

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Monday, March 3, 2025, 6:30 PM
Corporation of The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal
Council Chambers, Spencerville Ontario

PRESENT: Councillor Chris Ward
Mayor Tory Deschamps
Deputy Mayor Stephen Dillabough
Councillor Joe Martelle
Councillor Waddy Smail

STAFF: Sean Nicholson, CAO
Dave Grant, Director of Operations/Deputy CAO
Tim Fisher, Planner
Wendy VanKeulen, Community Development Coordinator
Candise Newcombe, Deputy Clerk
Mary Tessier, Consultant
Natalie Charette, Interim Clerk

1. Call to Order – Chair, Chris Ward

Councillor Ward called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: T. Deschamps

Seconded by: J. Martelle

That the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest & the General Nature Thereof

a. C. Ward - Investigating Potential Child Care Facility Locations

Councillor's direct family member may be involved in a potential business relationship that may be affected by the item.

4. Business Arising from Previous Committee Meeting Minutes (if any)

None.

5. Delegations and Presentations

None.

6. Action/Information/Discussion Items

a. Live: Land Use Planning

1. Application for Severance - B-6-25 - Groveton Rd (Reid)

Committee was provided with a detailed summary of the report and discussed alternate lot delineation options, studies required, the conditions of the severance, and clarified the intent of municipal development agreements. Members noted that the outlined conditions should be clearly stated within the motion. The initial mover and seconder rescinded their support for the recommended motion.

The Chair called a 5-minute recess at 6:56 p.m. to allow staff to amend the motion as directed to include the outlined conditions of the severance.

The Chair resumed the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Moved by: J. Martelle

Seconded by: W. Smail

That the Committee recommend in favour of severance application B-6-25; subject to the recommended conditions:

1. That a survey shall be provided to the Township; and
2. That a Development Agreement shall be registered on title to implement the recommendations from the Environmental Impact Assessment; and
3. That the surveyor shall verify that the Township Road is 10 meters from the center line of the road along the severed and retained parcel, and shall provide the Township with a registered copy of the document for our files; and
4. That this resolution be forwarded to the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville.

Carried

2. March Update - Domestic Fowl Coops

The committee received a comprehensive overview of the report and discussed increasing the number of permitted hens in all specified areas, allowing additional hens from April to September

as meat birds, permitting rooster ownership on properties over 0.4 hectares, and the rationale behind the proposed restrictions.

Members inquired about the current number of coops in the Township and the statistics on the number of domestic fowl coop complaints received.

Committee deferred the item to the March CDC meeting as it was noted that an upcoming webinar on domestic fowl coops, hosted by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), will provide further clarity on ministerial regulations for keeping domestic fowl and the additional requested information can be provided.

3. SNC Septic Agreement Update

Committee was provided with a summary of the report and discussed consulting local contractors to identify issues, potential liability, the feasibility of bringing services in-house, and penalties for contract violations.

The Committee reached a consensus to explore bringing septic inspection services in-house.

b. Work: Economic Development

1. Investigating Potential Child Care Facility Locations

C. Ward declared a conflict on this item. (Councillor's direct family member may be involved in a potential business relationship that may be affected by the item.)

Councillor Ward relinquished the Chair position to the Mayor, left the council chambers and did not participate in the discussion.

The Committee received an update and discussed the following: criteria for evaluating potential spaces, the possibility of privately owned land on Dundas St with a zoning amendment, the concentration of children within the Township, and funding based on the number of childcare spots created.

Councillor Ward returned to council chambers following discussions and assumed the Chair position.

c. Play: Recreation

None.

7. Inquiries/Notices of Motion

Mayor Deschamps requested clarification on the new Township severance application process and asked staff to provide the Committee with a printed copy.

Mayor Deschamps requested a future Committee discussion regarding passing a bylaw prioritizing the purchase of Canadian goods.

8. Member's Report

Member's reported on the following:

- Noted upcoming Township advertising videos from the Communications Committee following their March 3 meeting.
- Highlighted the attendance of the SERA chilli fest held on Saturday, March 1, noting chilli submissions from the Mayor and Councillor Ward.

9. Question Period

The following questions/comments were raised:

- Additional childcare issues were noted, including limited summer camp spaces, a lack of childcare for children under 6, and restrictions on summer programming outside Brockville.
- Inquiries were made regarding the proposed restrictions on keeping domestic fowl under the proposed zoning bylaw amendment.

10. Closed Session

None.

11. Adjournment

Moved by: S. Dillabough

Seconded by: W. Smail

That Committee does now adjourn at 8:22 p.m.

Carried

Chair

Deputy Clerk