

Town Crier, March 14, 2020

Stratford Town Crier

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedules

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The City of Stratford Council will hear the following application at a public meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 14 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers in City Hall, 1 Wellington Street, Stratford to hear all interested persons with respect to the zone change applications under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990.

Z01-20 – 677 Erie Street - Planner: Rachel Bossie

The subject lands have a municipal address of 677 Erie Street, are located at the southeast corner of Erie Street and Lorne Avenue East, and are legally described as Part of Lot C, Downie Concession 3, Parts 28-35 of 44R-5202 and Part 29 44R-5197 in the City of Stratford. The application affects the portion of the property that is currently zoned General Industrial I2-32 having an area of approximately 7218.6m² (1.78 ac). The I2-32 zone extends approximately 61m along Lorne Avenue East and 92m along Erie Street.

The purpose of this zone change is to amend the General Industrial- Special I2-32 zone to permit, in addition to the existing permitted uses (listed below), an eat-in restaurant with a maximum gross floor area of 223m², to require a minimum of 1 parking space for an automated drive-through car wash and to state that the required parking spaces for an eat-in restaurant is 1 per 4 persons seating capacity.

The General Industrial I2-32 Zone permits business office of a consulting engineer or surveyor, car wash, commercial school, data centre, dry cleaning establishment, equipment service establishment, factory store, food processing establishment, gas bar, industrial use, motor vehicle repair shop, motor vehicle sales or rental establishment, motor vehicle service station, neighbourhood store, private club, public use, scientific or medical laboratory, recreational park, veterinarian clinic and warehouse.

Your opinion on this application is important. Please call, mail, email or fax your comments to Rachel Bossie - Tel: (519) 271-0250 ext. 320, Fax: (519) 271-5966 – rbossie@stratford.ca - City of Stratford, Development Services Division by Monday, March 30, 2020 in order for your comments to be incorporated in the Planning Report.

If you wish to be notified of the adoption the proposed Zoning Amendment or of the refusal of a request to amend the Zoning By-Law, you must make a written request to the City of Stratford.

If a person or public body does not make oral submission at a public meeting or make written submission to the City of Stratford before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the City of Stratford to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submission to the City of Stratford before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Development Services Division at 519-271-0250 ext. 320 during normal business hours.

Personal information collected as part of this Notice is pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Personal information collected as a result of this Notice will be used to assist Council in making a decision on this application. Names, addresses, opinions and comments will be made available for public disclosure. Questions regarding this collection should be forwarded to the City Clerk, 1 Wellington Street, P.O. Box 818, Stratford ON, N5A 6W1 or by emailing: tadafoe@stratford.ca or by telephone at 519-271-0250 Ext 237.

PARKING CHANGES – EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2020

Effective April 1, 2020 the downtown parking rate in the City of Stratford will be increased as follows:

On-street - \$1.50/hour
Off-street (lots) - \$1.25/hour

The hours of enforcement will also be extended to 8:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday, from April 1 – October 31 annually. From November 1 to March 31, the hours of enforcement will be Monday to Saturday, 9:00 a.m., to 6:00 p.m.

While the City implements these changes parking at both meters and pay by licence plate machines will be FREE from March 16 to 31, 2020.

For more information about parking, please contact the Clerk's Office at 519-271-0250 Ext 237 or visit the City's website.

MUNICIPAL ACCOMMODATION TAX – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

On February 10, 2020, Stratford City Council approved in principle the establishment of a mandatory Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) for accommodators in the City of Stratford, effective January 1, 2021.

The City is looking for feedback on this project which can be provided in the following ways:

1. Comment Form:
 - A comment form can be filled out on the City's website at <https://www.stratfordcanada.ca/MAT> or by visiting the main reception desk at City Hall for a paper copy.
2. Mail or email:
 - Comments can also be sent to the attention of Corporate Services, P.O. Box 818, 1 Wellington St. Stratford ON N5A 6W1; or by
 - Email: corpserv@stratford.ca
3. Public open houses have also been planned for Tuesday, March 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the City Hall Auditorium, and Wednesday, March 25 from 6-8 p.m. in the Tim Taylor Lounge at the Rotary Complex.

