

NEWS FROM COUNCIL CHAMBER

From Council Minutes of April and May 2020.

Council is meeting electronically. Links to meetings are posted on the Township Website approximately a week ahead of the schedule meetings. Ratepayers are welcome to attend these online meetings.

Council supports:

- Drafting a letter, to be shared with surrounding community councils, concerning lack of timely information about travel related and communal spread of the COVID-19 virus in this region, to be sent to pertinent Public Health and Ontario Government officials.

Council approves:

- The resolution that all Council meetings will be

electronic until further notice

Reports received and accepted:

- OPP Reports – January, February & March 2020/
- Water Testing – January, February & March 2020/ Letter Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal affairs & Housing – Planning Matters/
- Seniors Health Advisory Council/
- MPAC & Solicitor General Letters – Deferral of Payments

Next Scheduled Meeting: Committee of the Whole: Tuesday, June 16, 5:30pm. Regular Council Meeting, Wednesday, June 17, 5:30pm.

NOTE: Visit johnsontownship.ca for the latest news and information as well as council agendas.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

The Township welcomes new Lead Hand Terry Phillips and operator/hand Brian Orchard to the Public Works team.

- Half-loading is OFF
- Patching, maintenance gravel and grading is ongoing on all roads and grass cutting is ongoing.
- At this time, with the height of the water and danger of docks breaking chains and breaking loose, the placing of the Docks at the Boat Launch on Hwy 17 has been postponed.
- Please check the website for updates about summer time road closures. Closure signs will be installed a week in advance of the road work.

CEMETERY WORK BEES POSTPONED

Due to restrictions in place to due to Covid-19, Cemetery Bees are postponed.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYEE OPPORTUNITIES

Resumes are still being accepted at the Township Office or by email at people@johnsontownship.ca.

Submission deadline is extended to Wednesday, June 10th, at 4:30 PM.

Please check out the full youth employee resume requirements on the township website at:

johnsontownship.ca/2020/05/summer-job-opportunities/



1 Johnson Drive, Box 160
Desbarats, ON P0R 1E0

Telephone: 705-782-6601
Fax: 705-782-6780
E-mail:

people@johnsontownship.ca
Website:
www.johnsontownship.ca

Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm
Closed Saturday and Sunday

THIS DOCUMENT AND ANY PUBLIC DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE IN ACCESSIBLE FORMAT

Township of Johnson

LOCAL EVENT CANCELLATIONS

THE FOLLOWING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO RESTRICTIONS CAUSED BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- **BREAKFAST BUFFET**
- **SUSTAIN ALGOMA**
- **NORTH SHORE SLO-PITCH PROGRAM**
- **REG MCHALE MEMORIAL FAMILY FISHING DERBY**
- **BRUCE MINES CRUISIN' CAR SHOW** - Organizers are planning a virtual (online) show, please see "[Bruce Mines Cruisin' Car Show](#)" on Facebook.
- **NORTH SHORE SOCCER PROGRAM** - depending on directives by Algoma Public Health and the Ontario Government, we may try to hold some local pickup games. St. Joseph Township has cancelled all summer sports programs
- **BRUCE MINES COMMUNITY NIGHT**
- **JOHNSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY NIGHT** - At the recent Recreation Committee meeting it was agreed that, with all the unknowns and safety issues around Covid-19 and Ontario Government and Public

Health restrictions, **Community Night cannot be held.** We discussed the possibility of holding a parade only, if allowed by GO and APH, with prizes etc., while social distancing and people staying in their family bubbles. We discussed the theme "Salute to Front-line Workers", so that everyone could wear masks and feel comfortable. At the time of the publication of this newsletter, the Ontario State of Emergency has been extended to June 30 BUT Premier Ford has indicated that the province may open up regionally. So, we will continue to wait until mid-June to make a final decision on this...please keep in mind that the Township follows all directives by the provincial and regional Public Health bodies.

- **KENSINGTON CONSERVANCY** - is closed due to Covid-19. But you can see a lovely virtual tour of the Lang Family Preserve on their website at www.kensingtonconservancy.org/stories-from-the-field/virtual-tour-lang-family-preserve

OPENING OF FARMERS' MARKET

Saturday June 20, Johnson Township Community Centre. 9am—2pm. Johnson Farmers' Market will be following the Algoma Public Health guidelines which necessitates a number of changes. Please come with patience in mind as Market organizers work through the requirements to keep you AND the vendors safe. You will not be able to touch the product but will indicate your wishes by pointing and talking. Re-usable bags/totes are not permitted. Ven-

CONT'D P. 2



Landfill Site Hours

Summer Hours are now in affect to October 31

Saturday

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Noon – 7:00 p.m.

Reminder—no brush will be accepted during a Fire Ban in the Township of Johnson

May Tax Payment Deferral

May Tax Payment has been deferred to August on direction from the Government of Ontario Covid-19 guidelines for municipalities.

NOTICE: Due to Covid-19 and Public Health directives about social distancing, hours for **Township Office Employees are staggered.** Calls to the office may take several days to be returned, but emails to the office are checked daily by employees working remotely.

Local Area and Township Events	1
Recreation	2
Johnson Township Fire Dept.	2-3
Council News	4
Public Works	4



OPENING OF FARMER'S MARKET—CONT'D

dors will supply new bags for your orders as per Public Health directives.

