Article 4 of 5 on O’Hare

A Special Series
Some Assembly Required. Batteries Not Included.

Part 4 of 5 | Nicholas Bozza

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Article headings and body only. Cartoon text, navigation notes, title block, sign-off, references and disclaimer excluded. Estimate uses 200 words per minute.

A campaign photograph is not a receipt

Tim O’Hare has a first-term record to explain. His campaign website and the supplied Facebook transcripts give voters an opportunity to compare the image he presents with the decisions he has made. A concern shared with me by residents is whether that presentation provides enough evidence of results, financial judgment and independent thinking to justify another term. [1–3]

The website contains policy priorities, committee roles, experience, testimonials and contact details. It is more than a photograph album. Nevertheless, residents I have spoken with and I find it stronger on intentions and involvement than on a dated account of difficult decisions, costs and outcomes. That is my assessment of the supplied screenshots, consistent with concerns residents have shared with me, not proof that explanations exist nowhere else. [1]

A campaign photograph tells us who is standing in front of the camera. It does not tell us who asked the difficult question after the camera left.

This is Part 4 of 5. The Special Edition stands separately. Part 5 turns to public conduct and accountability. Disappointment expressed to me provides context, not proof of broken commitments. A concern shared with me is whether his priorities sufficiently reflect the concerns residents raise. [2]

Promises need dates dollars and results

The website describes a safer, healthier community, residents having a voice, affordable housing, age-friendly initiatives, environmental protection and infrastructure improvements without heavy tax increases. These are legitimate priorities. The question is how much was delivered during his first term and what remains an ambition. [1]

A promise needs a baseline, an action, a timetable and a reported result. Otherwise, voters are left trying to assemble a record from committee names and encouraging adjectives. Even flat-pack furniture usually comes with numbered parts. In the spirit of the old Wendy’s commercial, I can imagine the demand: “**WHERE’S THE BASELINE? WHERE’S THE ACTION? WHERE ARE THE RESULTS?** AND WHILE WE’RE AT IT, O’HARE—WHERE’S THE BEEF?” This is my imagined parody, not an actual advertisement or endorsement.

For infrastructure, what counts as a heavy tax increase? What would be paid from reserves, borrowing, grants or development-related revenues? For affordable housing, which land, partners, affordability standards, funding and completion dates are proposed? The screenshots do not supply that framework. That supports a request for particulars, not a conclusion that he has no plan. [1]

Growth is not a personal trophy—and salesmanship is not a servicing plan

The supplied introductory transcript describes Thorold as Ontario's fourth fastest-growing city. Statistics Canada recorded growth from 18,801 residents in 2016 to 23,816 in 2021, or 26.7 per cent. Its comparison of municipalities with at least 5,000 residents placed Thorold eighth nationally; contemporary reporting identified the Ontario ranking as fourth. [3–5]

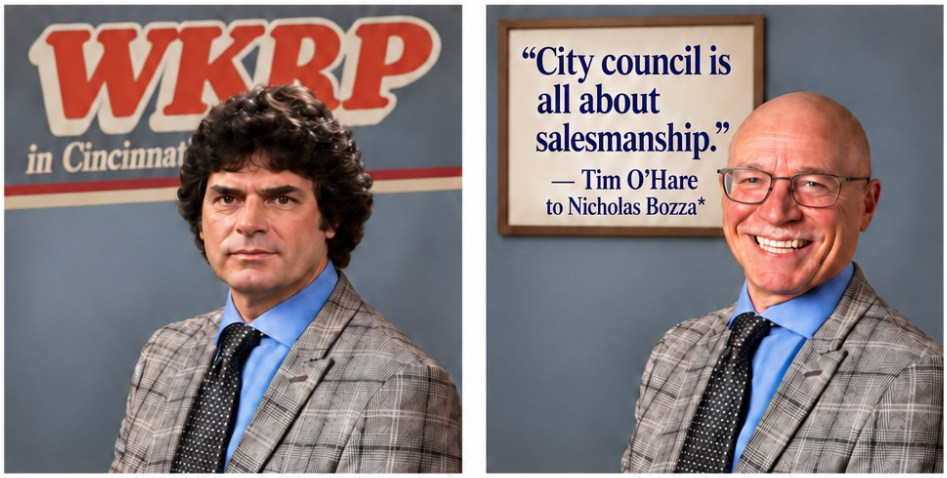
That period preceded O'Hare's first council term. It cannot fairly be counted as an achievement of his 2022–2026 service. Nor does that census ranking establish Thorold's present position. The transcript's reference to voting on October 24 is consistent with the 2022 campaign; the 2026 election is October 26. These passages must not all be presented as fresh 2026 promises. [3,5,13]

