



September 19, 2024 Council Highlights

2024 Business Retention and Expansion Program Report Presentation

Carolyn Krahn, Elgin County's Manager of Economic Development and Strategic Initiatives, attended the Council meeting to present the findings of the 2024 Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E) Program.

The presentation provided Council with four main themes and eleven action items that the County will work with Elgin County lower-tier municipalities on to improve county-wide processes and continue to improve retention and expansion strategies for existing businesses in Bayham and Elgin County. The BR+E strategy is intended to be a 'living document' with regular monitoring through business feedback, and updates as required.

The presentation was well-received by Bayham Council.

Declare Lands as Part of the Open Public Highway System – Part of Union Street, Vienna

The Chief Administrative Officer presented a Report to Council on behalf of the Planning Coordinator regarding declaring the extension of Union Street in Vienna part of Bayham's open public highway system

Council was supportive of the recommendation, and a by-law to declare the part of Union Street as a part of Bayham's open public highway system was adopted later in the meeting.

2025 Council Schedule

Council approved the 2025 Council Schedule. Council will continue to meet regularly twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, except for January, July, and August. In these three months, there will only be one meeting each month, on the 3rd Thursday.

Consideration of Additional Lands for Residential Development Purposes

The CAO presented a lengthy Report regarding the possibility of surplusing additional non-core municipal land for residential development purposes.

The Report presented three options to Council:

- The Port Burwell Ball Diamond
- Part of the Corinth Community Park (3-4 lots)
- Part of the Richmond Community Park (1 lot)

From financial and planning perspectives, the Port Burwell Ball Diamond was presented as the best option for consideration. The Ball Diamond has generated little rental revenue over the last three years and surplus would remove a \$200,000 backstop and lighting upgrade from the budget in 2026. The lands are designated for Residential development already, and if sold as a block, could add at least fourteen lots to Port Burwell. The CAO advised that the lots would be on full services, and the Bayham water system needs additional users on the system to offset operating and capital needs.

Council resolved to receive the Report for information. No formal direction was provided to staff to return to Council with additional information on any of the options presented.

Extension of Site Plan Agreement – Max Underhill’s Farm Supply Limited

Council received an Information Report from the CAO regarding the extension of a Site Plan Agreement with Max Underhill’s Farm Supply Limited. The extension is to shift the deadline for completion by six months to provide additional time to complete dry hydrant installation. The CAO entered into the extending agreement on behalf of Council under delegated authority.

**For further details, view the meeting agenda and minutes [HERE](#)
and watch the YouTube live-stream [HERE](#)**

DATED at the Municipality of Bayham this 20th day of September, 2024.

Municipality of Bayham
PO Box 160
56169 Heritage Line
Straffordville, ON N0J 1Y0
Telephone: 519-866-5521