

Minutes of a Regular General Meeting of the  
Town of Tecumseh Business Improvement Area (TOTBIA)

A Regular General Meeting of the Town of Tecumseh BIA (TOTBIA) Members held as of  
Wednesday, February 17, 2021 held electronically at 6:00 PM.  
Live stream is available on the BIA website at [www.tecumsehbia.com](http://www.tecumsehbia.com)

**(TOTBBM-13-2)**

Call to Order

The meeting is called to order at 6:04 PM by Candice Dennis, Chair.

**(TOTBBM –14-2)**

**Roll Call**

Chair	Candice Dennis
Treasurer	Paul Bistany
Director	Linda Proctor
Director	Jules Champoux
Director	Jim Dowie
Councilor	Andrew Dowie
Councillor	Brian Houston

Regrets:	Director	Jessica Fowler
	Director	Scott Harris
	Director	Joseph Fratangeli

Absent:	Director	Shane Meloche
Minute Taker:	Coordinator	Denise Pelaccia

Guest:

Live Stream:

- **(TOTBBM – 15-2)**
- **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest - No disclosure at this meeting.**
  - **(TOTBBM – 16-2)**
  - **Delegations – No delegations at this meeting.**
  - **(TOTBBM – 17-2)**
  - **Executive Nominations – Executive Nominations**

C. Dennis hands over the meeting to the Coordinator to conduct the nominations of Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer for the remainder of 2021.

5.1. Chair Nomination

Coordinator D. Pelaccia asks all Directors to state name, place of business and a short description of themselves.

D. Pelaccia states Nominations are now open for the position of Chair.

D. Pelaccia hears a nomination and restates the nomination for Chair.

Candice Dennis is nominated for the position of Chair.



That the minutes of the Town of Tecumseh TOTBIA Regular Board of Management Meeting held on December 9, 2020 be approved as distributed.

Approved.

Carried.

## **6.2 Letters From– No letters at this time.**

### **(TOTBBM – 19-2)**

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY Agenda Adoption**

Motion: (BBM-9/21)

Moved by: Candice Dennis

Second by: Paul Bistany

That the financial report for December 2020 be accepted & adopted and to bring in the detailed outstanding payables for the January 2021 Treasurer's report for review.

Approved.

Carried.

### **(TOTBBM – 20-2)**

#### **Reports**

**8.1 Chair Report – C. Dennis has no separate report, discusses issues, and provides feedback with Marketing Committee and Unfinished Business sections.**

#### **8.2 Treasurer Report:**

Tecumseh BIA

2020 Month End Financials

Treasurer's Report for the period ending: 01-31-2021

BIA Operating Account (8111130) Bank Balance stands at: \$2,615.23

Outstanding Cheques see detail page \$(1,444.63)

BIA Ledger Balance stands at: \$1,170.60

BIA Reserve Account - Balance last month \$86,254.69

Interest \$124.53

\$86,379.22

Outstanding Receivables see detail page \$-

WFCU - Share Capital #1 \$85.00

WFCU - Patronage Shares #4 \$60.00

WFCU - Patronage Shares #44 \$10.00

BIA Petty Cash stands at: \$651.05

Deposit Clearing	\$-
Square	\$-
Prepaid Expenses & Deposits	\$2,333.27
Total BIA Current Assets :	\$90,689.14

Tecumseh Dollars	Current Outstanding	\$28,035.00
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Other BIA Liabilities and Equity :	from Xero report	\$62,654.14
Total BIA Liabilities and Equity :	\$90,689.14	

Year To Date Levy Requisition: 2021	1st Quarter @ March 31
	2nd Quarter @ June 30
	3rd Quarter @ September 30
	4th Quarter @ December 31
Total Levy received to Date:	\$-

Tecumseh Business Improvement Area

BIA Operating Account - # 8111130	01/31/2021
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Outstanding Payments

