

Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the **Council Meeting on March 26, 2024** and the **Committee of the Whole Meeting on April 9, 2024**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

A recording of these sessions is also available for public viewing on the County's YouTube channel.

- Service Simcoe



## Solid Waste Management By-law and Set Fines

This provides details regarding the updated Solid Waste Management Bylaw and associated set fines. Existing by-law 6256 will be replaced in a form similar to the <u>Solid Waste Management By-law</u>. Updates to the by-law include a limit to the quantity of waste (recycling, organics, and special waste materials) collected from a serviced unit per collection event, an update to the Waste Collection Design Standards including cart set out specifications, stipulations for the implementation of service for units in new subdivisions, accessibility accommodations and the establishment of agreements for locations not mandated for collection.

Solid Waste Management by-law officers do not currently have a method to enforce the by-law other than approval by the Director of Solid Waste Management for the removal of service which in many cases is too stringent. Set fines would not be used unless absolutely necessary, however do provide incentive for residents to comply with the by-law and allows for by-law officers to issue a penalty should a resident refuse to comply. The set fines will need to be approved through the Attorney General's office prior to implementation. The Attorney General's Office will review the set fines in comparison with other municipalities to ensure the monetary value set is appropriate.

The approach for the by-law is to educate, rather than punish.

## Municipal Insurance Pool

The County of Simcoe, member municipalities and the City of Orillia participated in an insurance pooling feasibility study. The study assessed the feasibility of establishing an insurance pool solution.

In February 2024, Axxima presented the feasibility study results to the participating CAOs and Treasurers. The study showed a positive financial outcome for Simcoe County, all member municipalities and the City of Orillia with a total projected savings of approximately \$2.6M to \$3.7M during the set-up phase and \$4.1 to \$5.2M at maturity.

Given the positive outcome of the feasibility study all participants agreed to take the next step which is to develop a detailed implementation plan. The study results will be used to help determine the organizational structure, administration, program costs and claims handling functions. Additional components to be completed for the implementation plan include:

- Prepare a formal business plan
- Determine which lines of coverage will be included in the pool
- Conduct an RFP to solicit a proposal for excess and/or stop loss protection
- Develop an insurance pooling agreement
- Determine operational requirements
- Determine pool funding allocation
- Design policy wordings
- Present final terms and conditions for council approval

This will take approximately 6-8 months to complete with the assistance of Axxima and the continued involvement of participant member's CAOs, Treasurers and staff. The Implementation Plan is estimated to cost up to \$200,000. Staff are requesting Council approval and financial support to create an Insurance Pool Implementation Plan.

Once completed, staff will return with the proposed Implementation Plan, which if endorsed, will then be presented to each potential participant with a request for commitment.

## Electric Vehicle Charging Station Funding Opportunity

In fall 2023, Council approved the County's Corporate Climate Action (CCAP) plan which includes recommendations to add fee-for-service electric vehicle charging stations to workplace and public facilities to support the transition to electric vehicles.

Staff will include funds in the draft 2025 budget and future budgets to support EV Charger installations at identified locations. Staff also continue to monitor for all CCAP related funding opportunities that may arise.

Staff have three identified locations that would immediately benefit from new EV charging stations:

- Bradford Paramedic Station
- Stayner Station Park
- Washago Public Parking Lot

The scope of the project includes the installation of two Level 3 fast charging stations (Stayner and Washago) and a dual-port Level 2 station at the Bradford Paramedic Station.

With Council approval, staff will proceed with the project at a cost of \$140K in order to avoid supply chain and installation delays. Should funding be approved, 50% of the cost or approximately \$70K will be returned to the General Contingency Reserve.

