

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, March 22, 2018  
7:00 PM

### Staff:

David Reddon, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy CAO  
Harold Lenters, Director of Development Services  
Ron Jenkins, Director of Emergency Services and Fire Chief  
John Armstrong, Acting Director of Operations and Infrastructure  
Ryan Cronsberry, Manager of Municipal Laws Enforcement/C.M.L.E.O.  
Tyler Nicholson, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer 1  
Kim MacGillivray, Communications & Social Media Strategist  
Rachel Dillabough, Deputy Clerk  
Carolyn Lance, Council Services Coordinator

### 1. CALL TO ORDER - MOMENT OF MEDITATION

"We would like to begin today's meeting by acknowledging that the Town of Georgina is located over lands originally used and occupied by the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties First Nations and other Indigenous Peoples and thank them for sharing this land. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our close neighbour and friend, one with which we strive to build a cooperative and respectful relationship."

### 2. ROLL CALL

The following Members of Council were present:

Mayor Quirk	Regional Councillor Davison
Councillor Biggerstaff	Councillor Fellini
Councillor Neeson	Councillor Sebo
Councillor Harding	

### 3. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS *None.*

### 4. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEM(S)

Item No. 13.2	Correspondence from Aird Berlis, legal counsel for North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance, providing comments
Item No. 13.2	Correspondence from Phil Craig in opposition to the development
Item No. 13.2	Correspondence from Councillor Neeson providing his concerns with moving forward with the development

- Item No. 13.2 Notice of Motion from Councillor Dave Neeson
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from Lorelea Carruthers in favour of protecting the North Gwillimbury Forest and Wetlands
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from Tom Sandler referencing the founder of Water Keepers Worldwide
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from 'Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources (P.O.W.E.R.)' in support of the preservation and protection of the environmentally significant Paradise Beach-Island Grove lands

**Carried.**

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Neeson, Seconded by Councillor Fellini

**RESOLUTION NO. C-2018-0141**

That the agenda, with the following addendum items, be approved:

- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from Aird Berlis, legal counsel for North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance, providing comments
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from Phil Craig in opposition to the development
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from Councillor Neeson providing his concerns with moving forward with the development
- Item No. 13.2 Notice of Motion from Councillor Dave Neeson
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from Lorelea Carruthers in favour of protecting the North Gwillimbury Forest and Wetlands
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from Tom Sandler referencing the founder of Water Keepers Worldwide
- Item No. 13.2 Correspondence from 'Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources (P.O.W.E.R.)' in support of the preservation and protection of the environmentally significant Paradise Beach-Island Grove lands

**Carried.**

**Mayor Quirk** thanked Council Members for attending this Special Council meeting during its March Break. This Council's goal has been to protect the Maple Lake Estates lands.

**Mayor Quirk** requested that Item No. 13(1)(A) be moved forward and Council given the opportunity to provide their comments, prior to the Speaker section, noting that no vote will be taken until after the public has spoken.

Moved by Councillor Harding, Seconded by Regional Councillor Davison

That Item No. 13(1)(A) be moved forward.

**Carried.**

13. DISPOSITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS, GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

(1) Dispositions/Proclamations

- (A) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Report No. 10-18-BOD, Maple Lake Estates (DG Group) Permit Application and Proposed Land Transfer, scheduled on the LSRCA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda of March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

All Council Members voiced their opinions in support of the protection of the Provincially Significant Wetland

Moved by Councilor Biggerstaff, Seconded by Regional Councillor Davison

That the Rules of Procedure be waived to permit Councillor Neeson to put forward his motion

**Carried.**

Councillor Neeson read out a proposed motion as follows;

WHEREAS 80 percent of the Paradise Beach – Island Grove lands are a Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW);

AND WHEREAS the development of a 1,073 unit subdivision on the Paradise Beach – Island Grove PSW would undermine the environmental sustainability of Georgina and the Lake Simcoe community;

AND WHEREAS the development of a 1,073 unit subdivision threatens the current and long-term health of Lake Simcoe;

AND WHEREAS the residents of Ward 3 and the broader community of the Town of Georgina have not been allowed to fully participate in the decision making process that will directly impact the health and quality of life in their community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Georgina requests;

- The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority exercise its mandate to *conserve* and protect the environmentally significant Paradise Beach – Island

Grove lands for the future health of Lake Simcoe and its surrounding communities.

- The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority decline to issue a section 28 permit on the Maple Lake Estates Property.
- That the Council of the Town of Georgina hereby declares that should the Board of Directors of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority issue a section 28 permit for the Maple Lake Estates lands, that the Town of Georgina will consider all of the options at its disposal which may include taking legal action.

**Not voted on at this time.**

6. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF *None.*
7. ADOPTION OF MINUTES *None.*
8. SPEAKERS

**Mayor Quirk** requested if anyone was in attendance who wished to speak to the item on the agenda

**Jack Gibbons**, 430 Raines Street, Roches Point, requested Council support Councillor Neeson's proposed motion to save the provincially significant wetland and North Gwillimbury Forest, to provide strong political leadership to protect Lake Simcoe, its wetlands and forests for today and for future generations.

**Councillor Neeson** expressed appreciation to Jack Gibbons and to the North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance for their advocacy work

**Susan Sheard**, 565 Lake Drive, Willow Beach, advised she has learned a lot about the issues facing Lake Simcoe directly from the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and believes they should follow their mandate to protect the watershed. The Authority cannot support the replacement of a wetland with a development and protect the watershed at the same time. Ms. Sheard requested Council to request the Conservation Authority to reject the DG Group's application for permission to build the proposed subdivision in a provincially significant wetland.

