

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

Planning Committee: May 17, 2016

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. JOHNSON.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....

Re: To Limit the Agricultural Use Development Designation Only to Those Properties Used for Agricultural Purposes

WHEREAS, property owners in the rural areas in the City of Hamilton are constructing accessory buildings such as pole barns and then changing their use from agricultural to commercial/industrial and not notifying the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, property owners in the urban boundary when constructing similar structures must pay a range of City fees (DC's, Parkland Dedication) and increased property taxes;

WHEREAS, in order to restore financial equality, similar structures with similar uses, whether in the urban or rural boundary within the City of Hamilton should be treated the same regarding City fees; and

WHEREAS; there is currently no process to effectively limit the agricultural use development designation only to those property owners who will use their developments only for agricultural purposes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to revise the City's Development Charge (DC) By-law regarding Agricultural DC Exemptions at the next opportunity (currently forecast to be 4th quarter of 2016) and report to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee;
- (b) That staff revise the Agricultural Use Definition in the City's DC By-law so that a "Farm Business Registration Number" will be required by the property owner in order for a proposed development to be eligible for an agricultural use designation;
- (c) That Item "PP" be removed from the Planning Committee Outstanding Business List.