



Hamilton

**Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee  
Report 15-002**

7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 29, 2015  
Ancaster Fairgrounds, Room C  
630 Trinity Road South, Ancaster**

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**Present:** Councillor L. Ferguson, Councillor R. Pasuta, J. Mantel, C. McMaster, N. Mills, J. Medeiros, R. Shuker, A. Sinclair, D. Smith, A. Spoelstra

**Absent with  
Regrets:** Councillor B. Johnson - Personal  
Councillor J. Partridge – City Business  
M. Switzer - Personal  
A. Chen and W. Robins

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**THE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS  
REPORT 15-002 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

**1. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair (Item A)**

That Andrew Spoelstra be appointed Chair of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee for the 2014-2018 term of Council.

That Dale Smith be appointed Vice-Chair of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee for the 2014-2018 term of Council.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:**

**(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

The Committee Clerk advised of the following change to the agenda:

- (i) Added as Item 11.1 (General Information/Other Business) – Update on the Greenbelt Consultation Process

The agenda for the September 29, 2015 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(c) MINUTES (Item 3)**

**(i) January 15, 2015 (Item 3.1)**

The Minutes of the January 15, 2015 Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee meeting were approved, as presented.

**(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)**

**(i) Mary Ellen Prange, Health Promotion Specialist, and Elizabeth Smith, Public Health Dietician, respecting the City's Food Strategy (Item 7.1)**

Ms. Mary Ellen Prange, Health Promotion Specialist, and Ms. Elizabeth Smith, Public Health Dietician, provided the Committee with information about the City's Food Strategy.

Ms. Prange distributed a handout entitled "Love your City – It Feeds Us". A copy of the handout has been retained for the official record. Ms. Prange provided an overview of the document and outlined what the City's visions and goals are in creating a Food Strategy.

Ms. Prange and Ms. Smith asked Committee members for their feedback and suggestions on the draft policy.

The presentation respecting the City's Food Strategy, was received.

**(ii) Sue Gilpin, Superintendent, Environmental Services, Public Works Department, respecting Phragmites Control (Item 7.2)**

Ms. Sue Gilpin, Superintendent, Environmental Services, Public Works Department, provided the Committee with an update respecting Phragmites Control.

Ms. Gilpin distributed a document entitled, "Smart Practices for Controlling Invasive Phragmites in Ontario's Roadside Ditches". A copy of the document has been retained for the official record.

Ms. Gilpin's presentation included, but was not limited to, the following information:

**Planning Committee – October 20, 2015**

- Negative Impacts of Phragmites
- Methods the City is using to control the spread of Phragmites
- Partnership with the Hamilton Conservation Authority and the Royal Botanical Gardens to control the plant
- Plans for 2016

The presentation respecting Phragmites Control, was received.

**(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)**

**(i) Update from Brian Morris, Business Development Consultant, respecting the Development of the Agriculture Program - City Enrichment Fund (Item 8.1)**

Mr. Brian Morris, Business Development Consultant, provided the Committee with information respecting the Development of the Agriculture Program - City Enrichment Fund.

Mr. Morris distributed a document entitled, "City Enrichment Fund Agriculture Program – Guidelines". A copy of the document has been retained for the official record.

Mr. Morris provided information to the Committee regarding the objectives of the program, the eligibility criteria and the application process.

The update from Brian Morris, Business Development Consultant, respecting the Development of the Agriculture Program - City Enrichment Fund, was received.

**(ii) Update from Joanne Hickey-Evans, Manager, Policy Planning and Zoning By-law Reform respecting the Rural Zoning By-law (Item 8.2)**

Ms. Joanne Hickey-Evans, Manager, Policy Planning and Zoning By-law Reform, provided the Committee with information respecting the Rural Zoning By-law.

The new Rural Zoning By-law was approved by Council in July of this year. Appeals have been received and the City is awaiting a hearing date from the Ontario Municipal Board to consider the matter.

The Update from Joanne Hickey-Evans, Manager, Policy Planning and Zoning By-law Reform respecting the Rural Zoning By-law, was received.

**(f) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)**

**(i) Update on the Greenbelt Consultation Process (Added Item 11.1)**

Ms. Joanne Hickey-Evans, Manager, Policy Planning and Zoning By-law Reform, provided the Committee with an update respecting the Greenbelt Consultation Process.

With the aid of display boards, Ms. Hickey-Evans showed a map to the Committee of the lands designated in the City as being part of the Greenbelt.

Ms. Hickey-Evans stated that the City is holding public meetings for citizens to comment on the Greenbelt Review. The province is currently undertaking the Greenbelt Review and asking for input. A report outlining what was heard during the consultation process will be going to the Planning Committee later this year.

The update from Joanne Hickey-Evans, Manager, Policy Planning and Zoning By-law Reform, respecting the Greenbelt Consultation Process, was received.

**(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)**

There being no further business, the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Spoelstra, Chair  
Agriculture and Rural Affairs  
Advisory Committee

Lauri Leduc  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk