



Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: December 19, 2022
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Council Chambers
7 Broadway Street West
Paris, ON

Present: Mayor Bailey, Councillors Kyle and Coleman, Members Hodge, Miller, and Snyder

Staff: Boyer, Gable, Kortleve, Labelle, Porter, and Davis

1. Attendance

Attendance was taken and introductions made.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Nancy Davis, Deputy Clerk, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Councillor Coleman nominated Member Hodge. Member Hodge accepted. There were no more nominations.

Moved by Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Kyle

That nominations for the position of Chair be closed;

And that Member Hodge be declared Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Carried

N Davis called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Councillor Coleman nominated Member Miller. Member Miller accepted. There were no more nominations.

Moved by Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Member Hodge

That nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed;

And that Member Miller be declared Vice Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Carried

Member Hodge in the Chair.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Coleman

That the agenda for the Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda for December 19, 2022 be approved, with additions under Other Business (Committee Membership).

Carried

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

None

6. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meetings

6.1 Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes of March 21, 2022

Moved by Councillor Coleman
Seconded by Councillor Kyle

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

Carried

8. Agricultural Planning Applications

None

9. Staff Reports

9.1 Training Session - Agricultural Advisory Committee

Shannon Labelle, Planner, provided a training session to the Committee, reviewing the mandate, governing legislation and policies operated within, trends, and permitted / non-permitted uses.

In response to questions, staff reported on the implementation of legislative changes that occurred October 2020, during COVID, with regards to secondary / additional residential units. Noted were the requirements under the zoning by-law, restrictions within the agricultural area for minimum distance separation, applications under the Planning Act, and situations when applications would be circulated to the Agricultural Advisory Committee for comment. Noted was the inability to sever dwellings in the agricultural area, potential limitations due to septic issues, comparison to granny suites, and uptake on the initiative. It was further reported that additional residential units are not required to be temporary in nature.

10. Communications

10.1 Municipal Agricultural Economic Development and Planning Forum, Post-Event Update

Zach Gable, Senior Economic Development Officer presented a report as presented to the Administration and Operations Committee, regarding the 14th Annual Municipal Agricultural Economic Development and Planning (MAEDP) Forum, held by Brant on November 2 and 3, 2022. Appreciation was extended to all participants and organizers of the event.

11. Other Business

Bill 23 / Committee Membership

Mayor Bailey reported on discussions with neighbouring municipalities, expressing concerns with regards to Bill 23. He suggested that opinions of the Agricultural Advisory Committee be conveyed to the Premier. Mayor Bailey noted the desire to increase membership of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, and reported that applications for appointment to the Agricultural Advisory Committee have been extended.

12. Planning Advisory Committee Business

12.1 179 Howell Road

S. Labelle presented staff analysis on a proposal for rezoning at 179 Howell Road, as a condition of approved surplus farm dwelling severance. Input of the Committee was sought, specifically with regards to the Minimum Distance Separation (MDS).

In response to questions, S Labelle reported that the severance has been conditionally approved, rezoning is required to satisfy one of the conditions. S. Labelle reported that 169 Howell Road is 100 metres from the existing livestock operation, the required distance is 518 metres. She noted these factors were taken into consideration for the reduction request, as were the preexisting constraints of 169 Howell Road, and the existing land uses. S. Labelle reported that the manure storage is 113 metres from the dwelling. Members noted the existing dwellings / constraints, and expressed their support.

Moved by Councillor Coleman
Seconded by Member Snyder

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee supports the rezoning required as a condition of approved severance application B16-22-RC, located at 179 Howell Road;

And that the comments of the Committee be referred to the staff report on the application.

Carried

12.2 Bill 23 - More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 - Update and Next Steps

Jennifer Boyer, Manager of Policy Planning, presented an overview of Bill 23, and noted detailed information will be presented to Council at their meeting of December 20, 2022. She noted the legislative changes, the hold on the County of Brant Draft Official Plan, detriment and expense to municipalities / ratepayers, and the unknown implications / financial impact at this time. She noted three outstanding policy proposals, specifically the combination of the Provincial Policy Statement and Growth Plan, and the impact as related to the Agricultural Advisory Committee. J Boyer noted regulations are being written, and encouraged members to convey their opinions to government officials.

In response to questions, Brandon Kortleve, Planner reported that changes to the County of Brant Draft Official Plan would be required to reflect Bill 23 legislation. He noted that comments specific to the Agricultural / Rural area and the protection of agricultural land are included in the report and attachment to Council.

In response to questions, J Boyer reported on the impact of development charges to residential units and the 10 year horizon of development, noting that the financial impacts have yet to be determined.

Mayor Bailey left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Discussion was held with regards to the framework for expansion of settlement boundaries, changes that affect the Official Plan, financial detriment to municipalities and agriculture, impact on infrastructure, and the downloading to municipalities. Wide communication to further convey the broad effect of the bill was expressed. Councillor Coleman expressed confidence in the support staff will provide throughout the process.

Moved by Councillor Coleman
Seconded by Member Miller

That the concerns regarding Bill 23 be expressed by the Agricultural Advisory Committee;

And that letters be submitted to the three Members of Provincial Parliament and three Federal Members of Parliament.

Carried

13. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Discussion was held with regards to the relationship between the Agricultural Advisory Committee to the Committee of Adjustment and Planning and Development Committee, submission of Committee comments, and timeframes. It was noted that recruitment for the Committee has been extended. Members expressed the desire to fulfil the mandate of the Committee and to maintain a monthly meeting cycle.

Moved by Councillor Coleman
Seconded by Councillor Kyle

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee meet next on January 30, 2023;

And that staff review the reporting and meeting structure.

Carried

Committee adjourned at 10:23 a.m. to meet again on January 30, 2023 9:00 a.m. in the County of Brant Council Chambers.

Secretary