**Phil Craig**, 208 Carrick Avenue, advised that he is a former Georgina Councillor and former representative to the Conservation Authority and requested our Mayor and Regional Councillor to oppose the Conservation Authority's recommendation to approve the development of the North Gwillimbury provincially significant wetland and that a recorded vote be requested at the Conservation Authority meeting.

**Paul Harpley**, President of the South Lake Simcoe Naturalists, stated that it is time for municipal council to stand up for conservation in their communities, mentioning a section in the Municipal Act that states that Council Members are to represent the public and to consider the well-being and interests of the municipality as a whole.

**Bill Major**, 11 Corners Avenue, Cannington, advised that it is International Water Day. Mr. Major stated that wetlands are the lungs of the lake and people have a moral and spiritual obligation to care for and preserve the earth and this wetland and urged Council to support the motion.

**Katherine Southern**, 15 Sandy Point Lane, Island Grove, advised that wetlands play a major role in mitigating flood risk, storm surges and filters runoff from pesticides and salt before it reaches the main water streams. In southern Ontario, 72% of wetlands have already disappeared to urbanization and industrialization. We need to understand climate-change resilience and invest in the wetlands.

**Harry Behrend**, 835 Lake Drive North, advised that he is not impressed with the Conservation Authority's work to protect the watershed and gives his full support to the proposed.

Moved by Councillor Neeson, Seconded by Councillor Harding

#### **RESOLUTION NO. C-2018-0142**

WHEREAS 80 percent of the Paradise Beach – Island Grove lands are a Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW);

AND WHEREAS the development of a 1,073 unit subdivision on the Paradise Beach – Island Grove PSW would undermine the environmental sustainability of Georgina and the Lake Simcoe community;

AND WHEREAS the development of a 1,073 unit subdivision threatens the current and long-term health of Lake Simcoe;

AND WHEREAS the residents of Ward 3 and the broader community of the Town of Georgina have not been allowed to fully participate in the decision making process that will directly impact the health and quality of life in their community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Georgina requests;

- The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority exercise its mandate to *conserve* and protect the environmentally significant Paradise Beach – Island Grove lands for the future health of Lake Simcoe and its surrounding communities.

- The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority decline to issue a section 28 permit on the Maple Lake Estates Property.
- And further, that the Council of the Town of Georgina hereby declares that should the Board of Directors of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority issue a section 28 permit for the Maple Lake Estates lands, that the Town of Georgina will consider all of the options at its disposal which may include taking legal action.

A recorded vote was requested; the Deputy Clerk recorded the vote as follows;

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Councillor Sebo	x	
Regional Councillor Davison	x	
Councillor Harding	x	
Mayor Quirk	x	
Councillor Neeson	x	
Councillor Fellini	x	
Councillor Biggerstaff	x	
YEA	- 7	
NAY	- 0	

**Carried unanimously.**

(2) General Information Items

- Correspondence from Aird Berlis, legal counsel for North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance (NGFA), providing comments on LSRCA Staff Report No. 10-18-BOD.
- Correspondence from Phil Craig in opposition to the development of the North Gwillimbury Provincially Significant Wetland.
- Correspondence from Councillor Dave Neeson providing his concerns with moving forward with the development of a subdivision on Provincially Significant Wetland.
- Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Dave Neeson to conserve and protect the environmentally significant Paradise Beach – Island Grove lands.
- Lorelea Carruthers in favour of protecting the North Gwillimbury Forest and Wetlands.

- Correspondence from Tom Sandler, local freelance photographer, referencing Robert Kennedy Jr, founder of Water Keepers Worldwide, and providing his photograph of an owl taken in the subject wetlands.
- Correspondence from 'Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources' (P.O.W.E.R.) in support of the preservation and protection of the environmentally significant Paradise Beach – Island Grove lands.

Moved by Councillor Neeson, Seconded by Councillor Fellini

**RESOLUTION NO. C-2018-0143**

That the General Information items opposing the development of a 1,073 unit subdivision on the Paradise Beach – Island Grove provincially significant wetland, Maple Lake Estates lands, be received

**Carried.**

9. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS *None.*
10. PRESENTATIONS *None.*
11. PUBLIC MEETINGS *None.*
  - (1) STATUTORY MEETING(S) UNDER THE PLANNING ACT OR MEETINGS PERTAINING TO THE CONTINUATION OF PLANNING MATTERS
  - (2) STATUTORY MEETING(S) UNDER OTHER LEGISLATION
  - (3) OTHER PUBLIC MEETINGS
12. REPORTS *None.*
  - (1) ADOPTION OF REPORTS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION
  - (2) REPORTS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION
13. DISPOSITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS, GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT
  - (3) Committee of Adjustment Planning Matters *None.*
    - (A) Under Review
    - (B) Recommendations
    - (C) Decisions
14. MOTIONS/NOTICES OF MOTION
15. REGIONAL BUSINESS *None.*
16. OTHER BUSINESS *None.*
17. BY-LAWS *None.*

18. CLOSED SESSION *None*.
- (1) Motion to move into closed session of Council
  - (2) Motion to reconvene into open session of Council and report on matters discussed in closed session.

19. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Moved by Councillor Harding, Seconded by Councillor Biggerstaff

That the following by-law be approved:

- (1) By-law No. 2018-0024 (COU-2), a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Special Council on March 22, 2018.

**Carried.**

20. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Councillor Fellini, Seconded by Councillor Sebo

That the meeting adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

**Carried.**

  
Margaret Quirk, Mayor

  
Rachel Dillabough, Deputy Clerk