6-04-2020	Payment: Texthelp Inc.	#41270	\$113.36
5-10-2020	Payment: Lacasse SPG	94665	\$649.75
9-11-2020	Payment: Ocean Bottom Soap Company		\$275.00
3-12-2020	Payment: Ocean Bottom Soap Company		\$120.00
25-01-2021	Payment: Ontario BIA Association		\$264.80
29-01-2021	Payment: Denise Pelaccia		\$21.72
			\$1,444.63

Outstanding Receivables

\$0.00

Operating Account - activity

Date	Source Description	Reference	Debit	Credit	Running Balance
	Opening Balance			18,784.61	0.00 18,784.61
01 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Danilo's Enterprises Limited		0.00	1,000.00
					17,784.61
04 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Blackburn Radio Inc.	21703	0.00	979.34 16,805.27
04 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Blackburn Radio Inc.	13964	0.00	979.34 15,825.93
04 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Blackburn Radio Inc.	21866	0.00	979.34 14,846.59
04 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Kelcom	X9044555	0.00	28.39 14,818.20

04 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Blackburn Radio Inc.	17316	0.00	979.34	13,838.86
06 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Kelcom	X9047738	0.00	40.30	13,798.56
07 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: By The Book	INV-18055	0.00	889.88	12,908.68
08 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Zehrs		0.00	4,350.00	8,558.68
08 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Shoppers Drug Mart		0.00	1,090.00	
						7,468.68
08 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: By The Book	INV-17993	0.00	45.20	7,423.48
08 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Petty Cash		0.00	822.06	6,601.42
11 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Tabouli by Eddy's		0.00	225.00	6,376.42
12 Jan 2021	Receive Money	Deposit		400.00	0.00	6,776.42
14 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Denise Pelaccia	PPE 01.09.2021		0.00	1,240.13
						5,536.29
14 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Receiver General - Payroll Dec 2020			0.00	2,302.79
						3,233.50
15 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Rock Mortgage Group	110048845125		0.00	42.35
						3,191.15
20 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: 1786795 Ontario Inc.		0.00	345.00	2,846.15
21 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Classic Displays	2020-623	0.00	73.45	2,772.70
22 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Cogeco	110049036989	0.00	90.28	2,682.42
25 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Ontario BIA Association		0.00	264.80	2,417.62
28 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Denise Pelaccia	PPE 01.23.2021		0.00	1,240.13
						1,177.49
29 Jan 2021	Payable Payment	Payment: Denise Pelaccia		0.00	21.72	1,155.77
31 Jan 2021	Receive Money	WFCU		14.83	0.00	1,170.60
Total BIA Operating Account - WFCU				414.83	18,028.84	1,170.60
Closing Balance				1,170.60	0.00	1,170.60
Total				414.83	18,028.84	(17,614.01)

#### Financial Report:

Motion: (BBM-10/21)

Moved by: Linda Proctor

Second by: Jules Champoux

### 8.3 Coordinator Report – D. Pelaccia reports the following:

#### Financial Information

Windsor Rock Gym - April 10, 2019 deposit for rock wall of \$295.00 is non-refundable; it will be carried over to be used in 2021.

Beach Grove Golf & Country Club – January 2020 deposit for 2020 Christmas Party is carried over to November.

#### Membership Statistics

##### NEW MEMBERS/BUSINESSES IN THE BIA:

- New businesses/members in the BIA area:
  - o Junction Box's- 13039 Tecumseh Rd. E. (Grand Opening TBD)
  - o Genki Sushi Noodle- 400 Manning Rd. (Grand Opening- Monday, February 22nd at 6:00 PM)
  - o Presotea- 13462 Tecumseh Rd. E. (Grand Opening TBD)

##### MEMBERS PREPARING TO OPEN:

- Hurry Curry- 400 Manning Rd. (Grand Opening TBD)
- Zara Designer Boutique- 13300 Tecumseh Rd. E. (Grand Opening TBD)
- Oven 360- 12000 Tecumseh Rd. E., Unit 5 (Grand Opening TBD)
- Imperial Gifts and Décor- 12000 Tecumseh Rd. E., Unit UNKNOWN (Grand Opening- Thursday, April 1st, 2021)
- ENDERMÉ- 500 Manning Rd., Unit 4 (Grand Opening TBD)
- Unique Gallery Art and Coffee Shop- 1614 Lesperance Rd. (Tecumseh Towne Centre- Exact Address in Plaza TBD & Grand Opening TBD)

**MEMBERS PREPARING TO CLOSE:**

- o Pete's Pipes- Moving to 11962 Tecumseh Rd. E. (Grand Opening TBD)
- o Amloze Pizza- 1130 Lesperance Rd. (Business for sale, but not moving locations.)

