



AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 16, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Councillor Sandra O'Connor, Councillor Erwin Wiens, Kai Wiens - Chair, John Fedorkow, Kathryn Hoshkiw, George Lepp, Albrecht Seeger, John Thwaites, Chris Van de Laar

Staff Present: Aimee Alderman – Director - Planning, Building & Development Services, Brad Disher - Chief Fire Prevention Officer, Connor MacIsaac - Planner II, Fiona Main - Senior Policy Planner, Shannon Mista - Legislative and Committees Coordinator, Dylan Skubel, Fire Prevention and Public Education Officer.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Kai Wiens, Chair at 1:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by: Chris Van de Laar

Seconded by: John Fedorkow

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

APPROVED

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None were declared.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Councillor O'Conner, inquired if Staff incorporated the motion; That staff look at the 2017 Official Plan and pull as much information as possible from this plan for the 2025 Official Plan and; That staff align with the Niagara Region Official Plan section 4.1.1.5 as closely as possible were

completed and followed through with for the Official Plan and the site alteration by-law.

Kia Wiens, Chair, provided an update on Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and Regional Housing Inspection Fees.

Chris Van de Laar, provided an update on the Road Quality.

Moved by: Albrecht Seeger

Seconded by: George Lepp

The September 10, 2025, minutes were received.

APPROVED

5. BUSINESS

5.1 Burn Permits

The Committee asked clarifying questions and provided feedback for Brad Disher, Chief Fire Prevention Officer, and Dylan Skubel, Fire Prevention and Public Education Officer.

5.2 Irrigation - Line 2 Extension

Kai Wiens, Chair, provided the Committee with an overview of the memorandum.

5.2.1 Memo re: Line 2 Road Allowance

Moved by: Chris Van de Laar

Seconded by: John Fedorkow

That the Committee receive the memorandum.

APPROVED

5.3 Amalgamation

Kai Wiens, Chair, gave an overview of why he wanted to bring forward this motion.

5.3.1 Motion

Moved by: Kathryn Hoshkiw

Seconded by: John Thwaites

That any future discussions regarding potential amalgamation include the agricultural community to ensure the unique forms of agricultural lands in Niagara-on-the-Lake are represented and protected, and;

That the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Rural Affairs, along with the Minister of Municipal Affairs be included in any advocacy efforts.

APPROVED

5.4 263 Concession 6 Road - Policies Feedback within OMAFRA Guidelines

The Committee discussed the OMAFRA Policies and Guidelines for this application, in detail and asked clarifying questions of the presenters.

The Committee also provided feedback to Staff on the policies of OMAFRA for the use of the land application.

5.4.1 Eric Brathwaite - MHBC - Planning Application History

Eric Brathwaite, Associate from MHBC presented on the history of the application for 263 Concession 6 Road.

5.4.2 John Liotta - Colville Consulting - OMAFRA Guidelines

John Liotta, Consultant from Colville Consulting presented on the OMAFRA policies and guidelines for the application located at 263 Concession 6 Road.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Albrecht Seeger

Seconded by: John Thwaites

That the Niagara-on-the-Lake Agriculture Committee hereby adjourns sine die on March 11, 2026, at 2:53 p.m.

APPROVED