Growth is a planning challenge, not a ribbon for an incumbent's jacket. My Herb Tarlek comparison is satire about salesmanship: a memorable jacket cannot do the work of an infrastructure plan. Population figures alone do not demonstrate better affordability, reliable water pressure, safer streets or stronger finances.

Cartoon on next page.

Satirical illustration

THE CASE OF THE BORROWED JACKET



Herb Tarlek
Radio Station Sales MGR

Tim O'Hare

IMAGINED REMAKE SPECIAL — FICTIONAL DIRECTOR'S PHONE MESSAGE:

The WKRP director called: "Tell Tim to bring Herb's jacket back before filming starts!"

My view: salesmanship alone is not enough of a commitment to serve.
Others I have spoken with share that concern. — Nicholas Bozza

For younger readers: *WKRP in Cincinnati* was a classic sitcom (1978–1982). Herb Tarlek was its fictional radio station sales manager.

* Bozza's personal recollection of O'Hare's words; he firmly believes it is accurate. Not a recorded or independently verified quotation.

AI-created satire. The remake special, director's call and borrowed jacket are fictional.

Enjoy the satire. Read the articles behind it.
Thorold Election Commentary
www.thoroldelectioncommentary.ca
Feel free to share this cartoon.

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Allanburg puts the promise to the test

O'Hare's earlier campaign emphasized development compatible with established communities. The townhouse decision at 2248 Centre Street provides a concrete test. Residents raised traffic-safety and water-pressure concerns. The developer reduced the proposal from 15 homes to 10 and added sidewalks and parking. O'Hare credited the revisions and supported approval. Engineering staff expected a relatively small additional effect on the broader water-pressure problem. [6–7]