**Current Status and Total Number of Members by sector:**

\*January 2021 VS. February 2021

- o Open – 409 VS. 412
- o Associate Members – 3 VS. 4
- o Empty Units/Bldgs. – 45 VS. 47
- o Empty Lots/– 16 VS. 16
- o Empty Commercial Houses – 12 VS. 12
- o Property Owners – 140 (27 Plazas) VS. 140 (27 Plazas)
- o Grand Total – 613 VS. 622

Arts/Entertainment	3 VS. 4
Dining	58 VS. 59
Health & Wellness	137 VS. 139
Home/Commercial Services	14 VS. 14
Professional Services	63 VS. 63
Retail	127 VS. 128
Vacant Lots	16 VS. 16
Property Owners	140 VS. 140
Vacant Units/Bldgs.	45 VS. 46
Residential/Commercial Houses	12 VS. 12
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS (VOTE)</b>	<b>610 VS. 622</b>

**Associate Membership Program**

New Associate Members:

- o Moni Hair Boutique- 1825 Manning Rd., Unit 300
- o ONESource Moving Solutions- 425 Leffler Dr.

Potential New Members (pending due to COVID):

- o Crossroads Canine Academy & Daycamp- 284 E. Pike Creek Rd.
- o Lombardi Barbershop- 25 Amy Croft Dr., Unit #25B
- o Sherwin Williams Paint- 35 Amy Croft Dr., Unit 9
- o Silver Tee Golf- 1360 Highway #3
- o The Cheese Bar- 25 Amy Croft Dr., Unit 29-30B

**BIA Social Media:**

- o Current Followers-
- o Facebook: 1,458 VS. 1,534

- o Instagram: 417 VS. 500
- o Twitter: 535 VS. 548
- Have posted on all social media platforms that Tecumseh Dollar sales for January 2021 are postponed until further notice due to ongoing province-wide shut down.
- Recorded “Quarantine Questionnaire’s” via Zoom, edited them, posted them to all social media platforms- Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and have tagged the businesses involved in each episode for them to share on their own pages.
- Have posted advertisements for “The Ultimate Late Night Date Night Giveaway with the Tecumseh BIA” to build anticipation. Thirty businesses have gotten involved and have donated well-over \$1500 worth of door prizes to be raffled off via Facebook. This draw will help gain more awareness to our Members and the BIA.
- Have shared multiple social media posts by Members in our BIA on all social media platforms- Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, even on weekends and at night.
- Called around to all of our businesses to offer the opportunity to be involved in a “Valentine’s Day Menu Guide” promotion to help advertise for their Valentine’s Day sales or specials. This will help promote who is still open, how to access their products and services during Covid/the provincial-wide shut down and what products and services they have in general.
- Started to advertise for “Gallery Without Walls 2021” on all social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, post about it twice a week- Monday and Friday and have emailed and called local schools to spread the word. All of the information about instructions and rules can be found on our website under the “EVENTS” tab and select “Gallery Without Walls”.

**HST Rebate:**

Nothing at this time.

• **8.4 Council Report – \*REPORTS FOR DECEMBER 2020 & JANUARY 2021:**

For Immediate Release

**December 10, 2020**

Tecumseh closes Town Hall and Arena offices to walk-in service

As a result of the increase in COVID-19 cases in Windsor-Essex, and the anticipated move to Ontario’s GREY zone of the Provincial COVID Response Framework, Town Hall and the Tecumseh Arena Offices are closed to walk-in service effective at the end of business (4:30 p.m.), December 10, 2020. The Town’s Fire Halls remain closed to walk-in traffic. Service remains available by phone, e-mail and drop-box. Appointment-based in-person services will be permitted until end of day, December 15th to allow people to complete in-process transactions.

