



DEVELOPMENT AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

An electronic meeting of the Development and Property Committee was held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

Present were:

- Chair Robert Sweet
- Warden Debbie Robinson
- Vice-Chair Cathy Regier
- Councillor Peter Emon
- Councillor Sheldon Keller
- Councillor Daniel Lynch
- Councillor John Reinwald
- Councillor Janice Tiedje

Staff Present:

- Paul Moreau, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
- Craig Kelley, Director of Development and Property
- Jeffrey Foss, Director of Corporate Services
- Laura LePine, Director of Community Services
- Lee Perkins, Director of Public Works and Engineering
- Alastair Baird, Manager of Economic Development
- Bruce Howarth, Acting Manager of Planning
- Jason Davis, Manager of Forestry and GIS
- Rosalyn Gruntz, Deputy Clerk
- Evelyn VanStarkenburg, Administrative Assistant

Chair Sweet called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The roll was called, and no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-59

Moved by Councillor Lynch

Seconded by Councillor Regier

THAT the minutes of the May 11 and 26, 2021 meetings be approved. CARRIED.

Ms. Teresa Hebb, President of the Renfrew County ATV Club provided an update on club activities, which is attached as Appendix A.

Committee was advised that the Canadian National (CN) line in Pembroke has been sold and the new owner is not interested in leasing the trail to the Renfrew County ATV and snowmobile clubs. Ms. Hebb advised that the club is looking at options to resolve this situation to ensure that there will be a continuous trail through the County of Renfrew for trail users. Ms. Hebb advised that she will be hosting two virtual open houses to discuss how to proceed. She noted that local business owners and economic development leaders in the community have been invited to attend.

Ms. Hebb noted that the Algonquin Trail would connect near the CN line at Jean Avenue on the west end of Pembroke at Miramichi Lodge and follow the spur line west and travel to Algonquin Park. Ms. Hebb noted that they are working to have the east west trail into Quebec over the bridge in the Township of Whitewater Region, however with the CN line sold this would also stop at Greenwood Road. Currently, the trail is not open across the bridge to Quebec.

Ms. Hebb advised that the entire CN Line is currently for sale and this continues to be a concern for the ATV Club as there is no guarantee that it will continue to be a trail once sold.

Committee advised that the County of Renfrew did try to acquire the CN line and was not successful in negotiating a deal. There are concerns with using the Algonquin Trail through the Town of Laurentian Valley and the City of Pembroke as there is still a considerable amount of work to be completed to ensure the trail is safe to use.

Chair Sweet advised that the Town of Petawawa approved the development of a comfort station along the Algonquin Trail and it is concerning to hear that there may no longer be a continuous trail within Renfrew County for ATV and snowmobile clubs to use.

Development and Property

Mr. Kelley overviewed the Development and Property Department Report which is attached as Appendix B.

Councillor Tiedje vacated the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Discussion occurred with regards to the proposed Seniors' Housing Strategy Work Plan. It was noted that this project will be a Renfrew County effort and include other parties that have a mandate to assist seniors.

Committee was advised that the goal for the Seniors' Housing Strategy is to ensure that there is sufficient affordable housing and community support services available. It was noted that further recommendations would be forthcoming in the future and that no decisions would be made at this level with the passing of the recommendation.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-60

Moved by Councillor Emon

Seconded by Councillor Reinwald

THAT the Development and Property Committee approve the Development and Property Department components of the Seniors' Housing Strategy Work Plan.
CARRIED.

Councillor Tiedje reentered the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Mr. Kelley advised that the Planning Division is looking to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the local municipalities that will outline the services that will be provided to them. Currently the Planning Division assists with direct planning advice for 11 municipalities.

Committee was advised that the position of Senior Planner is not being replaced and that the proposed restructure intends to create three County Planner positions that would be able to provide a higher level of service to the municipalities to expedite the application process.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-61

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Keller

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend that County Council approve the proposed Planning Division business cases as presented; AND FURTHER THAT the Finance and Administration Committee be so informed. CARRIED.

Committee was advised that Ms. Helen Giroux, Administrative Assistant for the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association is retiring in July. In anticipation of this, staff reviewed the Administrative Assistant position and retitled the position to reflect a broader base for economic development and tourism. This position was reviewed and rescored by Mr. Foss, Director of Corporate Services and the Human Resources Manager based on experience and education.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-62

Moved by Councillor Emon

Seconded by Councillor Lynch

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend that County Council approve the proposed Economic Development Division and Ottawa Valley Tourist Association (OVTA) business cases as presented; AND FURTHER THAT the Finance and Administration Committee be so informed. CARRIED.

Committee directed staff to revise item 5 of the Flag Protocol Policy to include the word “public” and to further clarify on the procedure should organizations request to fly a flag. Mr. Kelley advised that an amended policy would be drafted prior to the Finance and Administration Committee.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-63

Moved by Warden Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Reinwald

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend to County Council that By-law 59-02 Corporate Policies and Procedures for the County of Renfrew be amended to enact Policy GA-12 Flag Protocol; AND FURTHER THAT the Finance and Administration Committee be informed. CARRIED.

