



To: Mayor and Council
From: Scot Hunn, Planning Director
Date: January 10, 2025
Agenda Item: Highlands Parcels Planning and Public Engagement - Update

Staff has been tasked with coordinating a public outreach and engagement process as the Town considers alternative uses for the “Highlands Parcels Nos. 1 & 2” located within the Bolts Lake area.

The Highlands Parcels Nos. 1 & 2 have been acquired by the Town as part of the Settlement Agreement executed in 2024 between the Town and Battle North. Parcels 1 & 2 present a unique opportunity for Town to achieve certain strategic and community plan policy goals while generating revenue specifically earmarked for the water enterprise fund which may be used to offset the design and construction of a new water treatment plant and/or offset water rates for the Town’s citizens.

A [webpage](#) providing background information on the Bolts Lake area – specifically the Settlement Agreement and Highlands Parcels 1 & 2 – has been created; a short survey will go live the week of January 13th ; and staff will be working on preparing for an **open house to held Wednesday, January 29th, from 4:30pm-7:30pm at Town Hall.**

A link to the survey will be located on the Highlands Parcels webpage, will be distributed by e-blast, and the Town will include a link to the survey in the January Newsletter. Paper copies of the survey will also be available at Town Hall.

The format for the open house will include a series of stations with mapping and general information related to Parcels 1 & 2, along with opportunities for participants to ask questions, provide feedback through preference exercises, and talk with staff and other stakeholders about potential uses and issues related to Parcels 1 & 2.

The goal of this public engagement process – specifically the survey and open house – is to gather public input and preferences, ideas and concerns related to the future use or potential disposition (sale) of Parcels 1 & 2, to be considered by the Council when determining the highest and best use of the parcels.

The outcome of the public engagement process should also inform staff and the Council as to next steps which may include working with design and land planning professionals to create conceptual level land planning alternatives and scenarios.