



Committee Report

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: January 21, 2021
Meeting Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

Agricultural Advisory Committee Recommendations

NOTE: The following are recommendations from the Agricultural Advisory Committee to be considered for adoption by Council

- [Receive Minutes \(January 21, 2021\)](#)

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes dated January 21, 2021 as attached, for information purposes.

B Staff Reports and Deputations

B.3 Staff Reports, if any

B.3.1 [2021 Wild Chervil Management Strategy, CSOPS.21.005](#)

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT in accordance with the January 21, 2021 recommendation from the Agricultural Advisory Committee with respect to 2021 Wild Chervil Management Strategy, CSOPS.21.005, Council of the Town of the Blue Mountains endorses the 2021 Wild Chervil Management Strategy as presented.



Minutes

The Blue Mountains, Agricultural Advisory Committee

Date: January 21, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers - Virtual Meeting
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON
Prepared by:
Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

Members Present: Councillor Andrea Matrosovs, John Ardiel, Duncan McKinlay, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Rosemary Mesley, Lynn Vail, Dennis Ouellette

Staff Present: Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons, Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Director of Planning and Development Services Nathan Westendorp, By-law Supervisor Wayne DeWitt, Senior Policy Planner Shawn Postma, By-law Officer Raymond White

A. Call to Order

A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

A.2 Committee Member Attendance

Executive Assistant Committees of Council Sarah Merrifield confirmed that all Committee members were present.

A.3 Introduction of Elora Tarlo, Agricultural Advisory Committee Member

Councillor Andrea Matrosovs welcomed Committee member Elora Tarlo. Elora referenced her educational background in Environment and Resource Studies with a focus on sustainable agriculture and conventional agriculture. Elora noted the many dimensions of farming, and cited her thesis relating to measurement of soil carbon to determine organic matter levels in fields, thereby confirming fertilizer needs. Elora noted she has her import permit for plants and noted she is locally connected as someone who was raised in the area.

A.4 Approval of Agenda

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Rosemary Mesley

THAT the Agenda of January 21, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 ROMA Delegations Update, Item E.1.2 On-Road Parking and Impact to Movement of Agricultural Equipment, and Item E.1.3 Transportation Committee Update.

Yay (7): John Ardiel, Duncan McKinlay, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Rosemary Mesley, Dennis Ouellette, Elora Tarlo, Lynn Vail, and Councillor Matrosovs.

The motion is Carried (7 to 0)

A.5 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, Agricultural Advisory Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

A.6 Previous Minutes

Moved by: Rosemary Mesley

Seconded by: Lynn Vail

THAT the Minutes of December 10, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Yay (7): John Ardiel, Duncan McKinlay, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Rosemary Mesley, Dennis Ouellette, Elora Tarlo, Lynn Vail, and Councillor Matrosovs.

The motion is Carried (7 to 0)

B. Staff Reports and Deputations

B.1 Deputations, if any

B.2 Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Agricultural Advisory Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair. Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters, or regarding matters that are a follow-up to a Public Meeting.

NOTE: Committee meetings are currently taking place virtually to assist with social distancing with respect to COVID-19. Comments received from the public that have not been included on the Agenda will be read at the meeting by the Executive Assistant.

None

B.3 Staff reports, if any

B.3.1 2021 Wild Chervil Management Strategy, CSOPS.21.005

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Grant McMurchy

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receive Staff Report CSOPS.21.005 entitled "2021 Wild Chervil Management Strategy";

AND THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorse the 2021 Wild Chervil Management Strategy.

Yay (7): John Ardiel, Duncan McKinlay, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Rosemary Mesley, Dennis Ouellette, Elora Tarlo, Lynn Vail, and Councillor Matrosovs.

The motion is Carried (7 to 0)

Director of Operations Shawn Carey and By-law Supervisor Wayne DeWitt left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

C. Matters for Discussion

C.1 Memorandum: Shawn Postma, Senior Policy Planner Re: Application for Zoning By-law Amendment - No.1 Auto, Highway 26

Senior Policy Planner Shawn Postma advised the Committee that the Planning Memorandum as presented was prepared to receive feedback from the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Shawn reviewed the memorandum and noted that any comments received from the Committee will be incorporated into the follow-up staff report. Shawn provided an overview of the comments received with respect to the application and noted that generally there are no concerns raised by those who have provided comments.

Committee members noted their support of the application for No.1 Auto and noted the business has been helpful for the agricultural community with respect to the service it provides as an autobody shop. Committee members further noted the existing lands are not prime Agricultural lands.

