

Minutes

Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm

In-Person in the Council Chambers at the Township Main Office
3720 County Road 34 R.R.2, Alexandria ON K0C 1A0

Present: Jacques Massie, Chair
Sarah Huskinson, CAO/Clerk
Brian Caddell, Councillor
Pete Bock, Community representative
Duncan Ferguson, Community representative
Ken Turnbull, Community representative
Jena Doonan, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary
Craig MacMillan, Community representative
Timothy Wright, Director of Public Works

Regrets: Andrew MacMillan, Community representative
Jack Fraser, Community representative

CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

- None

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS OR AMENDMENTS

Agenda Item B) Tree Planting Sub-committee.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved By: Jeff Manley

Seconded By: Duncan Ferguson

THAT the agenda for the Rural Affairs Committee Meeting of Thursday March 14th 2024 be adopted as amended.

Carried

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved By: Ken Tunbull

Seconded By: Brian Caddell

THAT the minutes for the Rural Affairs Committee Meeting of Thursday October 23rd 2023 be adopted as presented.

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- None

DELEGATIONS

-None

AGENDA ITEMS

A) Unopened road allowances

Chair Massie discussed the origins of the issue, stating that he received multiple questions regarding this matter. After which, he met with CAO Sarah Huskinson to discuss the creation of a by-law to be recommend to Council in response to resident inquiries and concerns. Chair Massie further stated that he would like to speak with the committee about what should be outlined in the By-law.

Public Works Director Timothy Wright introduced himself, provided a brief explanation of unopened road allowances, referenced to Sections 26 (4) 27,30, 30(4) and 35 of the Municipal Act and referred to the unopened road allowances in North Glengarry Township (See attached map) Tim further explained that these road allowances are owned by the Township and that the municipality has the authority to pass laws regarding them, however, they are put out by the Crown Surveyors that are located in the municipality .

He then spoke to the level of service of the roads: * review attached map*

- Orange being hard top roads – Higher level of Service as per Minimum Maintenance Standards
- Yellow bring Gravel roads- lower level of Service as per Minimum Maintenance Standards
- Green roads being the least maintained but still maintained.

Tim commented on the difference between green roads and unopened allowances, which is even though unopened road allowance can be traveled on, the township is not required to maintain them unless opened by By-law. He further explained that they are essentially gaps in between parcels of land and that public has the common law right of passage over road allowances, unless restricted by the municipality.

Chair Massie then opened the floor for questions and discussion. A discussion arose regarding who is responsible for the cost of survey and maintenance to open the road allowance, what would happen if two properties butted against each other. What should be allowed to be done with the land that the unopened road allowance is on. Who should a resident speak to if they have a complaint, grandfathering properties which currently have a road allowance in place. What the process can be for applying. And that these applications be accepted on a case-by-case basis. And this

Chair Massie again spoke about creating a policy and application to permit clear/improve these road allowance which would be detailed in a By-law regarding the matter. The Committee agreed that the following be included in the by-law to be brought forth to Council.

- Definitions, Maps, what is permitted to be done on passageways, the party responsible for costs. Resident to speak to The Rural Affairs Committee if there is a complaint.

Next step - CAO Sarah Huskinson and The Director of Public Works Timothy Wright to meet and draft a by-law which the committee will review.

B) Tree Planting Sub Committee

A Committee Member Pete raised the question about creating a tree planting Sub Committee, as was uncertain of the progression of the tree planting program. Chair Massie explained that he had selected two plots for the trees to be planted in, South Nations Conservation Authority was approached for suggestions on where to plant. Chair Massie further mentioned that he spoke with the Raisin Region Conservations Authority and confirmed the trees will be planted this spring. He suggested that he and the committee member to discuss plans for future dates.

PENDING BUSINESS

- None

CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

- None

NEXT MEETING -

Thursday May 2nd at 6:30p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Jeff Manley

Seconded By: Ken Turnbull

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Carried

