others do and consent could be utilized as a grandfathered clause.

Kind Regards,

Terry and Darlene Connor
705-734-7753
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: mayor.comrie@whitestone.ca
Sent: Monday, September 16th 2024, 09:44
Subject: Bylaw 33-2024, the Traffic and Parking Bylaw - concerns and considerations

Dear Mayor Comrie

I'm writing to you regarding Bylaw 33-2024, the Traffic and Parking Bylaw, which recently came into effect.

We have concerns over the conditions of the bylaw.

We have a cabin at [REDACTED] that is water access only, and we require use of the boat launch every time we want, or require access to our property. This includes towing our boat to the access point and parking our vehicle and trailer. This bylaw is restricting our access to our property to only 14 days in a calendar year.

We have called the municipality and enquired about parking permits or alternatives for parking, which is a specific requirement for water access properties, and have been informed that there are none. I believe that other municipalities offer such permits for their residents.

In the past we stored a 12 ft aluminum boat in the small boat storage area but it was stolen and we no longer feel that this is a viable option. We have subsequently upgraded to a larger boat that we need to transport to the boat launch and require parking for both vehicle and trailer in order for us to visit our property more than 14 days in a year. These visits are for enjoyment, maintenance and security. In addition, we would also like to spend time in Whitestone at community events and supporting the local industry.

Complicating the issue is that sometimes single cars are parking along Beach Road, occupying space that could be used for vehicle and trailer parking, leaving the car parking at the upper level open. Sometimes any type of parking is on short supply.

I kindly ask that you consider these concerns and requirements for water access properties.

Best Regards

Kelly and Grant Rutherford