



Hamilton

MINUTES 13-003
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 19, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Room 264
Hamilton City Hall

Present: Chair D. Cranston
Vice Chair A. Spoelstra
Councillor R. Pasuta
W. Arndt, G. Hyde, F. Trauttmansdorff, C. McMaster, D. Smith,
N. Mill, J. Mantel,

Absent with Regrets: Councillors L. Ferguson, B. Johnson, J. Partridge
R. Shuker, P. Krakar, R. Saccomano

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

(Switzer/Arndt)

That the agenda be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)

None

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) August 19, 2013 (Item 3.1)

(Switzer/Arndt)

That the minutes of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee of August 19, 2013, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

(d) PRESENTATION (Item 5)

(i) Golden Horseshoe Agricultural and Agri-Food Economic Profile (no copy) (Item 5.1)

Margaret Walton gave a presentation to the Committee respecting the Golden Horseshoe Agricultural and Agri-Food Economic Profile. The presentation outlined data respecting farming activities within the Golden Horseshoe, and how this data related to farming activities within the City of Hamilton.

(Arndt/Spoelstra)

That the presentation respecting the Golden Horseshoe Agricultural and Agri-Food Economic Profile, be received.

CARRIED

(e) DISCUSSION (Item 5)

(i) A Food Charter for Hamilton (Item 6.1)

Donna Weldon Health Promotion Specialist spoke to the work of the Food Security Stakeholders Committee, and their work on the food charter that was before the Committee. The Committee discussed some of the key points of the charter, and ways in which it could be improved.

(Switzer/Smith)

That the Food Charter for Hamilton, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Road Salt Usage in the Rural Area (no copy) (Item 6.2)

(iii) Culverts and Rural Road Drainage (no copy) (Item 6.3)

(Pasuta/McMaster)

That items respecting: Road Salt Usage in the Rural Area and Culverts and Rural Road Drainage, be deferred to the next meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

(iv) Proposed Rural Zoning (Item 6.4)

Joanne Hickey-Evans Manager, Planning Policy and Zoning By-Law Reform and Heather Travis Senior, spoke to the proposed rural zoning changes. Staff discussed the changes with respect to the rural zones that have been proposed. The Committee expressed concerns with non agricultural businesses in the rural area, agritourism, and home businesses operating on agricultural lands. The Committee indicated that the Draft Rural Zones and Definitions were good but there should be further investigation in required to ensure the best results for the rural area.

(McMaster/Pasuta)

That staff take into considerations the concerns address by the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

(v) Grants Evaluation 2013 (Item 6.5)

(Switzer/Spoelstra)

That the Grants Evaluation 2013 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(vi) Federal and Provincial Programs for Rural Broadband/Internet Connection (no copy) (Item 6.6)

Brian Morris Business Development Consultant, indicated that there currently is no funding opportunities for the City to pursue. There was funding through the Build Canada fund and the Rural Broadband Connection Program, both of these funds are complete and not slated to reopen. Mr. Morris indicated that the City is working with other western Ontario municipalities to secure funding for the expansion of internet services in the rural area. The Committee inquire if any programs were available to offer individuals in the rural area internet service free of charge. Staff indicated that no such program exists, to their knowledge.

(Hyde/Tranttmansdorff)

That the information respecting the Federal and Provincial Programs for Rural Broadband/Internet Connection be received.

CARRIED

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 6)

(Tranttmansdorff/Mill)

That the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee be adjourned at 9:30
p.m.

CARRIED

Doug Cranston, Chair
Agricultural and Rural Affairs
Advisory Committee

Christopher Newman
Legislative Coordinator