

# **ABOUT LAST NIGHT**

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### **COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

1. Question Period to remain on Council Agenda

Council requested a report on the merits of keeping Question Period on the agenda. The report was presented and acknowledged that while to date, no one has asked a question, it is a platform for residents to connect with Council when they have questions. There are rules around the questions and it was recommended to continue allowing the Question Period. Council agreed but with the revision to move the item to the beginning of the agenda. This will allow residents to leave after they have asked their question if they want too. However, it also means that if it is a question about something on the agenda then Council cannot answer the question until the topic comes up in the agenda, nor can there be any clarifying questions. The Question Period will start at the beginning of the meeting for the next Council meeting. If you have any questions please submit them by noon on the Monday prior to the Council meeting.

2. Integrity Commissioner

The province is looking to amend the Municipal Act regarding Integrity Commissioners. Council passed a motion last night to support amendments including a standard municipal code of conduct, requiring every council is trained, and creating an overseeing role of Integrity Commissioner of Ontario. Bonfield Council was trained on the Code of Conduct at the beginning of the term to be proactive and ensure Council procedures are adhered too. This new legislation will re-enforce the importance of Municipal Code of Conducts and the order they bring to municipal governance.

3. New Complaint Policy

Council adopted a Bylaw Enforcement Complaint and Service Request Management Policy last night. It is important to have a formal and consistent process that clearly explains the expectations for managing a complaint for both staff and residents. The Township does receive many inquiries for information, calls with concerns and bylaw complaints. The process will require the resident to sign the form and provide the relevant details for the Officer who can address the issue. All personal information remains confidential unless enforcement escalates to court. This is very rare as complaints are typically resolved through conversation and education. The new policy sets out timelines for staff to report back to the resident and to complete an investigation. The Policy also allows the Township to track complaint issues at a high level and to evaluate bylaw provisions which in turn will provide Council more evidence for making informed decisions. The form will be available at the municipal office and online.

# Agenda or Minutes? To see Agendas for uncomin

Looking for an

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www.BonfieldTownship.com

# Want to connect with Council?

#### 1. Write an email or a letter

You can submit your comments to Council regarding municipal matters by emailing the Clerk or dropping it off at the Township Office.

#### Email:

cao.clerk@bonfieldtownship.com

#### **Address**

365 Hwy 531, Bonfield ON, P0H 1E0

### 2.Connect with a Member of Council

You can speak to a Council member directly.

Find full contact information at www.BonfieldTownship.com in the Municipal Directory.

### **More Questions?**

Contact the Township Office at: 705-776-2641

### **WANT TO ATTEND A MEETING OR HAVE QUESTIONS?**

**Council Meetings** are held the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at the Township Office located at 365 Hwy 531, Bonfield, P0H 1E0

Attend online by visiting: youtube.com/@townshipofbonfield6354

#### Want to be part of Question Period?

Learn more at: www.BonfieldTownship.com.

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