

November 21, 2023 Blog

The Western Ontario Warden's Caucus (WOWC) has adopted my motion and taken an official position and written to the Ontario Government asking them to work with municipalities by:

“Revoking existing ‘strong mayor powers’ and to “only conduct structural and service delivery reviews of municipalities or regions where a majority of municipalities included within the region, request the same”.

A flyer pretending to be official Oxford policy has been distributed by some people. This flyer is in no way associated with Oxford County. None of the content reflects the policies or strategic goals of Oxford County. Google Oxford County Strategic Plan to find out the real plan for our communities developed by the Council you elected.

The Zorra Maintenance Facility is now complete, and housing all of our Public Works Staff and equipment in a facility that:

- delivers a suitable work environment,
- allows staff to properly maintain equipment,
- appropriately houses tens of millions of dollars of equipment,
- uses solar and geothermal to cost us all less in energy than the natural gas alternative over the life of the building,
- advances towards our goal of 100% renewable energy,
- pollutes less.

The budgeted cost of the project was \$10,084,600. The total cost of the completed project was \$10,094,917. A cost overrun of \$10,317 or 0.1%. But staff found another savings and it is now actually \$7840.48, or 0.08% UNDER total budget. This project was financed by obtaining a debenture (loan) through the County of Oxford with Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation (OILC) for \$8,641,600 with an interest rate of 4.44%, over twenty-five years. The remaining \$1,442,903 was contributed from the township's reserves (savings). There are no additional tax implications for the project as it is complete under budget and as financed. Zorra staff did a phenomenal job delivering a large, complex project under budget.

Check in on the website, follow the Township on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, phone or email Staff or Council: we want to hear from you. Join us and add to your community by doing your part!

As always, feel free to contact me on any issue:

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