



Minutes of Council - Public Meeting

October 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
(Mayor and Clerk at Town Hall - 87 Broadway)
Electronic Meeting

Members Present: Mayor S. Brown, was present in Council Chambers
Deputy Mayor A. Macintosh
Councillor J. Andrews
Councillor G. Peters
Councillor L. Post
Councillor D. Sherwood
Councillor T. Taylor

Staff Present: E. Brennan, CAO
D. Benotto, Software Operations Supervisor, was present in Council Chambers
C. Cunningham, By-law/Property Standards Officer, was present in Council Chambers
C. Johnston, By-law/Property Standards Officer
K. Landry, Town Clerk, was present in Council Chambers
A. McKinney, General Manager, Corporate Services
M. Pourmanouchehri, IT Technician, was present in Council Chambers
N. Syed, Treasurer
T. Macdonald, Assistant Clerk

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Resolution 2020-342

Moved by Councillor Taylor

Seconded by Councillor Andrews

That the agenda for the October 5, 2020 Council - Public Meeting, be approved.

Carried

3. Disclosure of (Direct and Indirect) Pecuniary Interest

None.

4. Singing of National Anthem

David Nairn, Theatre Orangeville provided a pre-recorded version of the National Anthem.

5. Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Brown acknowledged the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe people including the Ojibway, Potawatomi and Odawa of the Three Fires Confederacy.

6. Announcements by Chair

Mayor Brown provided information regarding how the public is able to participate in the Council meeting, advised the gallery and viewing audience with respect to the public nature of Council Meetings and that it is webcast.

7. Public Meetings

Deputy Mayor Macintosh assumed Chair of the meeting and provided call in details for members of the public wishing to participate in the public meeting.

7.1 Presentation, Carrie Cunningham, By-law and Property Standards Officer, Pet Shop By-law 95-2005

Carrie Cunningham, By-law and Property Standards Officer provided an overview of the proposed pet shop by-law which proposes to permit pet shops within the Town to sell dogs or cats that have been obtained from a municipal animal shelter, registered humane society, registered shelter or recognized animal rescue group. Carrie Cunningham outlined the next steps which include feedback from the public meeting and on-line survey as well as a report to Council summarizing the feedback.

7.2 Questions/Comments from the Public

7.2.1 Registered Delegation, Kristina Armstrong

Kristina Armstrong did not delegate at the meeting.

7.2.2 Registered Delegation, Michele Hamers, World Animal Protection

Michele Hamers, World Animal Protection outlined reasons why she believes that the proposed pet shop by-law should include a permitted list identifying animals allowed in Town as opposed to a prohibited animals list. Ms. Hamers also spoke about the importance of including exotic pets in the by law.

Mayor Brown inquired how exotic animals get into the country and the protections at the border.

Michele Hamers indicated that the Canadian Wildlife Services and Canadian Food Inspection Agency are the border agencies which govern the entry of animals.

Mayor Brown asked if there should be more work done with the Federal Government on this issue.

Michele Hames advised that the organization is talking with the government regarding issues at border.

7.2.3 Registered Delegation, Camille Labchuk, Animal Justice

Camille Labchuk, Animal Justice outlined the benefits of the banning of sales of dogs, cats and rabbits and spoke about the lack of monitoring of breeding operations in Ontario.

Mayor Brown asked what the justification is for stopping a pet store owner from the sale of the pets when Kijiji is still able to sell pets.

Ms. Labchuk indicated it is important to regulate sales of pets in pet stores as well as trying to monitor and regulate those sales on Kijiji and other on-line sites.

7.2.4 Registered Delegation, Rob Laidlaw, Zoocheck Inc.

Rob Laidlaw, Zoochek spoke about the importance of including exotic pets in the proposed by-law. Mr. Laidlaw also cautioned about relying only on the Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act as it deals largely with retroactive situations.

7.2.5 Registered Delegation, Joan Roberts

Joan Roberts spoke in support of the local pet store in Town and the service that she has received from that establishment over the years. Joan Roberts also referred to the number and quality of pets she has purchased.

7.2.6 Registered Delegation, Liz White

Liz White, Animal Alliance of Canada advised that Animal Alliance of Canada has been working to end retail sale of dogs and cats in pet stores and recommends that Council adopt the option that only permits a dog or cat for sale in a pet store where the dog or cat has been obtained from a municipal animal shelter, registered humane society, registered shelter or recognized animal rescue group and that if a sunset clause is contemplated that it not exceed one year.

Mayor Brown questioned the reasoning behind stopping the adoption of animals from the United States.

Liz White indicated she would not be opposed to rescue groups from the United States sending animals into Canada for adoption but opposed those animals that have come from puppy mills.

Mayor Brown questioned the statistic of sales volume of pets as most pet stores are not selling animals anymore.

Ms. White indicated that IBIS World Industry Report looks at every aspect of the pet industry

Mayor Brown asked if Ms. White believes that animal shelters are overrun.

Ms. White indicated that she feels it is dependent upon the time of year.

Mayor Brown indicated that Humane Canada Statistical Report indicates that 2 percent of dogs and 7 percent of cats were euthanized.

The Chair asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Grant Armstrong, member of the public, encouraged Council to look into animal cruelty charges and indicated the issue really is where the animal is being sourced from and where they are being sold through.

Martin Field, resident of Oshawa and member of Oshawa Animal Care Advisory Committee which established restrictions of sourcing of animals several years ago indicated that there have been no adverse outcomes related to the restrictions and urged Council to proceed with the by-law.

The Chair asked if there were any other questions and none were received.

Mayor Brown resumed Chair of the meeting.

8. Adjournment

Resolution 2020-343

Moved by Councillor Peters

Seconded by Councillor Taylor

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Sandy Brown, Mayor

Karen Landry, Clerk