Shawn Postma confirmed that the comments received by the Committee will be referenced in the staff report that is a follow-up to the Public Meeting.

Senior Policy Planner Shawn Postma left the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

C.2 Bayou Cable Park Status Update (verbal)

Director of Planning and Development Services Nathan Westendorp advised that the Bayou Cable Park planning application is still under review and there is no further progress to report at this time.

C.3 "Livestock at Large" Update - Committee member Duncan McKinlay (verbal)

Committee member Duncan McKinlay advised he has conducted research to this point regarding the issue of livestock at large. He referenced a pilot project from northern Ontario that is no longer in place. Duncan further noted he has contacted OMAFRA and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and OSPCA regarding whether the *Pound Keepers Act* is applicable with respect to livestock at large. Duncan noted he has not received concrete information at this point on the matter. Duncan requested that legal services or clerks services attend an upcoming meeting to provide some clarity on the matter. Executive Assistant Committees of Council Sarah Merrifield confirmed that a request from the Committee regarding resources allocated regarding "livestock at large" is being considered by Council.

D. Correspondence

D.1 OMAFRA Re: New Regulatory Proposal to Implement Recent Amendments to the Drainage Act (Bill 197)

Moved by: Grant McMurchy
Seconded by: Dennis Ouellette

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives correspondence item D.1 OMAFRA Re: New Regulatory Proposal to Implement Recent Amendments to the Drainage Act (Bill 197) for information purposes.

Yay (7): John Ardiel, Duncan McKinlay, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Rosemary Mesley, Dennis Ouellette, Elora Tarlo, Lynn Vail, and Councillor Matrosovs.

The motion is Carried (7 to 0)

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to Agenda

E.1.1 ROMA Delegations Update

Councillor Matrosovs advised the Committee that the Town did not receive a delegation with OMAFRA at the ROMA Conference. Councillor Matrosovs noted the Committee's requests, as discussed at the December 2020 meeting, can be considered in the future should a subsequent opportunity to meet with OMAFRA arise.

E.1.2 On-Road Parking and Impact to Movement of Agricultural Equipment

Committee member Duncan McKinlay pointed to a recent increase in cars parked on rural roads for recreational purposes in The Blue Mountains. Duncan noted that there were issues with road maintenance equipment not being able to perform sanding, etc. over the holiday break due to cars parked for recreational purposes. Duncan further advised he has discussed these issues with Niagara Escarpment Commission and noted that various regions are experiencing similar issues. Duncan commented that similar issues will be experienced in the summer.

Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons advised that the Town has been reviewing its Parking Restrictions By-law based on these issues. Duncan noted that "no parking signs" are not as effective as designated parking areas.

Committee member John Ardiel questioned what the property owner's rights are if a car is parked in such a way that they are on public property but blocking access to a field or other private property. Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons advised he would review the query and follow-up.

E.1.3 Transportation Committee Update

Committee member John Ardiel provided an update regarding the recent Transportation Committee meeting. John noted the Transportation Committee discussed regulation of All-Terrain Vehicles ("ATV") on municipal roads. The Blue Mountains has a by-law that does not permit ATVs on municipal roadways except for agricultural uses. John further confirmed that those individuals using ATVs on municipal roadways for agricultural purposes must be insured, the vehicle must be registered and bear a slow-moving vehicles sign, and finally the driver must be wearing a helmet. John advised that the Transportation Master Plan work has been awarded to Stantec Consulting. John advised that the Town is working towards an alternate route around Thornbury, along with a potential road swap with the County.

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Slow Moving Vehicle Signage and Responsibility of "livestock at large without supervision"
- Trespassing as it relates to food safety, security and liability (incl. OPP, By-law, Ministry of Labour, Town Communications staff)
- Follow-up from OMAFRA regarding Nitrous Oxide, once received
- Bayou Cable Park Status Update, Tree Preservation By-law Update
- Transportation Committee Update (road swap, Transportation Master Plan)
- Review of Bill 156 and Associated Regulations

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

February 18, 2021

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtual)

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Lynn Vail

Seconded by: Rosemary Mesley

THAT The Agricultural Advisory Committee does now adjourn at 8:24 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Yay (7): John Ardiel, Duncan McKinlay, James McKinlay, Grant McMurchy, Rosemary Mesley, Dennis Ouellette, Elora Tarlo, Lynn Vail, and Councillor Matrosovs.

The motion is Carried (7 to 0)