



September 2021

Water Bill information BULLETIN

Town of Wasaga Beach | 30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach, ON | (P) 705-429-3844 | (F) 705-429-6732

Looking for fun events?

Visit our website at www.wasagabeach.com to learn about fun fall events happening in the town of Wasaga Beach.

You can also follow our Wasaga Beach Events Facebook page.

Please contact the Water Clerk at (705) 429-3844 ext. 2245 if you experience any of the following:

- If the property was **occupied** during this billing cycle but both the **Previous and Current Read are the same.**
- If the current bill reflects 'Flat Rate Residential' water/sewer rates.



E-RECEIPTS AND BILLING

The town is also offering paperless water and tax bills.

Sign up for e-billing and receive your bills via e-mail. If you would like to sign up for this option please e-mail ebilling@wasagabeach.com and include the following:

- 1 The subject line should state the municipal property address, starting with the street name. For example, Main Street 123.
- 2 The body of the e-mail should state your name and phone number.
- 3 The e-mail must come from the e-mail address you want the bill sent to.

If you have questions, call us at 705-429-3844.

Mayor's Message

Overall, we had a great summer in Wasaga Beach.

There was terrific weather, we celebrated grand openings, welcomed thousands of visitors to town, and enjoyed great community events such as Jazz and More in the Park, movie nights, the farmers' market, and the Back to the Beach concert series. It seemed like things were returning to normal.

Some good news to share – earlier this month council approved the construction contract for our new twin-pad arena and library. See the item in our newsletter to learn more about this exciting development.

Council at its regular meeting in August was happy to welcome representatives from Geosands, the corporate entity that owns Wasaga Distribution, to present the organization's annual report to council. Thanks to the leadership of the board and president/CEO Dave Stavinga, Geosands is in great shape. It was noted during the presentation that Wasaga Distribution is one of the most efficient electricity distributors in all of Ontario.

As well, the town's independent integrity commissioners, Principles Integrity, delivered their 2021 report to council, covering the last 18 months of activity. Over this period, the integrity commissioners responded to 18 requests for advice and dealt with 14 complaints. None of the complaints required a report to council, as it was determined after a thorough review that no contravention of the Code of Conduct or Municipal Conflict of Interest Act was found to exist. They also found that the town's Code of Conduct already



incorporates recommendations from the Collingwood Judicial Inquiry, providing guidance to members of council on conflict of interest matters. Overall, they noted, "a marked improvement in members of council engaging more respectfully and collaborating during this reporting period."

Also at our August council meeting, we approved hiring Tatham Engineering to design Beach Area 1 roadway upgrades and streetscaping. This work will support the redevelopment of town-owned land at the beachfront.

Soon council will start work on the 2022 municipal budget. Watch our website for updates.

On a sad note, our community lost former mayor Cal Patterson in early August. I once again want to express my condolences to the Patterson family. Cal was a friend and contributed so much to Wasaga Beach and we miss him.

In closing, stay safe and I look forward to updating you again soon.

Sincerely,

Nina Bifulchi,
Mayor.

Council awards twin-pad arena and library construction contract

Council has awarded a \$43.4-million (plus HST) stipulated price contract to Aquicon Construction Company Ltd. to build the community's new twin-pad arena and library.

Council approved the contract at a special meeting Tuesday, Sept. 7.

"This is a tremendous day for Wasaga Beach as we prepare to embark on a building project that will result in a new community gathering space – one that will serve all ages of our population for generations to come," Mayor Nina Bifulchi said. "This new space will be a wonderful spot for skills development, competition, sportsmanship, healthy living, learning, and entertainment. We now look forward to watching this building take shape."

Aquicon, following a pre-qualification process earlier this year, was one of five companies short-listed to bid for the construction contract. The municipality's Construction Steering Group opened the bids on Aug. 25 and identified Aquicon as the preferred builder for the arena and library project. The company's bid was the lowest of five received by the town. Aquicon will be invited to enter into a stipulated price contract based on the terms of the tender and meeting all the town's requirements.