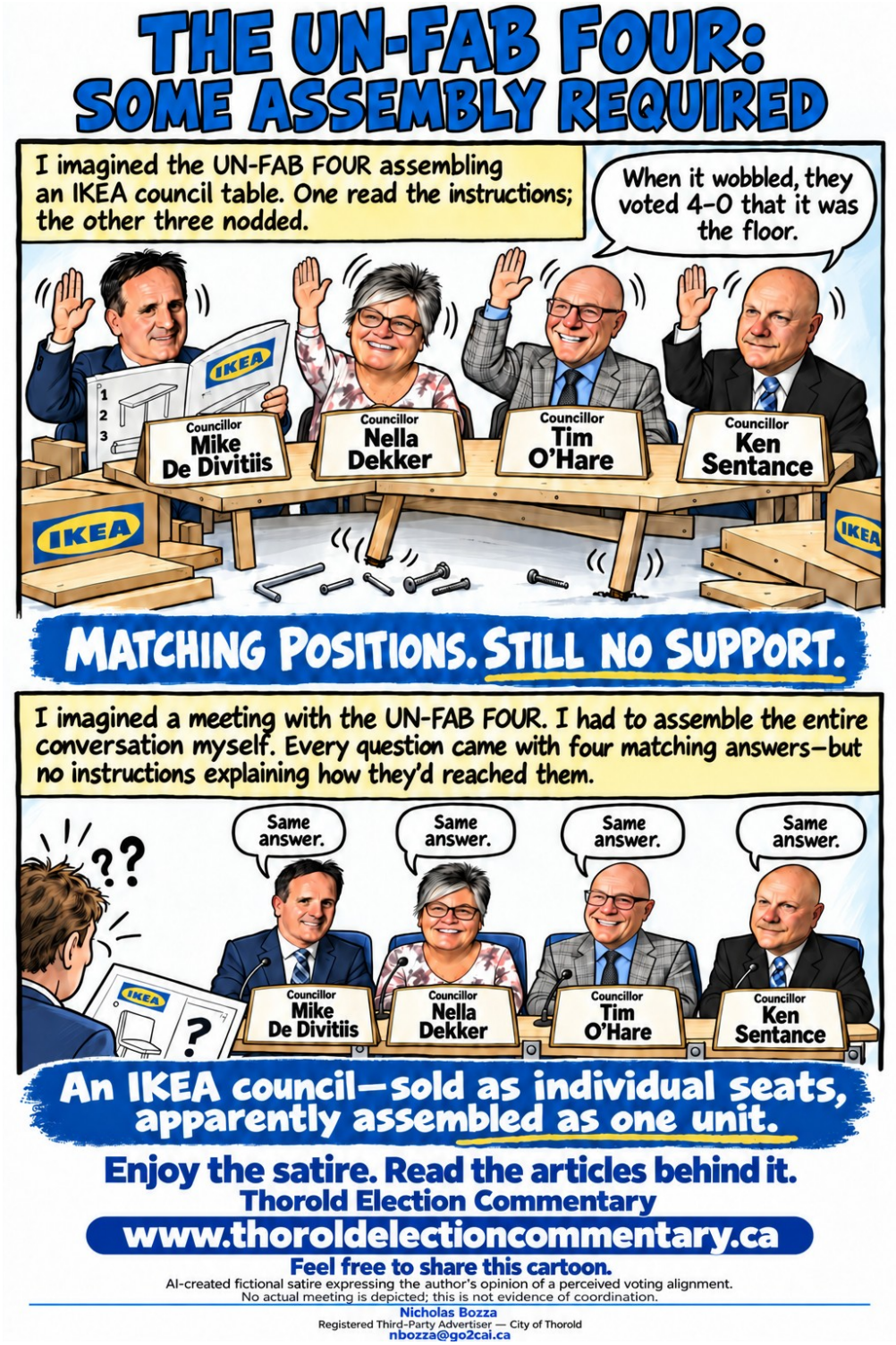
The zoning changes passed 5–4, supported by O'Hare, Nella Dekker, Ken Sentance, Mike De Divitiis and Mayor Terry Ugulini. Anthony Longo argued that existing infrastructure problems should be addressed before intensification. [7]

The question is specific: why did O'Hare consider the revisions and engineering advice sufficient before the existing concerns were resolved? **What conditions, monitoring or follow-up did he seek?** What happened afterward?

Supporting revised development is not automatically inconsistent with a campaign supporting managed growth. Fair scrutiny must acknowledge the changes and professional advice. **The issue is whether his reasoning and follow-through met his own neighbourhood-compatibility standard.** [6–7]

Residents deserve more than the municipal equivalent of "some assembly required" when the missing pieces involve the services outside their front doors. Was the accountability package bought flat-packed? The IKEA cartoon below makes that point as fictional satire.

Cartoon on next page.



Canada Games Park and the price of another opinion

On October 3, 2023, O'Hare voted against Jim Handley's motion seeking an external legal opinion concerning Canada Games Park's financial arrangements and consortium agreement. It failed 5–4, with O'Hare, Dekker, Sentance, De Divitiis and Ugulini opposed. O'Hare argued that experienced municipal lawyers had already advised on the agreement and questioned the value of further legal spending. [8]

That is a reason, and it should be reported. It also invites a further question: what information satisfied him that additional advice was unnecessary while financial disclosure restrictions, costs and access remained subjects of debate? **What alternative did he support to resolve those concerns?** [8]

A second opinion is not automatically money well spent. Refusing one does not automatically demonstrate thrift. The judgment depends on the question, the existing advice, the cost and the consequences of remaining uncertain.

His earlier scrutiny matters too. In April 2023, O'Hare questioned management about unused courts and rinks. Claiming that he never scrutinized the facility would therefore be inaccurate. A concern shared with me is whether the scrutiny he supported was sufficient. [9]

The City publishes consortium agreements and other documents. Availability helps, but residents still need a clear explanation of their obligations and options. A document collection is useful; it is not necessarily an answer written in ordinary English. [10]

O'Hare did not originate the 2021 agreement as a councillor. **His subsequent oversight is the issue.** What risks did he identify, what remedies did he consider, and what did he do to make the financial position understandable? Those are questions about his own decisions, not inherited blame. [8–10] I can hear the imagined customer again: "WHERE'S THE TRANSPARENCY?" I want to see through the paperwork to the decision—not pretend I can see into anyone's motives.

