

STAFF REPORT: Planning



REPORT TO: Mayor & Members of Council
MEETING DATE: January 19, 2009
REPORT NO.: PL.09.03
SUBJECT: Agricultural Advisory Committee - Resignations
**PREPARED BY: Peter Tollefsen
Director of Planning**

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Planning Staff Report No. PL.09.03, “Agricultural Advisory Committee – Resignations”; and

THAT Council indicate to Brad Oakley and Chris Knott that the Town received their resignations, with regret; and

THAT Council supports having only the remaining seven members on the Agricultural Advisory Committee rather than the original eight.

B. Background

A staff report was forwarded to Council on February 04, 2008 to set up an Agricultural Advisory Committee to provide input on rural issues for policy development. The report suggested the Committee be made up of eight (8) volunteer members, taken from a cross section of the agricultural community. Council approved the Terms of Reference and authorized staff to advertise for volunteers.

On April 07, 2008 Council appointed ten (10) volunteer members to the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee received a resignation from Ryan Hayhurst, wherein Council accepted, with regret on October 15, 2008. Since then, the Committee has received two more resignations from Brad Oakley and Chris Knott. The purpose of this report is to inform Council.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee accepted Mr. Oakley and Mr. Knott’s resignations at their December 17, 2008 meeting and indicated that they felt they could still adequately function as a Committee with the same intended purpose and requests Council to allow the Committee to sit with those remaining seven people, i.e. Chairman Ross Arthur, Syd Dykstra, James McKinlay, Grant McMurphy, John Ardiel, Jacque Hendry and Jeff Wilson.

Considering the Terms of Reference which set the Committee size to eight (8) members, the Committee is actually only down by one (1) member. Staff would therefore not recommend advertising for replacement members at this time.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

By reviewing input on rural issues will enable the Town to plan and meet the following goal:

"Managing growth to ensure the ongoing health and prosperity of the community".

D. Environmental Impacts

N/A

E. Budget Impact

None

F. Attachments

1. Resignation letters from Brad Oakley and Chris Knott.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Tollefsen, Director of Planning

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