



Minutes of Council - Public Meeting

**September 30, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
(Mayor and Clerk at Town Hall - 87 Broadway)
Electronic Participation**

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
C. Cunningham, By-law/Property Standards Officer, was present in Council Chambers
C. Johnston, By-law/Property Standards Officer, was present in Council Chambers
K. Landry, Town Clerk, was present in Council Chambers
A. McKinney, General Manager, Corporate Services
M. Pourmanouchehri, IT Technician, was present in Council Chambers
T. Macdonald, Assistant Clerk

1. Call To Order

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

2. Approval of Agenda

Resolution 2020-340

That the agenda addendum for the September 30, 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.

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. Public Meetings

7.1 Presentation, Carrie Cunningham, By-law and Property Standards Officer, Hen Registration Trial Program

Carrie Cunningham, By-law and Property Standards Officer indicated that Town staff is currently soliciting feedback on the Hen Registration Trial Program from the public through the public meeting as well as an on-line survey. Ms. Cunningham indicated that the trial program would run for 3 years with a maximum of 2 hens per permit being permitted with a maximum of 30 permits to be issued, on a first come first serve basis. Ms. Cunningham outlined the parameters around which the trial program would operate including where hens are permitted, application fee, hen coop construction and location as well as the parameters around feeding and cleanliness. Next steps were outlined which include summarizing feedback received from the public meeting and on-line survey and reporting back to Council with staff recommendations.

7.2 Delegation, Tricia Hebert, Backyard Chickens

Tricia Hebert spoke to Council about her overall favourable view of the hen registration program and also provided several suggestions to improve the proposed program which include raising the number of chickens to 4, reducing the yearly permit fee and increasing the number of permits to be issued.

7.3 Correspondence, Max Waters , September 28, 2020, Hen Trial Program

Chair Macintosh read the correspondence received from Max Waters which outlined his appreciation for the proposed hen registration trial program which include the clear guidelines contained within the proposed by-law which must be followed.

7.4 Questions/Comments from the Public

Councillor Taylor questioned the setback requirements which would essentially mean that the hen coops would be in the middle of the rear yard.

Councillor Taylor also questioned if the odour that the chickens would produce had been considered.

Carrie Cunningham, By-law and Property Standards Officer indicated that the setback of 3 metres was chosen to keep the coops as far from neighbouring lot lines as possible in an attempt to mitigate any issues that may arise relating to noise and odour.

Councillor Andrews questioned if potential increases of wildlife ie coyotes as a result of the hen coops had been considered.

Carrie Cunningham indicated that the regulation that the feed be kept in closed containers and the requirement that cleanliness of the coops be maintained would help to minimize or prevent the attraction of wild animals.

Councillor Andrews indicated that he is aware of turn key chicken coop kits that are available and wondered if Town staff could encourage the use of them.

Carrie Cunningham indicated that staff would look into sharing that information with residents.

Councillor Andrews indicated that the use of those kits could help keep a more uniform look to the coops and could achieve a more attractive result.

Mayor Brown questioned what happens in the event of a contravention of the by-law.

Carrie Cunningham indicated that first step would be education followed by enforcement.

Ginny Anderson, member of the public provided input with respect to the detrimental impact that the hens may have on property values due to noise and odour and inquired about the necessity of obtaining neighbours permission.

Carrie Cunningham indicated that a requirement to obtain neighbours consent is not contemplated in the by-law.

Ginny Anderson questioned if obtaining neighbours consent is required in other municipalities.

Carrie Cunningham indicated that two of the municipalities that she is aware of do require that consent of neighbours be obtained.

Mayor Brown questioned if the pilot project should be for a shorter period of time than 3 years.

Karen Landry, Town Clerk indicated that, pending approval by Council, the anticipated start date of the trial program would be January of 2021 and given the review of by laws that has been established it was determined that it would be appropriate to report back to Council in 2023.

Councillor Peters indicated that Sustainable Orangeville would be able to assist with education and implementation of the program and that the success of the program would depend on having a longer period of time to overcome the learning curve and be successful with the hens.

Councillor Post asked if there had been any complaints from residents relating to backyard chickens that are operating in contravention of the current by-law.

Carrie Cunningham indicated that there have been a few complaints relating to backyard hens which are directed to the OSPCA for enforcement of the animal control by law.

Mayor Brown resumed Chair of the meeting.

8. Adjournment

Resolution 2020-341

That the meeting be adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Carried

Sandy Brown, Mayor

Karen Landry, Clerk