“Unfortunately with the increased cases over the last two weeks and the number of cases still under investigation, we have made the difficult decision to close our customer service offices to walk-ins,” said Gary McNamara, Mayor of Tecumseh. “We have to do what’s best to protect our community and our staff. We are still working and are available to provide services, by other means rather than face-to-face.”

Please contact us by phone at 519-735-2184 or use our website at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca) to access municipal information and services. For Arena services, please call 519-735-4756 and press 0 for assistance.

Phones will continue to be answered during regular business hours of 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday to Friday and online service requests remain available at all times. Specific instructions follow:

Emergency services remain available 24/7.

The following services will be available via appointment by calling 519-735-2184 Ext. 109, until end of business day on Tuesday, December 15:

- Marriage licenses
- Lottery Applications and Reporting
- Commissioning of documents
- Taxi Cab Drivers' Licenses
- Urban Hen Applications
- Snow and Leaf Angel Registrations

Burial permit and registration services will continue to be available by appointment only.

Anyone wishing to drop off payments may use the secure drop box located beside the main entrance door off McNorton Street with information clearly outlined (e.g. name, address, tax roll number, application and/or other identifying details to assist staff). Please do not place cash payments in the drop-box.

Licenses, permits, applications and registration may be filled out at home/work and dropped off completed or scanned and e-mailed to the Town.

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## NEWS RELEASE

917 Lesperance Rd. | Tecumseh, ON | N8N 1W9 | P: (519) 735-2184 | F: (519) 735-6712

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Weekly services like waste collection and recycling continue and our Public Works Crews continue to monitor and maintain the water and sewer systems. Building inspections will continue subject to making appointments by phone at 519-735-2184 Ext. 103 and application of appropriate COVID protocols on job sites.

The Town asks for patience and understanding during this unprecedented situation as we work to continue to deliver municipal services.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca), Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook (Town of Tecumseh).

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Program Contacts:

Marg Misek-Evans, Chief Administrative Officer, 519-735-2184 Ext. 111

Wade Bondy, Fire Chief and Community Emergency Management Coordinator, 519-979-4041 Ext. 210

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For Immediate Release

**December 18, 2020**

Tecumseh Holiday Season Hours and Service

Town Hall and Tecumseh Arena Holiday Hours

All Town facilities are closed to walk-in traffic until further notice. Staff at both Town Hall and Tecumseh Arena are available by phone or email during regular office hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday until end of day December 23, 2020. If you require assistance from Town Staff, we request that you call 519-735-2184 (Town Hall) or 519-735-4756, ext. 0 (Tecumseh Arena).

The office will be closed Thursday, December 24, 2020, through to and including Friday, January 1, 2021. Regular office hours resume on Monday, January 4, 2021.

Please visit the Town's website for online services. Payments may be dropped off at the Town Hall using the secure drop box located beside the main entrance door off McNorton Street with information clearly outlined (e.g. name, address, tax roll number, application and/or other identifying details to assist staff). Licenses, permits and registration may be filled out at home/work and dropped off completed or scanned and e-mailed to the Town.

Council Meetings

Tecumseh Council meets in regular session on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings are currently being held virtually and live streamed on the Town's website. The December 22,



2020 meeting of Council has been cancelled. Council will next meet on Tuesday, January 12, 2021. For further information, relating to Council meetings including agendas, minutes and meeting procedures, please visit the Town's website or contact the Clerk's Office.

#### Emergency Services

Tecumseh's Fire and Rescue Services, Essex EMS and the Essex OPP are providing 24/7 emergency response to the Town. In an emergency, please call 9-1-1. For non-emergent police matters, please call the OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

In the event of a power emergency, please contact Essex Powerlines at 519-561-6366 or visit their dedicated outages web page at <https://essexpowerlines.ca/outages/>.

For after hours emergent public works matters, please contact 519-259-4350 and water or wastewater matters, contact 519-971-2866.