All vendors will be housed under the pavilion. There will be no access to the arena itself. Unfortunately washrooms will not be available as the Township buildings are not open due to Public Health directives.

Customer co-operation in following the traffic flow directions and maintaining the 6' of physical distancing is a requirement. Procedures will be in place for cash or contact-less payments subject to customers preference.

Cheryl's Café will be open for take out by either calling your order ahead or knocking and she will take your order and then let you know when it is ready.

FOR RECREATION INFORMATION OR IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA TO SHARE
CALL PAT @ 705 782 6601 X 1-205 OR EMAIL pogorman@johnsontownship.ca

JOHNSON TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

IS HAND SANITIZER SAFE?

The Ontario Fire Marshall (OFM) has prepared the following questions and answers to assist fire departments in responding to fire safety concerns and enquiries related to the safe use and storage of alcohol-based hand sanitizers:

Is hand sanitizer flammable?

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is flammable and may give off flammable vapours which could ignite if exposed to open flame or an ignition source. Caution should be used to keep away from open flames and avoid sources of heat. Product label warnings should be carefully read and followed.

Is it safe to smoke after using a hand sanitizer?

Hand sanitizer is flammable and may give off flammable vapours. It should be kept away from open flames and sources of heat. When using hand sanitizer, hands should be rubbed together until they are completely dry. People should be especially careful if attempting to smoke, light candles, or use a gas stove immediately after applying hand sanitizer.

Is it safe to leave hand sanitizer in a hot vehicle?

According to the NFPA and the OFM, hand sanitizer will not spontaneously combust or explode if left in a hot vehicle. Containers should be kept in an upright position and properly sealed to avoid leakage. Containers should not be left in direct sunlight, as an added precaution, to avoid spillage or leakage from pressurization of the container. Product label warnings should be carefully read and followed.

If you have any questions, please contact the OFM @ mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/english/OfficeFireMarshal/

JOHNSON TOWNSHIP RECREATION

ALL RECREATION EVENTS AND PROGRAMS ARE CANCELLED AT THIS TIME DUE TO RESTRICTIONS AROUND COVID-19

TENNIS NETS ARE UP AND THE COURTS ARE OPEN!

Please follow Public Health directives about social distancing and numbers of people gathered.

BASEBALL DIAMOND INFIELD has been worked up and is open for **family units** to play baseball as per Ontario Government Restrictions concerning playground use.

SWIM PROGRAM - is cancelled for this year.

Rhodes has no information about how and when pools will be open, and several area municipalities are declining to participate this year in any event. Without the participation of all area municipalities the program is financially insupportable.

BURN PERMITS

are required for all fires in the township, **including for campfires on private property.** They are available on the Township Website. or by calling the office, and they are good until December 31, 2020.

**** A reminder that there is a daytime burning restriction at all times for the township****

There are questions that we often hear from residents, and so we thought we'd try our best to answer them

Why can't I burn during the day?

- Several factors here. As we have a Volunteer Fire Dept., many of our firefighters are at work and if there is a fire, we have less manpower. Also, winds tend to be higher during the day. Every year we have people start fires that get out of hand and require the FD—**EVERY YEAR.** This is costly to our volunteer resources and to you the taxpayer.

Why do I have to phone in that I am burning?

- For the simple reason that then we know where there is burning going on, so when someone calls in that they see smoke we don't have to call volunteers in and send them out on a wild goose chase—again a cost to our volunteer resources and to your tax dollars. If someone calls in a report we are legally obliged to attend that call. The less false alarms, the more we save on using up our human and tax resources.

- Prior to burning the permit holder, or designate, shall call 705-782-6802 and leave a message containing the following information:

1. Name
2. Civic Address
3. Permit Number
4. Date & Time of intended fire

BUILDING PERMITS

Applications for a building permit can be completed and either mailed or emailed to people@johnsontownship.ca or dropped off at the Township Office. Once received they will be processed and prepared for issuance. Please note that until further notice, Provincial regulations do not allow us to issue these permits subject to certain exceptions.

The Township will issue an invoice for the cost of the

- **Choose a safe time** - Any fire is more likely to get out of control on a hot, dry or windy day. Burn two hours before sunset or later, and ensure that they are out two hours after sunrise.
- **Keep your fire small** - Keep your pile of wood, brush, or debris less than 2m in diameter and less than 2m high.
- **Choose a safe site** - Piles must be at least 2m from any other flammable materials, 30m from a building or structure
- **Stay with your fire** - If you start a fire outdoors, you must take all necessary steps to tend the fire, keep it under control, and extinguish it before leaving the site.

JUNE'S FIRE SAFETY CONCERNS

§ Barbecues § Cottage fires § Forest fires

WHAT'S THE RISK IN JULY?

§ 9% of annual fires that incur a loss occur in July

§ Average of 32 injuries

§ Average of 4 fatalities

§ Top ignition sources: Cooking equipment
Cigarettes Electrical distribution equipment



permit until such time as the COVID-19 matter has concluded. If you have any questions please call 705-782-6601 ext. 1-201 or email cwray@johnsontownship.ca.

DOG TAGS

Issuance of Dog Tags is suspended for the time-being. You are invited to call the office with your dog's description, we will include it in our township data base in case your dog gets loose. Loose dogs have been returned quickly due to the township having this info.