

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
MINUTES
AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
June 2, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Jonas Cole, Rob Jones, Mayor Doug Malanka, Councillor Samantha Schapelhouman, Myron Belej

REGRETS

Adrian Wynands, Conor Cleary (provided comments in advance)

A. Call to Order

Councillor Samantha Schapelhouman called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved.

C. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes approved for the April 7, 2021 meeting.

D. Disclosure of Interest

None.

E. Business Arising from the Minutes

E.1 Agricultural Summit

- The Planner relayed information to the Committee that he obtained from the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SDG) about an Agricultural Summit they held on April 19, 2017.
- The event was held in Finch and drew 39 attendees from across SDG.
- Consulting firm MDB Insight led attendees through a series of focus questions and brainstorming topics to generate ideas and recommendations.
- Agriculture was examined as a pillar of their economy and opportunities for value chain development, regional promotion and investment attraction were discussed.
- The event led to the creation of the “Cornwall, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, and Akwesasne Food and Agricultural Council” (FAAC), which formed as an advisory board to support agriculture through projects and initiatives. According to SDG staff, most of this mandate continues through the Eastern Ontario Agri Food Network.
- Members of the A&RAC Committee suggested that it may be worthwhile to bring in representatives from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) for a future event in Augusta Township.

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F. Planning Applications

- F.1 Severance: B-44-21 (Sobieraj)
- The Planner introduced the location of the proposed severance and intended to recommend that Augusta Council support it with conditions.
 - Committee members discussed the general location as well as past and present keeping of animals on the property. While livestock may have been on the property in the past, domestic animals kept in a kennel on the parcel would not limit the potential for a severance.
- F.2 Severance: B-55-21 (Brisson/Grant)
- The Planner introduced the location of the proposed severance and intended to recommend that Augusta Council support it with conditions.
 - A question was raised about notification and the Planner indicated that the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville was responsible for public notification as the Consent Granting Authority.
 - Committee members discussed the frontage onto multiple roadways and location of existing houses and barns in the area but raised no concern with the severance proceeding.
- F.3 Severance: B-60-21 (Burkert)
- The Planner introduced the location of the proposed severance and intended to recommend that Augusta Council support it with conditions.
 - Committee members considered the general location and raised no issue with the severance proceeding.
- F.4 Severance: B-61-21 (Burkert)
- The Planner discussed the second severance application being applied for concurrently with B-60-21 and intended to recommend that Augusta Council support it with conditions.
 - Committee members raised no concern with the severance proceeding.
- F.5 Severance: B-66-21 (Weir/Onstein)
- The Planner introduced the location of the proposed severance and intended to recommend that Augusta Council support it with conditions.
 - The Committee discussed the evolution of development and private laneways on the property.
 - Committee members agreed that it would be appropriate to leave road allowance considerations along the County Road to the United Counties.

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G. Other Business

6.1 Decommissioned Barn in the Township

- Committee members discussed a barn which may have been historically slated for decommissioning on Lords Mills Road.
- Limited specifics were recalled by members. The Planner offered to search digital records to see if any information may be available.

7. Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at 6:30pm or at the Call of the Chair

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.