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#### NEWS RELEASE

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#### Recycling and Garbage Collection

Garbage collection will take place as regularly scheduled on Thursday, December 24. Recycling collection on Friday, December 25 has been moved to Saturday, December 26.

The 2020 Town Collection Calendar can be found on the Town's website ([Tecumseh.ca/waste\\_collection](http://Tecumseh.ca/waste_collection)). The 2021 calendars will be delivered in January 2021.

Page 2 of the Collection Calendar contains guidance on sorting recycling materials before placing them in your red (paper only) and blue bins. Questions about recycling collection, can be directed to EWSWA at 1-800-265-9625.

Green For Life (GFL) will not collect waste outside of an acceptable waste container. Page 3 of the EWSWA Collection Calendar provides guidance on acceptable waste containers and waste. For questions and concerns regarding waste collection, please contact at 519-948-8126.

#### Tecumseh Transit Service

Tecumseh Transit Service will not be running on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For the balance of the holidays, it will operate on its normal 6:00 am to 6:00 pm schedule. Masks are mandatory. Information on transit services, including the bus schedule and route map, is available on the Town's website.

Wishing you a Safe Holiday and Healthy New Year!

Council and Administration at the Town of Tecumseh wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday season. Please continue to follow Provincial and WECHU COVID-19 public health regulations and guidance. Stay safe.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca), Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook (Town of Tecumseh).

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Media Contact: Laura Moy, Director Corporate Services & Clerk Phone: 519-735-2184, ext. 116

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For Immediate Release

#### **January 12, 2021**

Council Connect: Highlights from the January 12, 2021 meeting of Council

Tecumseh Town Council met electronically this evening and here are the highlights from the Regular Council Meeting:

OPP Policing Contract and Building Licence Agreement: Council received two reports—one on the OPP Policing Contract and one on the Building Licence Agreement for the OPP in Tecumseh—and authorized Administration to finalize and execute an agreement with the OPP for January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023 based on continuation of the current level of service. The three-year agreement is in anticipation that three years should be sufficient for the new Community Safety and Policing Act to come into force. Under the new

legislation, policing agreements are no longer required for OPP services. The Building Licence Agreement formalizes the arrangements with the OPP to use the Tecumseh building on Lesperance Road, which is owned by the Town. Administration will now provide the agreement to the Town's solicitor for final review, with execution to follow.

100th Anniversary of Tecumseh: Council approved the striking of a Mayor's Task Force to plan a celebration event to be held in 2022 marking the Town's 100th Anniversary. The Town of Tecumseh and the Fire Service will celebrate 100 years in 2021 however, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is recommended that an in-person celebration be held in 2022 when it is expected it will be safer to have public gatherings. Further details will be provided at a future Council meeting when the Task Force is set.

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program—COVID-19 Resilience Stream: Council received a report on the updated application the Town made to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program—COVID-19 Resilience Stream. At the November 24, 2020 meeting of Council, two project submissions to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program—COVID-19 Resilience Stream for a total value of \$342,607 were approved. Since that time, Administration has learned that the High Water Rescue Vehicle requested is not eligible for the program. The application was revised to maximize the allocation available with eligible projects. The projects included in the submission are:

- Replace 10 (all original) HVAC units at Town Hall with energy-efficient units to provide better air quality/filtration and enhance total building air exchange to reduce the spread of airborne disease;
- Add 10 portable air filtration units to enhance filtration of airborne contaminants in other Town facilities;
- Install 10 –3ft counter-top glass barriers and 12 electronic wayfinding signs/meeting room displays in Town Hall to enhance physical distancing between staff and the public and to reduce the need for person-to-person interaction;
- Install an electronic on-line appointment booking system to be used Town-wide (all departments) to reduce person-to-person interaction while continuing to provide customer service; and,
- Install an electronic payment system for bulk water purchases to provide a convenient and remote method of payment for bulk water purchases, thereby reducing the need for person-to-person interaction.

Fire Services Capital Works Plan: Council approved spending \$45,300 on new equipment in 2021 as part of the five-year capital works plan for equipment. The items to be purchased next year include a phone pager, helmets, leather boots, bunker gear and locker replacements at Station 1.