Cartoon on next page.



Four matching votes still need four explanations

I use UN-FAB FOUR to describe the recurring alignment I perceive among O'Hare, Dekker, Sentance and De Divitiis. Residents have shared similar concerns with me. Allanburg and Canada Games Park document agreement on two important decisions and explain why I question each member's independent reasoning on consequential matters. [2,7–8]

They do not establish an official caucus, a private agreement or coordination. **Two votes cannot establish an entire four-year pattern.** A comprehensive assessment would need a broader tally, contrary examples and the reasons members gave.

Independence does not mean disagreeing with colleagues as a hobby. Four councillors can reach the same conclusion honestly. **But four matching votes should not leave residents with one explanation—or none.** Council is not a four-piece dining set: matching chairs do not relieve each occupant of explaining the bill.

There is contrary evidence. In June 2024, O'Hare was the sole dissenter when council voted 7–1 to leave the Partners for Climate Protection program. That demonstrates that he can depart from the majority and is consistent with his environmental commitments. A fair assessment must acknowledge it. [11]

Contributions belong in the record too

The supplied material includes favourable testimonials about O'Hare's reliability, advice and research. They are supporters' assessments rather than independent audits, but favourable evidence is not disqualified simply because it is favourable. [1]

Thorold received Age-Friendly Community recognition in January 2026, and the City listed O'Hare among attendees at the ceremony. **That reflects collective community work, not an achievement belonging**

exclusively to one councillor. Reported work with students on wildlife structures at Port Robinson's Eco-Park is also a concrete contribution. [14,16] Our imaginary customer should acknowledge something substantial when it is actually on the tray.

His cemetery advocacy supplies evidence consistent with his inclusion message. In June 2026, he sought to open Section A for Muslim burials around an infant already interred there. Council rejected that approach and approved arrangements in Section H. His preferred solution can be debated without pretending that advocacy for the family contradicts inclusion. Part 5 examines the controversy more closely. [15]

The website also identifies heritage, museum, housing and other community roles. Voters can reasonably ask what protections, recommendations and completed work followed. For the museum, what was his particular contribution, and what are the timetable and operating obligations? For affordable housing, a unit count alone would not establish price, eligibility or lasting affordability. [1]

A public voice needs an answer back—not just another newsletter

The website promotes a newsletter and provides telephone, email and written contact options. Those channels deserve acknowledgment. **A newsletter, however, does not replace an accessible explanation of a controversial decision.** [1]

Earlier articles describe my recollections of supporting his candidacy and later believing my access to his Facebook page had been restricted. Those experiences, alongside concerns others have shared with me, explain my questions about responsiveness; they do not establish why a restriction occurred or who controlled the account. [2]

How does he record concerns, answer disagreement and follow up? Can residents using his published channels obtain a substantive response? **An open inbox is a starting point.** The useful part is what comes back. "Message received" is not quite the same product as "question answered."

Fewer seats and less room to wing it

The next council will have six councillors and a mayor, replacing eight councillors and a mayor. Four aligned members could form a majority of a fully participating seven-member council on an ordinary simple-majority vote. That arithmetic establishes neither who will win nor how anyone will vote. [13,17]

Thorold already has strong mayor powers. Budget amendments, vetoes and overrides follow particular procedures; **a routine voting majority does not automatically settle every question.** A capable councillor must understand those rules, examine evidence and develop workable alternatives. [20] My question is whether O'Hare and the other three can demonstrate those skills beyond the comfort of a familiar majority. Shared votes alone do not establish incapacity. **But a voting bloc is no substitute for a tool kit.**

O'Hare should explain how he would evaluate a mayoral budget, challenge an unsupported proposal and build support beyond familiar allies. Which examples demonstrate persuasion through evidence rather than reliance on a winning side?

Changes in regional representation do not establish withdrawal of Regional services. Niagara Region says the Better Regional Governance Act does not itself change its services or responsibilities. Any specific transfer needs an account of staffing, funding and timing. [19,21–22] A comfortable majority should not make those questions optional.

