



# Council News & Notes

From Thursday, January 12, 2023

## Upcoming Meetings

**Budget Meeting**  
January 18th 1 pm

Regular  
Council Meeting

**Council Meeting**  
January 25th 6 pm

Regular  
Council Meeting

[View Calendar >>](#)

## Mayors' Message

Happy New Year to all our residents, family and friends. Your Council wishes you a 2023 filled with great joy and many wonderful adventures. We think of those who have encountered much hardship in 2022 hoping that 2023 is an opportunity for new beginnings and prosperity.

And speaking of hardship we turn to our residents who experienced the devastating EF2 tornado on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Lorne Brooker from CJBQ radio extended an invitation for me to talk on his December 15<sup>th</sup> show about the Tornado, it's destruction, it's impact on our residents and the lack of federal and provincial government response. This was not intended as a shame and blame exercise although it was interpreted by some to be so. Our goal was to bring to the forefront after nearly five months the fear, the anger and the physical, financial and mental toll that this tornado has had and continues to have on our residents.

After that interview I received a call from our MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman who I am grateful to say is here with us at this morning's Council Meeting. We had a robust yet cordial discussion on my interview. We talked about accessing the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements program. She noted that the request for funding from this disaster relief program must be initiated by the Province.

With regards to the Province, prior to our December 13<sup>th</sup> Tornado Town Hall, our previous Mayor Jo-Anne Albert, and Hastings County Wardens Rick Phillips & Bob Mullin sent numerous letters to the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing (MMA&H) and the Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNR&F). Although we did hear from the latter on October 26th we still had not heard anything from the MMA&H. On December 21st MPP Ric Bresee announced on the Lorne Brooker show that our residents are not eligible to receive any assistance from the Disaster Relief Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) because we did not meet the "cumulative requirement to activate the program". Two days later we received an email from the Ministry confirming MPP Bresee's announcement.

Although it is time to put any perceived or real miscommunications or misunderstandings aside and to move forward, we want our residents to know that we will continue to lobby on their behalf. Our next opportunity to revisit the Provincial Government's position is at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference where we have requested two delegations. We received word yesterday that our delegation for the MNR&F has been approved. We await word from MMA&H. We have been diligently preparing our submission. We will also provide a docu-video prepared by resident Paul Kite focusing on the July 24th tornado and its victims. I have asked our CAO to send all recent correspondence as well as links to the interviews to all those affected.

On December 14<sup>th</sup> I chaired the Hastings County Enterprise Facilitation Board Meeting. On December 15<sup>th</sup> I attended the Belleville General Hospital Foundation Board meeting and then was

off to serve at the Tweed Community Dinner with fellow Councillors. On December 16<sup>th</sup> I was interviewed by Tim Durkin from Quinte News. On the 17<sup>th</sup> I attended the Turning Pointe Dance Studio's recital at the Marble Arts Centre - yet another aspect of the arts thriving in our municipality. On the 18<sup>th</sup> Chuck and I participated in the Christmas Light Judging Contest. No easy decision with so many beautiful entries. On January 9<sup>th</sup> we kicked off budget deliberations focusing on capital expenditures. On January 11<sup>th</sup> I attended my first County Community & Human Services meeting.

In closing we would like to congratulate the U12 Tweed Hawks team on their International Silver Stick gold-medal win after a marathon of five over-time periods – well done!!

### MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman

MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman attended the Meeting to introduce herself to the new Council and to discuss local priorities. The Mayor and Council welcomed Ms. Kramp-Neuman to the Meeting and advised that her office has been very responsive to requests from Tweed. The MP congratulated the Council Members on their success in getting elected in the 2022 Municipal Election and confirmed that she will always put the needs of her constituents forward in her dealings with all levels of government. She also advised that she has established good working relationships with both sides of the House and will always look for answers. She encouraged Council to always let her office know when we are applying for funding for major projects for support.

### Violence Awareness & Random Acts of Kindness Program

Council Proclaimed the week of March 6 to 12, 2023 as the 27th Annual Violence Awareness & Random Acts of Kindness Week.

### Sled Dog Races - Stoco Lake Lodge

Stoco Lake Lodge will host Sled Dog Races January 28th & 29th, 2023.

### Power Boat Races

Council rescinded a previous Resolution which had approved the request from the Toronto Outboard Racing Club to host their season opening Powerboat Races at Tweed Memorial Park from June 9 to 11, 2023. Council authorized staff to contact the Toronto Outboard Racing Club to negotiate the following changes to their request to host Powerboat Races on Stoco Lake:

1. Change the race date to an earlier date;
2. Place a time restriction on the races to be run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the new race dates; and
3. No overnight camping to be allowed in Tweed Memorial Park.