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Arena and Pool 5-Year Capital Works Plan: Council approved spending approximately \$606,000 million on various projects as part of the 5-year Capital Works Plan. The arena and leisure pool works for 2021 are as follows:

- Arena: Electrical Upgrades; HVAC Units; Lighting Upgrades; and, Roof Refurbishment.
- Leisure Pool: pump and chlorine tank replacement and annual repairs.

Sale of Town Lands: Council adopted a by-law to authorize an amendment to the Agreement of Purchase and Sale with Briday to extend the timelines in the Agreement to fulfill the conditions of sale of the McColl Lands. COVID-19 has created uncertainties in relation to timelines and this is anticipated to be the case well into 2021.

Council will meet on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 4 p.m. for budget deliberations with an additional meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 14 at 4 p.m. if needed.

The next Regular Meeting of Council is Tuesday, January 26, 2021. The meeting is scheduled to be held electronically. The live stream will be available on our website at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca). The agenda for the Regular meeting will be made available on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca), Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh](http://www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh)).

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Media Contact:

Lesley Reeves, Manager Strategic Initiatives, 519-735-2184 Ext. 150

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For Immediate Release

**January 13, 2021**

**Tecumseh Completes Budget Deliberations**

Tecumseh Town Council completed budget deliberations this evening with the 2021 municipal tax rate increase of 2.46%. The tax rate was lowered by larger than estimated assessment growth for 2020.

The 2021 Business Plan and Budget includes an increase of \$968,000 to the general tax levy. Of this, \$566,000 will go to reserves to support the Town's capital projects now and in the future. The remaining 40% of the tax increase is for operations. The increase will result in a property tax increase of approximately \$51 annually on a \$250,000 home. The average single family dwelling in Tecumseh has an assessed value of about \$250,000 (based on MPAC's 2016 current value assessment, which is the basis for the 2017-2021 tax years).

"As we saw in 2020, much of our revenue sources were impacted by the closure of facilities and reduction in programs," said Gary McNamara, Mayor of Tecumseh. "Our 2021 budget also includes major capital projects for flood mitigation, road improvements and moving many of our major infrastructure projects forward."

2021 will see the start of approximately \$26.3 million in capital projects including: improvements to Manning Road; improvements at the Lesperance Road/VIA Rail tracks; design and construction in the Manning Road Secondary Plan Area; and, a new Pickleball Complex.

The big multi-year project getting underway in 2021 is the replacement of the P.J. Cecile, Scully and St. Marks pumping stations and associated storm water main works for flood mitigation. That project is expected to cost the Town approximately \$26 million with up to \$10.7 million of that cost coming from the Federal Government's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

Council is expected to give final approval for the 2021 Budget By-law at the Regular Meeting of Council on January 26, 2021.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca), Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook (Town of Tecumseh).

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Program Contacts:

Tom Kitsos, Director Financial Services and Chief Financial Officer 519-735-2184 Ext. 125

Media Contact:

Lesley Reeves, Manager Strategic Initiatives, 519-735-2184 Ext. 150

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For Immediate Release

**January 14, 2021**

**Tecumseh Completes Budget Deliberations**

Tecumseh Town Council completed budget deliberations this evening with a 2021 blended tax rate increase of 1.48%. The municipal tax rate increase was lowered to 2.46% by larger than estimated assessment growth for 2020.

The 2021 Business Plan and Budget includes an increase of \$968,000 to the general tax levy. Of this, \$566,000 will go to reserves to support the Town's capital projects now and in the future. The remaining 40% of the tax increase is for operations. The increase will result in a property tax increase of approximately \$51 annually on a \$250,000 home. The average single family dwelling in Tecumseh has an assessed value of about \$250,000 (based on MPAC's 2016 current value assessment, which is the basis for the 2017-2021 tax years).

"As we saw in 2020, much of our revenue sources were impacted by the closure of facilities and reduction in programs," said Gary McNamara, Mayor of Tecumseh. "Our 2021 budget also includes major capital projects for flood mitigation, road improvements and moving many of our major infrastructure projects forward."