Aquicon's bid falls well in line with the council approved \$59-million budget for the project. The town expects Aquicon will start construction this fall with an anticipated completion of work by summer 2023.

"On behalf of council, I want to welcome Aquicon to Wasaga Beach and say we look forward to working with the company as this build progresses," Mayor Bifulchi said. "I also want to thank everyone who has helped get this important project to this stage, especially the members of our steering group. Our twin-pad arena and library is another great example of how we are moving Wasaga Beach forward."

About Aquicon

Established in 1986, Aquicon Construction Company Ltd. is a well-known and reputable Brampton-based company. Aquicon has built several municipal projects, including the Atlas Tube Recreation Centre in Lakeshore, the Bostwick Community Centre in London, and the Sherwood Community Centre and Library in Milton. All these facilities feature twin-pad arenas and libraries.

Project background information

In January 2019, town council identified the twin-pad arena and library project as a priority for this term. The Wasaga Stars Arena, built nearly 50 years ago, is at the end of its lifespan. The 4,500-square-foot library, which opened in 1994, is too small to meet the needs of our growing community. A review, including a community consultation process, determined 544 River Rd. W. as the best site for a new 117,669-square-foot joint-use facility. When the new complex opens in the summer of 2023, it will include two NHL-size ice surfaces, an indoor walking track, a modern 17,000-square-foot library with proper program space and meeting rooms.

The overall budget for the project is \$59,970,306. The construction component of the budget is \$44,573,921. Aquicon's price including HST is \$44,245,248.

Colliers Project Leaders are the project managers. MJMA Architecture and Design are the architects.

Learn more about the project at www.wasagabeach.com.

Meet our fundraising coordinator



Val Dickson is one of the newest members of our team at the Town of Wasaga Beach.

Dickson is our fundraiser and sponsorship coordinator for the twin-pad arena and library project.

"I'm really happy to be a part of this exciting and important community project,"

Dickson said. "Two ice surfaces, an indoor walking track, and a new library with adequate meeting space for programs will be a real benefit to Wasaga Beach."

For the last several months, Dickson and other staff members have worked to develop a fundraising campaign that is rolling out this fall. Watch our website and social media channels for details.

Prior to joining the town, Dickson worked for the YMCA and in partnership with Lakehead University. She also served three terms on the board of directors for Breaking Down Barriers and the South Georgian Bay Community Health Centre.

If you would like to meet with Dickson to learn more about fundraising opportunities for the arena and library project, please contact her at 705-429-3321, ext. 2260 or e-mail fundraisingcoordinator@wasagabeach.com.

RFP awarded to design beachfront area road upgrades and streetscaping

Council, at its Aug. 31 meeting, awarded an RFP to Tatham Engineering, at a cost of \$687,500, to design Beach Area 1 roadway upgrades and streetscaping.

The work will support the redevelopment of town-owned land at the main beachfront.

The work is required prior to development taking place.

An environmental assessment determined the scope of the design work that Tatham will carry out.

To implement the new road network and streetscaping the town will use a phased approach.

Budget dates established

The General Government Section of Coordinated Committee, at its Aug. 19 meeting, approved the 2022 budget process and schedule.

Staff work on the budget is under way and Committee of the Whole will receive the first draft on Oct. 7.

Watch our website for budget updates.

Geosands update shows Wasaga Distribution Inc. in good shape

Geosands, the corporate entity that includes Wasaga Distribution Inc., presented its annual report to council on Aug. 31.

Dave Stavinga, president and CEO, provided an overview of the organization's activities, noting that overall Geosands and its subsidiaries are doing well.

He noted that Wasaga Distribution consistently ranks as one of the most efficient electricity distributors in the province.

A 2020 customer satisfaction survey found that overall people are pleased with the utility provider's services.