The missing instruction sheet

My central criticism, reflecting concerns residents have shared with me, is that the supplied campaign material leaves the difficult choices at Allanburg and Canada Games Park insufficiently explained. Photographs, testimonials and slogans are legitimate campaign tools. **They cannot substitute for the record of decisions, costs and follow-through.**

Residents have asked me for a documented account: what he initiated, how he voted, why he decided as he did, what was delivered and what remains unfinished. **The same standard should apply to every incumbent.**

The cartoons are fictional satire. Their point is my opinion, echoed in concerns shared with me: matching positions still need explanations. Voters should not have to assemble a record without an instruction sheet. With the teaching background he describes, I would expect the homework to be clearly laid out. No Allen key required. The missing part is the explanation, not the little bag of screws. [1]

Continued in Part 5 of 5, which examines public conduct and accountability. The Special Edition remains separate from this series.

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References and verification notes

[1] Website screenshots supplied October 14, 2026. Ten screenshots of timohare.ca, covering the opening graphic, priorities, testimonials, budget and housing statements, committees, experience, newsletter and contact section. Evidence of the displayed campaign material, not a complete live-site or linked-page audit. https://timohare.ca/

[2] Nicholas Bozza earlier articles. Rookie City Councillor Tim O'Hare — A Record to Defend Part 1 of 5 Series; Tim-OHare-Part-2-of-5-Final; Tim-OHare-Part-3-of-5-Final. Versions available October 14, 2026 were consulted. Personal recollections and commentary are not independent corroboration. The earlier articles were consulted as background for Parts 4 and 5 of this series.

[3] Facebook material supplied by the author. Transcribed introduction and re-election closing, plus anniversary passage, supplied in this conversation. Video boundaries and dates have not been independently verified. Original links: https://www.facebook.com/share/19kGwAmpUc/ ; https://www.facebook.com/share/r/19qXm5GRwF/ ; https://www.facebook.com/share/r/19atBHbw9j/ . The anniversary passage is not independently matched to a particular link.

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[7] Allanburg decision and reasons. Bernard Lansbergen, ThoroldToday, ICYMI Allanburg townhouse complex divides city council, August 13, 2023; original report August 2. Reports the revisions, engineering advice and 5–4 vote. The underlying council minutes were not independently retrieved in this review. https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/icymi-allanburg-townhouse-complex-divides-city-council-7397760

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[11] Independent environmental vote. Richard Hutton, The Trillium, Partnership dissolved Thorold pulls out of climate program, June 20, 2024. Reports a 7–1 vote with O'Hare the sole dissenter. https://www.thetrillium.ca/municipalities-newsletter/partnership-dissolved-thorold-pulls-out-of-climate-program-9110746

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[21] Regional governance and service review. Niagara Region, Governance Changes in Niagara. States that the Better Regional Governance Act does not itself change Regional programs, services or responsibilities; staff are reviewing municipal services separately. https://www.niagararegion.ca/government/council/governance-changes.aspx

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[28] Additional accounts supplied October 14, 2026. Nicholas Bozza's accounts and interpretations concerning Mal Woodhouse, the alleged remark about Italians and the reported June exchange with D'Angela. These are not independently verified quotations or findings. No original correspondence, firsthand statement or meeting timestamp was supplied for these particulars.

Disclaimer

This article contains my opinions and interpretations alongside information attributed to public sources and supplied campaign material. Personal recollections are not verbatim transcripts or independently corroborated findings. UN-FAB FOUR describes a perceived voting alignment, not an official caucus or a finding of collusion. Shared votes do not establish coordination, and disagreement with a decision does not prove incompetence or improper motives. The assessment does not claim that all website pages, newsletters, council records or four years of videos were reviewed. Video wording is based on supplied transcripts whose dates and boundaries remain unverified. Website observations concern the supplied screenshots. Reported allegations remain attributed allegations. Regional representation changes do not establish withdrawal of regional support or services. Readers should examine the cited sources and relevant explanations. I welcome documented corrections and a response from anyone discussed. This disclaimer does not validate unsupported claims or remove responsibility for accuracy. The fast-food customer and dialogue are imagined parody, with no restaurant endorsement implied. The WKRP illustration is satire; its attributed salesmanship quotation is the author's recollection, not an independently verified recording. No claim is made that O'Hare worked for IKEA.