

Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Report 15-003

7:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 26, 2015
Ancaster Fairgrounds, Room C
630 Trinity Road South, Ancaster

Present:

Councillor R. Pasuta, A. Spoelstra (Chair), D. Smith (Vice Chair), C. McMaster, J. Medeiros, N. Mills, A. Sinclair, R. Shuker, K. Smith

Absent with

Councillors B. Johnson, L. Ferguson and J. Partridge

Regrets:

A. Chen, J. Mantel, W. Robins, M. Switzer

THE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 15-003 AND RESPECTULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. City of Hamilton Building Division respecting the Issues of Building Permits for Agricultural Buildings (Item 8.1)

That staff be directed to investigate if the City of Hamilton has the authority to require applicants to include a Farm Business Registration Number when they are applying for a building permit to construct a Farm Building (following the definition set out in the *Ontario Building Code*); and report to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee.

2. Greenbelt Boundary Review Boundary Review (Added Item 8.3)

That, in the submission from the City of Hamilton to the Province's Greenbelt Boundary Review, the following recommendations be considered (as outlined in the map by Dillon Consulting attached hereto as Appendix A):

- (i) That the area labelled as number three on Golf Club Road (bounded by Fletcher Road in the west to Third Line East in the east) remain in the Greenbelt; and,
- (ii) That the area labelled as number one, Portions A, B and C, be added to the Greenbelt.

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 8.3 – Greenbelt Boundary Review

The agenda for the November 26, 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) September 29, 2015 (Item 3.1)

The Minutes of the September 29, 2015 Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee meeting were approved, as presented.

(d) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)

(i) Janice Janiec, Project Manager, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, respecting Agri-food Asset Mapping and Analysis of Food and Farming Assets in the Golden Horseshoe (Item 7.1)

Janice Janiec, Project Manager, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, addressed the Committee respecting Agri-food Asset Mapping and Analysis of Food and Farming Assets in the Golden Horseshoe with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been retained for the official record. Ms. Janiec's presentation included, but was not limited to, the following:

- Map of the Investment in the Project by Seven Regional Governments
- Identifying Assets in the Agri-Food Value Chain: Production, Farms, Suppliers, Processing, Distribution and Consumption
- Project Objectives and Approach
- Accomplishments Phase 1
- Lessons Learned and Results
- Growing the Cluster (increasing agri-food production, investment and employment with a shrinking land base):
 - Increase Further Processing Capacity
 - Increase Average Production Value per Acre with High Value Crops
 - Further Develop On-farm Value Added and Farm Direct Sales by Creating Demand for Local Food
- Asset Mapping
- Project Results To Date and Results by 2016
- Taking a Regional Perspective
- Next Steps

The presentation respecting Agri-food Asset Mapping and Analysis of Food and Farming Assets in the Golden Horseshoe was received.

(e) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)

(i) Bob Paul, Manager of Roads and Maintenance, respecting the Condition of Rural Roads (Item 8.1)

Mr. Bob Paul, Manager of Roads and Maintenance addressed the Committee about issues relating to Rural Roads. Mr. Paul was joined by Ms. Tammy Blackburn, Senior Project Manager, Roads and Maintenance.

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Paul provided an overview of the activities of the Road and Maintenance department. A copy of the presentation has been retained for the official record. The presentation included, but was not limited to, the following information:

- Rural Activities: Pothole Maintenance, Patching, Grading and Rolling, Snow Plowing and Winging Back; Shoulder Maintenance, Rural Grass Cutting, Culvert Maintenance and Replacement, Bridge and Barrier Inspections and Ditches
- Re-active Events: Storm Tree Response, Bulk Litter Clean Up, Guiderail Repairs, Intersection Sweeping, Post/Barrier Inspections and Repairs and Site Line Issues

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- Winter Control Program Overview
 - Mission
 - Infrastructure
 - Core Activities
- Facts and Statistics about the Roads and Maintenance Department

The presenters then answered questions from the Committee about various issues and concerns.

The presentation respecting the Condition of Rural Roads was received.

(ii) City of Hamilton Building Division respecting the Issuance of Building Permits for Agricultural Buildings (Item 8.2)

Mr. Radek Wodzinowski, Building Engineer, was in attendance to answer questions from the Committee about the issuing of building permits for agricultural buildings.

Mr. Wodzinowski distributed a handout about building permits. A copy of the handout has been retained for the official record.

Mr. Wodzinowski gave an overview of the document which included, but was not limited to, the following information:

- When a Building Permit is Required
- Building Permit Exemptions
- What is a Complete Application
- Definition of a Farm Building
- When is an Engineer Required
- Ontario Building Code and the National Farm Building Code
- Building Uses versus Actual Farm Use
- Temporary Buildings and Storage Containers

The presentation respecting the Issuance of Building Permits for Agricultural Buildings was received.

For disposition on this matter refer to Item 1.

(iii) Greenbelt Boundary Review (Added Item 8.3)

Chair Spoelstra distributed a map by Dillon Consulting to aid in the discussion surrounding the Greenbelt Boundary Review. A copy of the map has been retained for the official record.

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The Committee used this opportunity to discuss the Greenbelt Review and the areas that City staff are proposing to add and remove from the Greenbelt.

For disposition on this matter refer to Item 2.

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 12)

There being no further business, the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Spoelstra, Chair Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

Lauri Leduc Legislative Coordinator Office of the City Clerk

