



Committee Report

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: August 20, 2020
Meeting Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

Agricultural Advisory Committee Recommendations

NOTE: The following are recommendations from the Agricultural Advisory Committee to be considered for adoption by Council

- [Receive Minutes \(August 20, 2020\)](#)

Recommended (Move, second)

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes dated August 20, 2020 as attached, for information purposes.



Minutes

Agricultural Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: August 20, 2020
Meeting Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers
Prepared by: Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

A. Call to Order

Councillor Andrea Matrosovs called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. with Committee members John Ardiel, Duncan McKinlay, Rosemary Mesley, and Lynn Vail present.

Town staff present were Director of Operations Shawn Carey and Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons.

By-law Supervisor Wayne DeWitt joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Regrets were sent by Committee members James McKinlay and Grant McMurchy.

- **Traditional Territory Acknowledgement**
- **Committee Member Attendance**
- **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Rosemary Mesley

Seconded by: Lynn Vail

THAT the Agenda of August 20, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, being Item E.1.1 Good News Item – Local Award Recipient, and to deal with Item D.2 Correspondence between Marlene Lawrence, Resident and Mike Cowbrough, Weed Specialist (Field Crops) and Chief Inspector (Weed Control), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs Re: Wild Chervil Control on Private Property in The Blue Mountains at the same time as Item B.3.1 Wild Chervil Control Program Overview, CSOPS.20.047

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay
The motion is Carried.	

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, Agricultural Advisory Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

▪ **Previous Minutes (June 18, 2020)**

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Rosemary Mesley

THAT the Minutes of June 18, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay

The motion is Carried.

B. Staff Reports and Deputations

B.1 Deputations

None

B.2 Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Agricultural Advisory Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair. Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters, or regarding matters that are a follow-up to a Public Meeting.

NOTE: The Blue Mountains Town Hall is currently closed to the public to assist with social distancing with respect to COVID-19. Comments received from the public that have not been included on the Agenda will be read at the meeting by the Executive Assistant.

None

B.3 Staff Reports, if any

**D.2 Correspondence between Marlene Lawrence, Resident and Mike Cowbrough, Weed Specialist (Field Crops) and Chief Inspector (Weed Control), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs
Re: Wild Chervil Control on Private Property in The Blue Mountains**

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Rosemary Mesley

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives correspondence item D.2 Correspondence between Marlene Lawrence, Resident and Mike Cowbrough, Weed Specialist (Field Crops) and Chief Inspector (Weed Control), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs Re: Wild Chervil Control on Private Property in The Blue Mountains

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay
The motion is Carried.	

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Rosemary Mesley

THAT, with respect to correspondence item D.2, the Agricultural Advisory Committee requests the Executive Assistant to respond to Ms. Lawrence thanking her for her valuable input relating to Wild Chervil Management in The Blue Mountains, and note that this, and the discussion, along with the anecdotal experience brought by Committee members, will enhance the Town's ability to manage Wild Chervil moving forward.

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay
The motion is Carried.	

B.3.1 Wild Chervil Control Program Overview, CSOPS.20.047

Director of Operations Shawn Carey introduced Tom Cowan of the Ministry of Environment and cited his prior experience in pest management and agricultural crops.

By-law Supervisor Wayne DeWitt joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Wayne noted proactive enforcement work being undertaken with respect to Wild Chervil management.

Tom Cowan provided the Committee members with an overview of the restrictions on private property related to use of certain pesticides for noxious weed control, as highlighted in the *Weed Control Act*. The Town confirmed that if wild chervil management is required on private property and the property owner is non-responsive, the Town will cut the noxious weed. Town staff emphasized that Truvist can be applied in the municipal right-of-way and cannot be applied on private property.

The Committee acknowledged the great work done by the Town to manage and mitigate wild chervil.

The Committee had the following questions:

- What is a suitable herbicide that can be used for wild chervil management on private property and purchased by someone with a pesticide license?
- What options does a landowner have for wild chervil management?
- Does a landowner have any flexibility for allowing the Town to spray wild chervil on his or her private property to manage wild chervil?

The Committee thanked Mr. Cowan for joining the meeting.

Moved by: Rosemary Mesley

Seconded by: Lynn Vail

THAT Agricultural Advisory Committee receive Staff Report CSOPS.20.047, entitled "2020 Wild Chervil Control Program Overview" for their information

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay

The motion is Carried.

C. Matters for Discussion

C.1 Migrant Worker Safety with Respect to COVID-19

NOTE: At the August 5, 2020 Community Recovery Task Force meeting, the Task Force resolved as follows:

THAT the Community Recovery Task Force requests the Agricultural Advisory Committee and Town staff to contact the area's fruit growers to confirm how the Town can assist with migrant worker safety with respect to COVID-19, Carried.

Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons advised that the Manager of Communications and Economic Development Tim Hendry is working with local fruit growers to support migrant worker safety and is requesting input from the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Duncan McKinlay commented that the Town and local health unit could reach out to other health units and municipalities that have brought in migrant workers to share best practices to promote migrant worker safety.