Geosands and its subsidiaries provide service to more than 14,000 customers.

Capital investments are ongoing for Geosands and in 2021 include \$1.7-million to replace aging infrastructure such as hydro poles and transformers.

Municipality taking a closer look at planning requirements for west end

Council has authorized staff to issue an RFP for completion of the proposed West Wasaga Secondary Plan.

The plan will be a focused review of development policies for the west end of Wasaga Beach.

The study will result in policies that will be part of the town's official plan.

Town ready to issue building permit for retirement home project when site plan registered

The town will lift the hold on M6 Development's property at 705 River Rd. W. when the company registers its site plan, which is nearly in its final form.

Council's Coordinated Committee received a report on the project during its Aug. 19 meeting.

Lifting the hold will allow the town to issue a building permit for a four-storey, 117-unit retirement home.

Zancor development can move ahead when company meets conditions

Zancor Homes' development off Ramblewood Drive can start its first phase of building homes when the company satisfies all of the town's conditions.

The Development Services Section of Coordinated Committee received a report on the project at its meeting on Aug. 19.

When Zancor meets the conditions, the town will lift its hold on the property, allowing the municipality to issue building permits for 123 detached lots.

Staff anticipate Zancor applying for the permits this fall.

SPECIAL EVENTS



STAY TUNED FOR...

Fall Movies

Frequent our website to stay up to date on Town events
www.wasagabeach.com/events



Recreation, Events & Facilities
www.wasagabeach.com (705) 429-3321
Connecting with your Community



Steady building activity continues in town

The Building Department's report for July notes the town issued 147 building permits with a total estimated construction value of \$28-million.

These figures highlight the continued strong development interest in Wasaga Beach.

Planning starting for temporary beach amenities

Council has asked CAO George Vadeboncoeur to develop a draft plan for temporary beach amenities.

The amenities would be for the area between First and Third streets.

Council will consider the draft plan as part of the 2022 budget process.

As part of the redevelopment of town-owned lands at the beachfront, the intent is to demolish the existing buildings early next spring.

The temporary amenities would serve the area until the redevelopment of the site is complete.



Several grand openings have occurred in town lately. Congratulations to Michelle Smeh and her husband John, owners of CrossFit Mozomo, on the grand opening of their new location at 19th Street. Mayor Nina Bifulchi and members of council were pleased to attend the ribbon cutting Aug. 7. Thanks to Mozomo for being a great part of our community.



Are you looking for information about programs and services in the community?

Check out www.211ontario.ca online or telephone 2-1-1.

211 is a trustworthy source for information and services to deal with life's challenges.

You can access 211's services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

WASAGA BEACH RECREATION



Children's Recreation

Babysitting & Home Alone Courses



BABYSITTING COURSES

This course is designed to improve community babysitting standards. Course content covers childcare, child safety, handling emergency situation, accident prevention, first aid, child behaviour and development, discipline, safety toys and games to play. Certification awarded for successful completion.

Fri., Nov. 12, 2021
Mon., Mar. 14, 2022
Fri., Mar. 18, 2022
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Minimum age 11 years by course date Fee: \$68.00
Bring lunch/snack and a large doll or stuffed animal.
RecPlex, 1724 Mosley, Oakview Meeting Room

HOME ALONE COURSES

The Home Alone program is designed to provide children between 9 and 11 years of age with the necessary skills and knowledge to be safe and responsible when home alone for short periods of time. It will help them understand how to prevent problems, handle real-life situations, and keep them safe and constructively occupied.

Fri., Nov. 12, 2021
Mon., Mar. 14, 2022
Fri., Mar. 18, 2022
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Course Fee: \$60.00
Location: Wasaga Stars Arena, Recreation Hall
423 River Rd. West, Wasaga Beach



Recreation, Events & Facilities
www.wasagabeach.com | (705) 429-3321
Connecting with your Community

