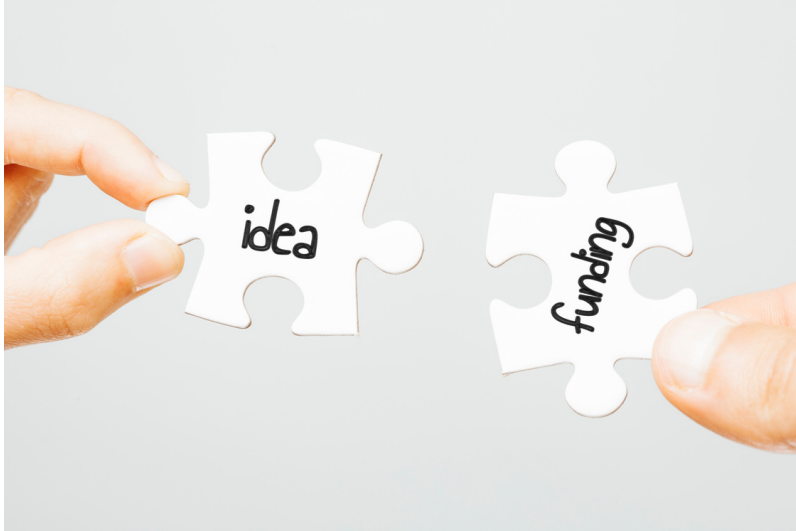


SEPTEMBER 2023

Council Connect

[Council](#) [Planning Council](#) [Committee of the Whole](#)



Municipal Grant Policy

Are you a local group in need of funds for an initiative that supports residents? The Township's recently updated Municipal Grant Policy may be able to provide funding.

Municipal grants are intended to provide a modest level of financial support, up-to \$1,500 per organization (cottage and lake associations, community associations and groups that are united with a common goal) that benefit the residents of the Township of Georgian Bay.

For more information, read the [Municipal Grant Policy](#).

Questions regarding the Municipal Grant Policy should be directed to:

Julie Bouthillette, Director of Finance / Treasurer
info@gbtownship.ca

Any requests over \$1,500 should follow the normal delegation process.

Questions regarding a delegation to Council should be directed to:

Karen Way, Director of Corporate Services / Clerk
clerks@gbtownship.ca



Newsletter Highlights

[Housing Accelerator Fund](#)

[Muskoka Housing Task Force 2.0](#)

[Building Permits](#)

[Water Quality Testing](#)

[Township's Work Plan](#)

[Future Reports](#)

follow us



Attainable Housing: Housing Accelerator Fund

The Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) will provide incentive funding (contributions) for local governments to encourage local initiatives that remove barriers to housing supply, accelerate the growth and supply the development of complete, low-carbon and climate-resilient communities which are affordable, inclusive, equitable and diverse.

The Township of Georgian Bay is applying for funding from the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation to consider attainable housing in the Township. This funding will provide support to local developers to provide attainable units in future builds. Currently, the Township has developers in Port Severn and Honey Harbour who are interested in investing in attainable units.



Muskoka Housing Task Force 2.0

Councillor Graziano along with the Director of Sustainability will represent the Township of Georgian Bay at the District of Muskoka's Muskoka Housing Task Force 2.0, which has been developed to identify and implement strategies and support the creation and long-term maintenance of housing across the District with a focus on innovation, advocacy, and collaboration, to advance the goals of the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan.

To learn more about this initiative, please visit the District's site at:

www.engagemuskoka.ca/muskoka-housing-task-force



Building Permits

In 2022 the Building Department issued 540 permits and conducted 1,777 inspections. To see the comparison from 2019 up-to August 2023, check out the [Building Services Report 2023-160](#) or to learn more about the Septic Re-Inspection Program.



Water Quality Testing

Historically, water quality testing has been completed by multiple agencies and/or individuals. Moving forward, the plan is to have all bodies of water across the Township, including Georgian Bay and the inland lakes, be tested by one firm. The Township has retained Generations Effect to prepare the RFP that will seek a provider to conduct, sample, and test the water quality in our Township from 2024 to 2026.

Council and staff value the hard work of volunteers for the sample collection over the years, we are beyond grateful for your dedication to the preservation of our waterways.

By-laws Enacted

- 2023-086 Fees and Charges By-law Amendments (Appendix D – Cemetery)
- 2023-087 MacTier Arena Advisory Committee Appointments
- 2023-088 Sustainable Communities Advisory Group Appointments
- 2023-089 Confirming Council September 11
- 2023-090 ZBA Z23-11 951 Honey Harbour Road (Bressette)
- 2023-091 Confirming Planning Council September 12

Upcoming Meetings

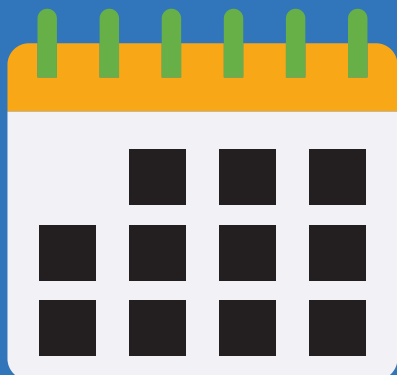
Council
Tuesday, October 10 at 9:00 AM

Planning Council
Wednesday, October 11 at 9:00 AM

Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, October 11 at 9:00 AM

Committee of Adjustment
Friday, October 13 at 10:00 AM

Special Council (Budget)
Tuesday, October 17 at 9:00 AM



Township's Work Plan

In July 2023, Council approved the Strategic Plan which adopted the following pillars:

- Environmental Protection
- Fiscal Responsibilities and Technology Efficiencies
- Streamline Planning Policies and Procedures
- Customer Experience and Community Engagement
- District and Township Relationship
- Engage with Indigenous Communities

With these objectives top of mind, staff presented Council with a twelve (12) month work plan that outlines projects being undertaken by staff that support the initiatives and goals of Council. Projects include:

- Minors Bay parking lot expansion
- Implement accounting/virtual city hall software TownSuite
- Short-term rentals (STR) program
- Updates to Official Plan
- Upgrades to MacTier Union Cemetery
- Streamline water quality testing across Township
- Subsidized FoodCyclers for residents
- Marina bin sites solutions



Future Reports

Council provided staff direction to investigate and report on the following topics that will be coming to future agendas for consideration:

- The Indemnification By-law is twenty-years old and in need of updating, staff have been directed to prepare options for revision including indemnity under the Code of Conduct.
- Council have requested several changes to the Procedure By-law, a draft was reviewed at Committee of the Whole, with an updated version being presented in October 2023.
- Committee Terms of Reference Policy was updated to include provisions for working groups, this will be ratified by Council in October 2023.