John Ardiel provided an overview of the work being undertaken by fruit growers to support migrant worker safety and noted there are protocols in place. John noted agencies are monitoring migrant worker intake to ensure appropriate isolation/self-quarantine is occurring upon arrival. Farms are bringing migrant workers in a staged manner to ensure proper isolation protocols can be achieved. Further, migrant workers are not going into Town in large numbers at one time, but rather, several individuals will do shopping for the whole crew. Banking services are being completed online and virtually to the greatest extent possible.

It was noted education to the public regarding the protocols in place to ensure migrant worker safety should be a priority.

C.2 Tree Preservation By-law Update – Councillor Matrosovs (verbal)

Councillor Matrosovs noted in-person meetings are not permitted at this time, but consideration for a virtual public meeting for tree preservation is being considered. As this meeting requires coordination with NEC, GSCA, NVC and Grey County, it presents additional challenges in scheduling.

C.3 Chair's Report – Councillor Matrosovs (verbal)

None

C.4 Agricultural Advisory Committee Action Item Tracking

- **Council consideration of potential road swap**

Noted discussions are ongoing with Grey County and regional stakeholders, will be considered fully through the Transportation Master Plan

- **Truist and Co-Operative Compliance Review**
- **Cyclist and Bicycle Licensing Program**

- **Update regarding Bayou Cable Park Planning Application – to September meeting**

Noted this is not a statutory public meeting, but an update provided to the Committee upon request.

- **Committee of Council Status**

Note: the following is direction provided by Council July 13, 2020

WHEREAS Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains, through the 2020 Budget process, requested Committees of Council to provide input regarding the option to move to a Community Committee or continue status quo as a Committee of Council;

AND WHEREAS at the March 4, 2020 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting, the Committee passed as follows:

THAT, in response to Council's February 10, 2020 direction, the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommend continuing status quo as a Committee of Council, Carried.

NOW THEREFORE Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains acknowledges and approves the Agricultural Advisory Committee maintaining status quo as a Committee of Council, Carried.

- **Windbreak Program Information**

Note: the following is direction provided by Council July 13, 2020

WHEREAS the Sustainability Advisory Committee at its February 12, 2020 meeting referred Correspondence Item D.1 Alex Maxwell, Resident Re: Roads/Winter Maintenance and Carbon Sequestration to the Agricultural Advisory Committee;

AND WHEREAS the Agricultural Advisory Committee received the correspondence at its March 4, 2020 meeting and resolved as follows:

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommend that the Committee be used as a resource in drafting the operating guidelines for implementation of any windbreak tree planting program in relation to roads, Carried.

NOW THEREFORE, Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains provides confirmation to the Agricultural Advisory Committee, the Sustainability Advisory Committee and relevant Town staff that should consideration of a windbreak tree planting program be initiated by the Town, the Agricultural Advisory Committee shall be invited to provide input throughout the process, Carried.

C.5 Consideration and Appointment of Chair for a Term of Eighteen Months

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay

Seconded by: Rosemary Mesley

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee appoints Andrea Matrosovs as the Chair of the Committee for a period of eighteen months, effective August 20, 2020

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay

The motion is Carried.

Councillor Matrosovs noted her appreciation to members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

D. Correspondence

D.1 Grey County Federation of Agriculture Re: Grey County Agricultural Advisory Committee

Moved by: Duncan McKinlay

Seconded by: Lynn Vail

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee receives correspondence item D.1 Grey County Federation of Agriculture Re: Grey County Agricultural Advisory Committee for information

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay

The motion is Carried.

D.2 Correspondence between Marlene Lawrence, Resident and Mike Cowbrough, Weed Specialist (Field Crops) and Chief Inspector (Weed Control), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs Re: Wild Chervil Control on Private Property in The Blue Mountains

For Committee information

This matter dealt with previously at Item B.3.1.

E. New and Unfinished Business

E.1 Additions to the Agenda

E.1.1 Good News Story – Local Award Recipient

2020 Tommy Cooper Award recipient is Joan McKinlay of the Town of The Blue Mountains. Councillor Matrosovs noted her congratulations and emphasized that the Tommy Cooper Award goes to someone who contributed to the betterment of agriculture and rural living.

The Bayshore Broadcasting News Item was referenced:

<https://www.bayshorebroadcasting.ca/2020/08/19/mckinlay-wins-tommy-cooper-award/>

Councillor Matrosovs noted her appreciation to members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee as well.

E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting

- Road Swap Update
- Bayou Cable Park Application Update (**not** a statutory public meeting)
- Wild Chervil Management on Private Property (response to questions from the Committee)

F. Notice of Meeting Dates

September 17, 2020
Town Hall, Council Chambers

G. Adjournment

Moved by: Rosemary Mesley

Seconded by: John Ardiel

THAT The Agricultural Advisory Committee does now adjourn at 8:00 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair

Ardiel, John	Yay
McKinlay, Duncan	Yay
McKinlay, James	absent
McMurchy, Grant	absent
Mesley, Rosemary	Yay
Vail, Lynn	Yay
Matrosovs, Andrea	Yay
The motion is Carried.	