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County council notes

? Tenders were awarded as follows: Dufferin County Forest, Moggie Valley Timber, in the amount of $28,250; Kaster Logging Ltd., in the amount of $27,120; Breen's Lumber, in the amount of $8,023.
? County Council endorsed the report of the Director of Community Services dated August 27, 2015, regarding the creation of a Dufferin County Poverty Task Force. During the 2016 Draft Budget discussion, there will be consideration of a $30,000 funding for a full-time or part-time Task Force coordinator through a partner agency.
? County Council endorsed the report of the Director of Community Services, dated August 27, 2015, regarding the Dufferin County Agency Collaboration Initiative. The initiative will see local agencies better working together to address local service needs.
? Official Plan (OP) implementation update: MMM will serve as Dufferin County's Consulting Planner of record and will administer the County planning process. A transition meeting with MMAH, County planning consultants and local planners is scheduled for September 2015. Documents circulated to local planners are as follows: flow charts outlining typical County OPA and typical local circulations (commenting/approval process); handbooks with respect to flow charts; County OPA application forms; major/minor application screening checklist; supporting study checklist (for pre-consultation and County OPA application).
Short term items:
* Finalize approval process for minor and major local OPAs and County OPAs
* Determine role and composition of a Planning Advisory Committee
* Draft fees bylaw and set planning fees
* Update website with application forms, handbooks and fees
* Develop annual reporting templates & growth monitoring
Longer term projects:
* Natural Heritage Systems Strategy Study (funds are included in the 2016 draft budget)
* Aggregate Resources Master Plan (if desired)
* Five year updates of local official plans and County Official Plan (Orangeville has commenced a review)
Ongoing planning tasks:
* Administer pre-consultation process
* Review and provide comments as required on local planning applications
* Provide comments on provincial policy matters related to current reviews
* Process application for County OPAs
? Work on the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus (WOWC) South West Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) project is moving forward and gaining interest across the region.
In recent months, there has been considerable activity and efforts to advance SWIFT.
Much of the recent focus was on providing requested information to the provincial and federal governments in anticipation of a decision on funding.
It is expected that a decision will be delayed due to the upcoming federal election.
The focus will now shift to communications with potential public sector partners and federal election candidates.
Work with respect to incorporating SWIFT will also be required in the coming months.
Developing ultra-high speed fibre broadband is necessary for future economic vitality.
Participation in the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus SWIFT initiative is in line with the corporate strategic directions and principals.
? Treasurer Alan Selby made a presentation to County Council regarding asset management. The presentation provided information such as statistics, trends, analysis, strategic plans and strategies for financial stability. The presentation can be viewed on the Dufferin County official website at: http://bit.ly/1F9lP

By Wendy Gabrek