



AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday February 21, 2019

04:00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Wendy Cheropita, Councillor Erwin Wiens, Dennis Dick, John Fedorkow, Kathryn Hoshkiw, Austin Kirkby, John Thwaites, Chris VandeLaar, Kai Wiens

REGRETS:

None

STAFF:

Eric Withers - Manager of Planning

Rick Wilson - Senior Planner

Tara Druzina - Administrative Assistant, Community & Development Services

Peter Todd - Town Clerk

OTHERS:

Lord Mayor Betty Disero

Councillor Stuart McCormack

1. Call to Order

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 4:07.

2. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Nominations were called for the Chair and Vice Chair positions.

Moved by Kathryn Hoshkiw that Kai Wiens be appointed Chair for the 2018-2022 Committee term.

Moved by Austin Kirkby that John Fedorkow be appointed Vice Chair for the 2018-2022 Committee term.

APPROVED.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by John Fedorkow that the agenda be adopted as presented.

APPROVED.

4. Presentations

4.1 Peter Todd, Town Clerk Town's Procedural By-law & Committee Member's Obligations

Town Clerk, Peter Todd, provided the Committee with an overview of the Town's Procedural By-law and Code of Conduct along with the Agricultural Committee's obligations.

4.2 Eric Withers, Manager of Planning Agricultural Committee's Terms of Reference

Eric Withers, Manager of Planning, provided the Committee with an overview of its' Terms of Reference and legislative framework. Mr. Withers reviewed best practices for the Committee.

Moved by Austin Kirkby that the Terms of Reference for the Agricultural Committee be amended to include the following under the *Support Staff* section of the Terms of Reference;

That staff ensure that all correspondence that could impact the Agricultural Industry/Community be directed to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Agricultural Committee for review and input if deemed necessary and that any proposed policies from the Federal, Regional or Town Governments and any agency that could affect the Agricultural Industry/Community be directed to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Agricultural Committee for review and input if deemed necessary.

APPROVED.

5. Conflict of Interest

There were none.

6. Correspondence

There were none.

8. Business

8.1 Rick Wilson, Senior Planner

Draft Official Plan (December, 2018)

Official Plan Review - Process Update

Senior Planner, Rick Wilson, educated the Committee on the Official Plan process and where the Town currently is within that process. He answered questions regarding response time from the Consultants and the anticipated adoption date by Council.

Clarification from the Committee was sought regarding specific definitions in the Draft Plan. Mr. Wilson took note of the Committee's questions and concerns and will forward such to the Town's consultants for review.

Mr. Wilson advised that written comments should be endorsed by the Committee for the consultant's consideration.

9. New Business

9.1 Cannabis - Councillor Wendy Cheropita

Councillor Wendy Cheropita explained that a new committee is being formed to address Cannabis in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Councillor Cheropita noted that Councillor Erwin Wiens will be joining her on the committee. It was suggested that Austin Kirkby and Dennis Dick consider being a resource to this committee. Kathryn Hoshkiw showed interest in the group as well. Co-ordinated efforts will take place in the near future.

9.2 Phragmites - Dennis Dick

Dennis Dick asked staff to consider including in the next budget financial resources for the machinery necessary to eradicate phragmites.

Kai Wiens asked staff to investigate if the phragmites group formed last year is still active and if George Lepp is still a member of such. Staff committed to bringing back answers to the Committee at the next meeting.

The Committee asked that the phragmites issue be a regular agenda item moving forward.

10. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for March 7th - 4:30 - 6:30.

11. Adjournment

Austin Kirkby motioned that the meeting be adjourned.

APPROVED.

ADJOURNMENT: 06:45 PM