Comments are being accepted until March 31, 2020.

Background on the Project:

What is a Municipal Accommodation Tax?

A Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) is a fee levied on short-term, overnight accommodations to help support local tourism. It is paid by visitors when they book a room with a local accommodation provider.

How much is the tax?

Stratford has not determined a rate yet, but municipalities in Ontario who have implemented a MAT are collecting at a rate of 4%. That tax would be payable on the purchase price of the accommodation only (the room rate). It would not apply to other associated services and amenities, like meeting room rentals, food and beverages, room services, Internet and phone charges.

Are other municipalities collecting a MAT?

Yes. More than a dozen towns and cities in Ontario have a Municipal Accommodation Tax, including Ottawa, Toronto, London, Waterloo Region, Windsor, Oakville, Kingston, Barrie and Sudbury.

Is the MAT optional?

No. The MAT is a mandatory fee, and must be paid to the accommodation provider when paying for the booking. The fees collected by accommodation providers are then remitted to the municipality.

Under what authority does a municipality collect the MAT?

The Province of Ontario gave municipalities the ability to levy a Municipal Accommodation Tax through the Municipal Act, Ontario Regulation 435/17: Transient Accommodation Tax.

Will the MAT only apply to hotel and motel rooms in Stratford?

City Council still needs to determine if and how the MAT will be implemented, and what types of accommodators would be required to collect it. A public consultation process will be launched shortly to gather input on the MAT.

Where would the money go?

At least 50% of the net revenue from the MAT must be shared with an eligible not-for-profit tourism entity, and reinvested in tourism promotion. In Stratford, that portion would go to the Stratford Tourism Alliance. The remainder may be used for municipal purposes at the discretion of Council. Revenue may be used to fund municipal initiatives, lower the overall tax levy or be placed in reserve for future use.

ANNE HATHAWAY DAYCARE – LICENSED CHILDCARE SPACES FOR CHILDREN 18 MONTHS – 4 YEARS

Anne Hathaway Day Care Centre offers enriching programs led by a team of highly skilled and experienced Early Childhood Educators. To add your child's name to our waitlist, please go to onehsn.com/Stratford/

Enriching child-centered programs led by a team of highly skilled and experienced Early Childhood Educators:

- Nutritious lunch and snacks provided
- Outdoor play in a new natural play space
- Financial assistance available upon qualification
- Newly renovated facility

Emergency or Short Term Child Care Services

Operated by the City of Stratford, Anne Hathaway Daycare is a child and family friendly licenced early childhood education centre. Emergency or short term childcare services are provided on an 'as available' basis. For information about services, availability and fees, please contact the Daycare at 519-273-1803.

For further information contact: Corry Gunn, Manager - 103 Bruce St. Stratford, 519-273-1803
cgunn@stratford.ca

EVENING HOT MEAL PROGRAMS IN STRATFORD—OPEN TO ALL—DROP IN

Mar 16	The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street	5:15pm
Mar 17	Stratford Christian Reform Church, 190 Athlone Crescent	5:15pm
Mar 18	St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 25 St. Andrew Street	5:30pm
Mar 19	St. Joseph's Parish Hall, 96 Huron Street	5:00pm
Mar 20	Knox Presbyterian Church, 142 Ontario Street (Bethel)	5:15pm

Additional Weekly Meals at The Local Community Food Centre, 612 Erie Street. Breakfast is served every Thursday morning at 8:30am. Seniors' Lunch, 60 years and older, is served every Wednesday at 11:30am.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Mar 17	Finance and Labour Relations Sub-committee	3:30pm	Council Chamber
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Meetings are open to the public to attend with the exception of In-Camera sessions. Agendas can be accessed from the City's website or may be picked up from the City Clerk's Office the Friday before the scheduled meeting. Also, check the City's website for the Sub-committee, Standing Committee and Council Meeting Schedules, Agendas, and Advisory Committee Schedules as the schedule is subject to change. The Town Crier is also posted on the City's website.

Telephone: 519-271-0250 www.stratford.ca TTY: 519-271-5241