2021 will see the start of approximately \$26.3 million in capital projects including: improvements to Manning Road; improvements at the Lesperance Road/VIA Rail tracks; design and construction in the Manning Road Secondary Plan Area; and, a new Pickleball Complex.

The big multi-year project getting underway in 2021 is the replacement of the P.J. Cecile, Scully and St. Marks pumping stations and associated storm water main works for flood mitigation. That project is expected to cost the Town approximately \$26 million with up to \$10.7 million of that cost coming from the Federal Government's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

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Program Contacts:

Tom Kitsos, Director Financial Services and Chief Financial Officer 519-735-2184 Ext. 125

Media Contact:

Lesley Reeves, Manager Strategic Initiatives, 519-735-2184 Ext. 150\

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For Immediate Release

**January 26, 2021**

Council Connect: Highlights from the January 26, 2021 meetings of Council

Tecumseh Town Council met electronically this evening and here are the highlights:

New Official Plan: Council held a Public Meeting to receive further public comment on the draft New Official Plan following public consultation opportunities hosted in November 2020. Administration has compiled comments received to date and will make any additional amendments to the draft following the meeting. The final draft of the New Official Plan will be provided to Council for consideration at a future Regular Meeting of Council.

2020 Open and Closed Meetings: Council received the annual report on the total number of Council meetings held last year. In 2020, Council held 22 Regular Meetings, 10 Public Meetings, six Special Meetings and six In-Camera Meetings. Due to COVID-19, in-person meetings were moved to electronic meetings as of March 24, 2020. From January to March 2020, 13 in-person meetings were held with the remainder of the year seeing 31 held electronically. The number of Public Council Meetings and Special Council Meetings decreased in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Property Taxes: Council received the year-end report on the 2020 Taxes Receivable which outlined the status of outstanding property taxes for all of Tecumseh. Tax receivable as a percentage of tax levy decreased slightly to 4.0% at December 2020 (from 4.3% in 2019). This percentage is below the Town's historical normal in the 6% - 8% range from 2009 to 2013. Current tax arrears status in Tecumseh is reflective of the norm throughout Essex County and western Ontario municipalities in general.

2020 Radar Speed Surveys: Council received a report on radar speed surveys conducted in 2020. Public Works and Environmental Services deployed radar speed trailers to 13 locations on 11 streets in Town and found five streets where motorists were traveling well over the speed limit according to the 85th percentile data. This information as well as the details about time of day and direction of traffic were immediately provided to the OPP for enforcement purposes. Radar speed surveys will continue in areas known for speeding and in response to complaints as they arise with results shared with the OPP for enforcement purposes.

Drainage Act Comments: Council received the report on the Town's comments on the Drainage Act

Regulatory Proposal. Administration will now submit these comments to Ontario's Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Farming and Rural Affairs is seeking input on a proposal to streamline the Drainage Act approval process and follows a report to Council in February 2020.

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NEWS RELEASE

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**2021 Business Plan and Budget:** Council adopted a by-law on the 2021 Business Plan and Budget. Following budget deliberations at the January 14, 2021 Special Meeting of Council, the 2021 Business Plan and Budget was approved with the 2021 blended tax rate increase set at 1.48% resulting in an increase of approximately \$51 annually on a \$250,000 home. The 2021 Business Plan and Budget includes an increase of \$968,000 to the general tax levy with \$566,000 going to support the Town's capital projects. More than \$26 million in projects are planned for 2021.

**Water Servicing Agreement:** Council adopted a by-law to accept the Minutes of Settlement from the mediation and arbitration process with the Windsor Utilities Commission with respect to the Bulk Water Supply Agreement. Council approved the Minutes of Settlement at the October 27, 2020 Regular Meeting of Council which outline an agreed increase of \$0.03 per cubic metre effective from 2017.

**OPP Policing Services:** Council adopted a by-law to authorize entering into an extended, 3-year agreement with the Ontario Provincial Police for policing services for the Town. At their meeting of January 12, 2021, Council directed Administration to finalize the agreement which provides for continued policing services by the OPP. A change in legislation with new rules around municipal policing is expected to come into effect during the term of the agreement.

