



## Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes

**Date:** March 21, 2022  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Electronic Participation only

**Present:** Mayor Bailey, Councillor Miller, Members Guest, Hodge, McIntyre, and Tunstall

**Regrets:** Member Tully and VanSickle

**Staff:** Duesling, Boyer, Vaughan, Namisniak, Kortleve, Gable, and Davis

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Member Hodge in the Chair.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor Miller  
Seconded by Member Guest

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda of March 21, 2022 be approved.

**Carried**

### **3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests - None**

### **5. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meetings**

#### **5.1 Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes of January 17, 2022**

Moved by Mayor Bailey  
Seconded by McIntyre

That the agricultural Advisory Committee minutes of January 17, 2022, be approved.

**Carried**

### **7. Agricultural Planning Applications**

#### **7.1 Surplus Dwelling - B26-22-DN-655 Watts Pond Road**

D Namisniak, Planner, presented application B26-22-ND, 655 Watts Pond Road, which proposed a surplus dwelling farm severance. The policy framework applied for the review was noted. In response to questions, D Namisniak reported that the right to permit one dwelling would be maintained following the consolidation of properties, the creation of new lots would not be permitted for the parcel identified as Area 2, and that woodlot maintenance would be the responsibility of the property owner. He noted that staff are working with the applicant and gathering comments

from agencies. Discussion was held with regards to the proposed size of the severed lot, characteristics of the elevation, and the recognition of farmers as stewards of the land.

Moved by Councillor Miller  
Seconded by Member Guest

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee endorses application B2622-NN, located at 655 Watts Pond Road, and that comments be referred to the staff report on the application.

**Carried**

7.2 Minor Variance - A9-22-DN-Crookston-359 German School Rd

Dan Namisniak, Planner, presented application A9-22-DN Crookston, 359 German School Road which proposed a minor variance to the interior side yard setback to allow for the construction of a garage. In response to questions, D Namisniak reported that it was suggested that the applicant communicate with the neighbouring property owner, and noted public notices will be issued through the Committee of Adjustment process. He noted the potential age of the shed, reduced setback, and likelihood of legal non-conforming status.

Moved by Member McIntyre  
Seconded by Member Guest

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee has no concerns regarding application A9-22-DN, located at 359 German School Road, and that comments be referred to the staff report on the application.

**Carried**

7.3 440 German School Road

D. Namisniak presented an application for 440 German School Road, which proposed a severance application to sever off an existing farm residence from the subject lands.. In response to questions, D. Namisniak reported that an existing dwelling is located on the property, two structures are to be removed, and that the applicant is proposing that the remaining structures will be used for personal storage related to the residential use. In response to questions, D Namisniak reported that the current property owner has identified the dwelling and structures as surplus to farming. Mr. Namisniak reported that the property will receive an A-9 zoning, and he reviewed the requirement for farm entrance access. Members expressed the desire for additional information and concern with regards to a structure displayed on the aerial photo outside of the proposed severance parcel. Discussion was held with regards to the potential meeting cycle, timelines of the application and consensus through electronic communication.

Moved by Member Tunstall  
Seconded by Mayor Bailey

That the application for 440 German School Road be deferred;  
And that additional information to be circulated to the Agricultural Advisory Committee via email to obtain a consensus;  
And that comments be referred to the staff report on the application.

**Carried**

## **9. Communications**

### **9.1 Municipal Agricultural Forum**

Zach Gable, Senior Economic Development Officer reported that the County of Brant will be hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Municipal Agriculture Economic Development and Planning Forum in November. Member Hodge volunteered to be liaison on behalf of the Committee.

### **9.2 Brant Farms for All Marketing Program**

Z. Gable reviewed the Brant Farms for All marketing program, promoting agricultural assets and agri-tourism through workshop series, signage campaigns and a printed guide. The program was partially funded through the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). He noted plans to grow the program through social media and future plans to reprint a guide.

### **9.3 Agricultural Equipment Operators Course**

Z. Gable reported that Agricultural Equipment Operator two year pilot program, held at the Brantford Airport in partnership with Connestoga College, will be included in the full-time course offerings in 2023. He noted the pilot program funding sources, and learning opportunities provided. Member Hodge reported being actively involved in the program, noting that he will be an instructor in April.

## **11. Planning Advisory Committee Business**

### **11.1 RTP-22-91, County of Brant Draft New Official Plan Update**

Brandon Kortleve, Planner, presented RPT-22-91, County of Brant Draft New Official Plan Update. In response to questions, he reported that the creation of new settlement areas is not permitted by Provincial Policy. Mr. Kortleve expressed the need to match mapping / writing of the Official Plan. He reported that modelling was completed and opened for comments. Mr. Kortleve reported that Provincial comments are pending, with no indication available for timelines. In response to questions, Mr. Kortleve reported that former planning policies and livestock dataset were reviewed in the development of the New Official Plan. He reviewed the history of the development of the draft New Official Plan and noted the current opportunity to provide comment. Discussion was held with regards to public education with regards to farm lands near settlement areas, impact of the Provincial Election, and deadlines. Staff were commended for their work.

Moved by Member Tunstall  
Seconded by Member Guest

That RPT-22-91, County of Brant Draft New Official Plan Update be received as information.

**Carried**

11.2 Planning and Development Committee Report, RPT-22-59, Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force Report

Jennifer Boyer, Manager of Policy Planning presented RPT-22-59, Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force, for information purposes. Ms. Boyer reported that the Province is eight months in arrears in meeting their timelines of the Official Plan. She reported on a letter sent to Minister Clark by Mayor Bailey, expressing displeasure. She noted the impact of the Provincial Election, timelines, and opportunities for feedback. Ms. Boyer noted the Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force Report affect to the rural area, and changes to the Planning Act. Mayor Bailey has sent a letter to Minister Clark expressing dissatisfaction with regards to the Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force Report. Mayor Bailey requested that both letters be shared with the Committee.

**12. Next Meeting and Adjournment**

Discussion was held with regards to the Committee meeting schedule. Meetings will be scheduled at 9:00 a.m., on the fourth Monday of the month.

Committee adjourned at 2:30 p.m. to meet again on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

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Secretary