

FIRE & BY-LAW SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT**APRIL, 2020****DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW & STATISTICS****By-Law**

- The first 3 months of 2020 have been a challenging time for the By-law Department.
- With the Provincial Governments implementation of the *Emergency Measures and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA)* in relation to COVID-19, all Municipal By-law Officers have been granted more provincial authority in regard to enforcement of the Act including issuing Provincial Offences Notices (PONs) to citizens and companies in violation of the ACT. This includes non-essential businesses remaining open or operating, gatherings of 5 or more people, trespassing in municipal parks, playgrounds and trails and any other violation covered under the Act.
- The Town of Pelham By-law Department is working closely with the Niagara Regional Police in regard to complaints and enforcement relating to possible violations of the *EMCPA*. Beginning in April, the NRP has been forwarding all Pelham *EMCPA* complaints and concerns to the By-law Department 7 days a week between 8 am and 8 pm for investigation and enforcement. A By-law Officer will now be on call after normal business hours during these time periods to respond, investigate and enforce the *EMCPA* within Pelham.
- In the first quarter of this year the By-law Department created a new By-law in regard to the Administrative Municipal Penalty System (AMPS) and how it relates to non-parking violations. This new By-law was passed by Council in March 2020 and affects approximately 15 current Town By-laws. Penalty Notices can now be issued to violators of these By-laws without having to go through the Provincial Offences Courts.
- It is anticipated that the workload for the By-law Department will increase dramatically during the time that the *EMCPA* is in place. The Niagara Regional Police are relying heavily on municipal By-law Officers to assist them during this time and are relying on us to respond, investigate and lay charges when applicable.

Fire Prevention

Fire prevention started off the year scheduling weekly, monthly & annual inspections of multiple services & buildings within the Town of Pelham. The main goal this year is to inspect town restaurants and update preplans and emergency contact information.

The dedicated Facebook page has been relaying a lot of great fire safety messages as well as



information on various town activities. Positive feedback has been received. Social media outlets have been a great way to get information out for daily operations of the Fire and Bylaw departments as well as updating & educating the community surrounding COVID -19.

Council recently passed a new burning by-law. Residents are required to retain a permit prior to any outdoor burning. Since fire administration is closed residents who currently hold a 2019 burn permit can continue to burn under this permit. A reminder to all residents who have permits to burn clean dry wood and follow the Town's other requirements as outlined in the bylaw.

Take care everyone and wash your hands #weareinthistogether #COVID-19

Emergency Management

The Town of Pelham remains in a declared state of emergency and the EOC is in partial activation. The emergency control group meets virtually Monday-Friday @ 0900. Sample copy of daily minutes distributed to members is attached to this report.

Suppression

The fire department continues to respond to all types of incidents with the exception of some modified medical responses. The modified medical responses are to:

1. Reduce risk to firefighters to relating to COVID-19
2. To preserve personal protective equipment as the equipment inventories are low.

All fire equipment is being cleaned after each use and at least once per week if no responses occur. Resources are not compromised at this time & we are responding with full compliment. There have been no major incidents which has resulted in the loss of property or life during this period.

PROJECTS

We are currently revising the clean yards by-law, nuisance by-law, entry onto lands by-law and sign by-law is currently at council seeking approval.

CONSTITUENT CONCERNS & ISSUES ARISING

Ongoing COVID-19 pandemic

PERSONNEL

Lieutenant Yvon Audette retired April 30, 2020 after service Town of Pelham fire department for 32.75 years; we wish him all the best.

Internal Officer promotions:





Lt Jason Longhurst promoted to captain
Firefighter Ian Kuckyt promoted to Lieutenant
Firefighter Greg Young promoted to Lieutenant

GRANTS, CONTRACTS, RFPs & AGREEMENTS

Currently participated regional RFP for fire hose, bunker gear, gloves and boots

MEETINGS

SLT (senior leadership team), EOC (emergency operations centre), MEG (municipal emergency group), REOC (regional emergency operations centre), MAC (medical assist committee), DC (district chiefs), regional chiefs, mayor, council, cannabis control committee