**Rodent Concerns:** Council passed a motion requesting that Administration review recently approved Rodent Control subsidies in several Ontario municipalities as well as the cancellation of such subsidies in other communities and to report back to the Policies & Priorities Committee of Council in time for 2022 Budget considerations.

The next Regular Meeting of Council is Tuesday, February 9, 2021. The meeting is scheduled to be held electronically. The live stream will be available on our website at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca). The agenda for the Regular meeting will be made available on Thursday, February 4, 2021.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at [www.tecumseh.ca](http://www.tecumseh.ca), Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh](http://www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh)).

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Media Contact:

Lesley Reeves, Manager Strategic Initiatives, 519-735-2184 Ext. 150

• **8.5 Committee Reports –  
Marketing Committee – C. Dennis reports on:**

- **Eyes on Tecumseh** – Continuing to work with the owner of Eyes on Windsor to create a special “Eyes on Tecumseh” Facebook page that will feature Tecumseh BIA Members, BIA future projects, programs, events, etc. One feature will include five Members.

**Stats:** Have not been received yet for the month of December 2020/January 2021 from Eyes on Windsor.

- **Tecumseh Life** - Decision to advertise with Tecumseh Life is undecided at this time for spring/summer.
- **Social Media** - Have been sharing Members posts on our social media platforms.
- **Website** - Have been advertising Members by sector in promotional image that connects back to our website Business Directory.
- **Covid Signs** - Members are inquiring about if the Tecumseh BIA can order more Covid signage.
- **The Drive Magazine** – Scheduled a meeting with the Marketing Committee to talk about a potential partnership with The Drive this year to promote the Tecumseh BIA and its Members and the timeline of which we will do so.

#### **Membership Committee:**

- **Tecumseh Dollar Program** – D. Pelaccia reports on the Tecumseh Dollar Report: Status of Tecumseh Dollars, listed below is the Tecumseh Dollar Report for January 2021:

No dollars were purchased.

No dollars were donated.

**Associated Membership Program: Both Associate Members renewed their Membership-Chartwell and Salt Sushi, for 2021.**

#### **Streetscaping Committee:**

Bike Racks – No report.

Bus Stop- Esthetics of the bus stop in front of Public Parking Lot #1 is being discussed to remove weeds, old newspaper stands, power was roof, etc.

#### **Events Committee:**

Banner Contest – All but one student has picked up their award, copy of their drawing and taken their picture. Called 8 times in the past 3 months and left 3 messages.

- Have come up for “Superhero” theme for 2021 for Gallery Without Walls- Banner Contest, Lacasse quoted us the same price as years prior- about \$107 each, budget allocated for contest is \$3,000, emailed the Manager of Public Works from the Town asking for drop off location for banners and deadline for delivery for installation.

#### **Governance Committee:**

Memorandum of Understanding – First draft received by Clerk; Chair and Coordinator will review and schedule meeting to discuss further.

- Meeting scheduled for next Thursday to discuss the MOU further with committee.

**(TOTBBM – 21-2)**

**Unfinished Business**

Strategic Plan for 2021- Need to schedule during a future Board meeting to complete. -Deferred Beautification Projects- Ex. Bus Stop -Deferred

**(TOTBBM – 22-2)**

**New Business**

10.1 Copier Proposal

10.2 Tecumseh Dollars 2021- Execution Plan

10.3 MOU

That the Town of Tecumseh Business Improvement Area Board of Directors meet regularly on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM commencing Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

**(TOTBBM – 23-2)**

**Next Meeting**

The next regular general meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 6:00 PM and is currently scheduled to be held electronically. The live stream will be available on the BIA website at [www.tecumsehbia.com](http://www.tecumsehbia.com)

**(TOTBBM – 24-2)**

**Adjournment**

Motion: (BBM-11/21)

Moved by: Paul Bistany

Second by: Linda Proctor

That there being no further business, the February 17, 2021 regular general meeting of the TOTBIA Board of Management be adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Carried.

Approved.



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Candice Dennis, Chair



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Denise Pelaccia, Coordinator