

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes

Minutes

Agricultural Development Advisory Committee

Meeting

ADAC2020-001
Thursday, February 13, 2020
9:00 A.M.
Economic Development Boardroom
Economic Development
180 Kent Street West, Lindsay, Ontario

Members:
Robert Bonis
Phil Callaghan
Michelle Murphy-Ward
Rebecca Parker
Adam Shea
Shawn Westland

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1. Call to Order

Chair R. Parker called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and Members R. Bonis, P. Callaghan, M. Murphy-Ward, A. Shea and S. Westland were in attendance.

Absent: Councillor A. Veale, P. Brown, M. Pecoskie, T. Webster.

2. Administrative Business

2.1 Adoption of Agenda

Moved By P. Callaghan

Seconded By M. Murphy-Ward

That the agenda be adopted with the addition of the correspondence from the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Federation of Agriculture regarding Bill 156.

Carried

2.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest disclosed.

2.3 Adoption of Minutes

Moved By R. Bonis

Seconded By S. Westland

That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting held on December 12, 2019, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

3. Deputations/Presentations

4. Correspondence

Moved By M. Murphy-Ward

Seconded By P. Callaghan

That the February 12, 2020 correspondence from Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Federation of Agriculture, regarding Bill 156, be received.

Carried

5. New or Other Business

5.1 Farm Tax Ratio

As Councillor Veale was unable to attend to present information collected on this topic discussion will be postponed to the April meeting.

Moved By R. Bonis

Seconded By A. Shea

That this item be deferred to the April meeting when the information will be available for discussion.

Carried

5.2 ADAC Work Plan

The 2019 Work Plan accomplishments were reviewed. 2020 Work Plan items were developed and will include:

2020 Work Plan

1. Review and advise Council and Ec Dev on matters related to agricultural industry to improve economic environment of the agricultural sector and prosperity of the rural areas
2. Arrange a VIP Agricultural Tour at the 2020 IPM for the traditional guests to allow for education and open dialogue in context of modern farming and agri-business at various time through the event.
3. ADAC Members participate at East Central Farm Show booth with Ec Dev to increase visibility access to ADAC.
4. ADAC to actively participate in the development of the Comprehensive Rural Zoning By-law.

Moved By S. Westland

Seconded By P. Callaghan

That the 2020 Work Plan of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee be approved and submitted to council for adoption.

Carried

6. Update from Economic Development Division

6.1 East Central Farm Show - March 4 & 5

Members R. Parker, R. Bonis, M. Murphy-Ward, P. Callaghan volunteered for shifts during the Farm Show. Members A. Shea, M. Pecoskie and S. Westland will also represent ADAC from within their own booths at the show.

6.2 Skills Advance Ontario

The City of Kawartha Lakes application for a Skills Advance Ontario grant was submitted by Economic Development in December 2019. We are awaiting response from the Province. If approved, the project will move forward very quickly for a one-year implementation.

6.3 2020 International Plowing Match

The event planning is progressing with the Ontario Plowmen's Association. Volunteers are being solicited for all committees, and for assistance during the event. The municipality has begun planning for a space within the event to

showcase Kawartha Lakes. The event Poster will be revealed at the February council meeting and be available at the East Central Farm Show.

7. News and Updates from Members

-Dairy farmers in Ontario have raised concerns about a recent shift in the ProAction program as their provincial board chose to hire an outside source to do the third party audits without consulting with members and local committees.

-Expansion plans are back on the table at Green Tractors with an entirely different approach than was used last time. Equipment sales in January were very low, however February sales are picking up as growers get ready for spring.

-Interest has been expressed from outside parties in New York and Wisconsin about seed grown in Kawartha Lakes. There will be four herbicide events in this area. Triticale is being grown here and in Port Hope in larger volumes, and there are some direct purchases by specific buyers interested in doing branded and made in Kawartha Lakes products with triticale.

-There have been inquiries by members of the local Cattlemen's committee who would like to see the City apply for a grant to get more 911 numbers on farm field entrances. A. Shea will encourage them to submit a request to this committee.

-Prices for hay this year locally have been in the range of \$85-105 per round bale and \$7/small square bale due to the extremely poor growing season in 2019. In the Elmira area prices for hay have been seen as high as \$200/round bale. Prices but are expected to rise significantly as inventories are depleted. At some point in the near future it is anticipated that there will be no product available for sale. Many animals will be marketed at that point by producers who run short or run out of feed.

-Sheep prices are good now at around \$200/lamb and also good cull ewe prices are being seen too. This is a fairly typical cycle of high prices seen at this time of year.

-Dairy goat producers have recently received permission to return production to full levels as opposed to the significantly reduced levels that have been experienced over the past couple of years.

-There have been much larger numbers of dairy beef calves being marketed over the past few years by dairy farmers into the Ontario production system because of cross-breeding heifers and bottom half of herds as a result of sexed semen being used on top half of herds. The crossbred calves sold at about 10 days of

age will attract prices of approximately \$140 per calf as opposed to \$25 per calf for pure dairy calves.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Economic Development Boardroom.

9. Adjournment

Moved By R. Parker

That the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Meeting adjourn at 11:10 am.