













gross floor area of 130 m<sup>2</sup> (1,400 ft<sup>2</sup>) and to recognize the existing lot area of 8.9 ha (22 ac).

DISPOSITION: Motion Carried

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **Budget Meeting Dates (to be confirmed)**

Council confirmed the following upcoming meeting dates:

- January 15th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. (special budget)
- January 21st, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. (special budget)
- January 22nd, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
- February 5th, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.
- February 11th, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. (special budget)
- February 19th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Letter to Ministry of Municipal Affairs re: Housing Action Plan**

CAO Mary Ellen Greb distributed a draft letter to Minister Steve Clark for Council's review and input. Council reviewed the draft letter and suggested a few amendments.

\* Council recessed for 5 minutes at 10:00 a.m.

### **APPOINTMENTS (continued)**

#### **10:00 a.m. - Nick Kinkel, OMAFRA - Strategic Planning/Visioning Exercise**

Nick Kinkel, on behalf of Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, facilitated a strategic planning and visioning exercise for Council to begin to set priorities for the next term of Council. Council considered the following questions:

*What is most important to the community?  
What should the community expect from Council?*

Council's comments are summarized in the tables below.

#### **What is most important to the community?**

<b>Quality of Life</b>	<b>Quality of Services</b>	<b>Economic Development</b>
Health: access to health care and community well-being services	Residents expect good services that they are paying for through taxes	Help promote small businesses (simplify

Quality of Life	Quality of Services	Economic Development
		application/approval processes)
Fitness/recreation (active and passive)	Good infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Keep people in the community and attract growth
Sense of belonging (home)	Well maintained roads	Support healthy agricultural industry and provide safe food
Sense of community and connection	Need for balance to provide services and maintain low taxes	Support creation of good jobs, viable industries
Value and interest in what is happening in the community	Consider shift in how services are funded (user pay vs taxes)	Support local jobs; short commute
Being informed and engaged in what is going on around you (challenge to communicate with residents)	Communication and flow of information from the Township to the residents	Affordable transportation
Feeling of family	Freedom from unnecessary government "red tape"	
Affordable housing	Maintaining essential services	
Opportunity for the future, growth, retirement, education opportunities	By-law Enforcement (keep property well maintained in the community)	
Child care	Internet and natural gas servicing	

**Emergency Services**

Community safety and security

What should the community expect from us?

Fiscal Responsibility	Transparency	Leadership	Fairness/Flexibility	Services
Good stewardship,	Be straightforward	Structure and leadership	People expect that they	Quality roads



<b>Fiscal Responsibility</b>	<b>Transparency</b>	<b>Leadership</b>	<b>Fairness/ Flexibility</b>	<b>Services</b>
respectful of tax dollars, resources and land	about decision made and why		might not get what they want but that you will make a decision that is fair	
Responsible financial management	Transparency and openness	Elected to lead not to follow	Represent the interests of all residents	Quality emergency management
Increased taxes/cost of living (balancing services with cost)	Integrity and honesty	Communication vision and where we are going	Consider requests that are sometimes outside the rules (ex. Minor variance applications)	Parks for children
Efficient – look for other ways to provide services	Timely responses to question and concerns	Provide guidance with hope – find a way to make it work	Consider the greater good of the community	
Low taxes	Communicate what is happening and why	Visionary leadership and direction	Help find solutions to problems	
Responsibility for residents' tax dollars	Accessible and open dialogue	Strong leadership		
	Informed decisions	Show responsibility for generations to come Future investment		
		Long term vision and forward thinking		
		Prepared to make hard decisions even		

<u>Fiscal Responsibility</u>	<u>Transparency</u>	<u>Leadership</u>	<u>Fairness/ Flexibility</u>	<u>Services</u>
		if it is not what everyone wants		

With respect to next steps, Nick Kinkel explained that the Township's plan should support the vision statement and set the framework for how the Township is going to operate. It will inform staff and the public about what is important to Council and the direction they would like to go.

Council agreed to have another session on February 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss some of the challenges facing the Township and review the Township's mission and vision statement. It was noted that the strategic plan will have an overarching statement, principles and goals for the Township, and from that action items will be developed to support achieving those goals. Consideration should be given to how goals can be measured and what the benefit is to the community.

*\* Council took a break for lunch at 12:00 noon. Council reconvened at 12:50 p.m.*

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)**

#### **Letter to Ministry of Municipal Affairs re: Housing Action Plan (continued)**

Council continued to review the letter to the Ministry regarding the Housing Action Plan. It was noted that people like to live in rural areas and Council is in support of looking at new ways to create rural residential lots in the Township; specifically, in lands previous used as gravel pits. Council also discussed the difficulty in attracting people to Oxford County to work at the rate of pay being offered because they can't afford to live in the area. Increased number of smaller homes and rental units in the \$1,000 per month range are needed.

#### **Boundary Adjustment Committee**

- Committee Appointment
- Discussion Review
- Next Meeting Date - TBD

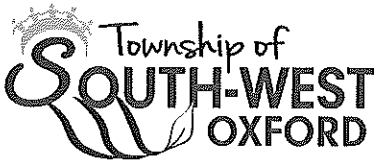
CAO Mary Ellen Greb reviewed a status report she prepared for Council to provide them with an update and summary of the Ingersoll Boundary Adjustment negotiations which are continuing. Discussion took place regarding the phase-in for property taxes. It was explained that properties which move into the Town of Ingersoll have higher tax rates. These are proposed to be phased-in over 8 years. The Township will continue to receive from the Township the taxes which the Township is receiving as of the date of annexation in perpetuity plus CPI each year from January to January.











**Sign-In Sheet**  
 Regular Council Meeting  
 January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Name (Please Print)	Address &/or Email	Reason for Attendance (i.e. Delegation/ Minor Variance/ Zoning/ Drain Consideration/ Court of Revision)
CHRIS HARRINGTON	harringtonc@thamesriver.on.ca	Delegation
Gerald Shea		Labour
Peter Grewter		zone change.
Tennis van der Riet		zone change.
Nick Kinkel		OMAFRA - Facilitator

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