Mr. Kelley overviewed an addendum to the Development and Property Department Report which is attached as Appendix C.

Warden Robinson advised that her vision for the proposed Reconciliation Garden is to send a message to all residents of the County of Renfrew and the indigenous people that the County of Renfrew is a caring community, is listening and recognizes our history and wants to move forward with healing and education.

Warden Robinson noted that she has been in contact with Chief Jocko from the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan and they would like to be involved.

Councillor Tiedje vacated the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-64

Moved by Warden Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Emon

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend to the Finance and Administration Committee that County Council adopt a resolution to direct staff to investigate options to design and initiate a Reconciliation Garden project on the grounds of the County Administration Building to honour and recognize the individual and collective rights and fundamental freedoms of all people to live in a state of dignity and respect which should be the foundation of our relationship with First Nations. CARRIED.

Economic Development

Mr. Baird overviewed the Economic Development Division Report, which is part of the Development and Property Department Report.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-65

Moved by Councillor Lynch

Seconded by Councillor Regier

THAT the Development and Property Committee recognize the leadership that Mr. Ray Bonenberg of Mapleside Sugar Bush, Township of North Algona Wilberforce, has provided to Renfrew County, Ontario, Canadian and the North American maple syrup industry. CARRIED.

Committee was advised that due to other commitments, Mr. Ray Bonenberg was unable to attend today's meeting to accept his Certificate of Recognition for his leadership in the maple syrup industry. Warden Robinson advised that she plans to meet with Mr. Bonenberg to present this certificate and provide congratulations on behalf of Council.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-66

Moved by Councillor Reinwald

Seconded by Councillor Lynch

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend to County Council that a By-law be executed to enter into an Agreement with the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council (EOLC) to enable the County of Renfrew to conduct the Commuter Pilot Project on behalf of and with the financial support of the EOLC. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-67

Moved by Councillor Keller

Seconded by Councillor Regier

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend to County Council that a By-law be executed to enter into a Contribution Agreement for the Rural Economic Development funding program for which Economic Development Division has been approved to assist with Renfrew County Marketing, Outreach, Expansion, Retention and Investment Attraction Program Collaterals. CARRIED.

Ottawa Valley Tourist Association

Mr. Baird overviewed the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association Report, which is part of the Development and Property Department Report.

Enterprise Renfrew County

Mr. Baird overviewed the Enterprise Renfrew County Report, which is part of the Development and Property Department Report.

Forestry and GIS

Mr. Davis overviewed the Forestry and GIS Division Report, which is part of the Development and Property Department Report.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-68

Moved by Councillor Emon

Seconded by Councillor Keller

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend that County staff provide comments before the June 21, 2021 deadline to the Draft Forest Biomass Action Plan consistent with the feedback from the local forest industry. CARRIED.

Committee was advised that invasive Phragmites are an ornamental plant that has started to take over large tracts of land reducing drainage and is a fire hazard when it dries out. This invasive species is currently not on the noxious weeds list.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-69

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Reinwald

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend that County Council support the Township of The Archipelago in requesting that the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) communicates their strategy on mapping (detecting sites) and controlling invasive Phragmites on provincial highways, the specific highway management plans and results by each MTO region and each highway in the region and work in coordination with the Township of The Archipelago to help try to manage the effect of the invasive Phragmites;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Ontario Minister of Transportation, the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada. CARRIED.

Real Estate

Mr. Kelley overviewed the Real Estate Division Report, which is part of the Development and Property Department Report.

Committee was advised that there have been challenges with completing the building renovations and several change orders were issued to meet the requirements of COVID-19 and upgrades to accommodate the needs of the Provincial Offences Administration. Mr. Moreau advised that as originally presented, the County will see a 1% saving on the levy once the renovations are paid off as well as receive an annual savings of \$470,000. Committee was advised that staff was able to draw on funds from the Child Care and Ontario Works budgets to offset some of the overages, as presented in the 2021 budget.

Councillor Emon vacated the meeting at 3:13 p.m.

Planning

Mr. Howarth overviewed the Planning Division Report, which is part of the Development and Property Department Report.

Committee was advised that there has been no response from the Province of Ontario with regards to Official Plan Amendment No. 31. Mr. Kelley advised that with Committee and Council approval, staff intend to host a virtual public meeting in August 2021. Following this staff would bring forward to Committee and Council a report that outlines all comments that were received along with staff recommendations. County Council would have the authority to adopt the revised Official Plan. Mr. Howarth noted that OPA No. 31 does not require Ministry approval, however they would have the right to appeal through the Ontario Land Tribunal.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-70

Moved by Warden Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Keller

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend that County Council approve the draft Official Plan Amendment (OPA) No. 31 for public consultation subject to revisions related to the TransCanada Pipeline and consolidation of the approved OPA No. 17; AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to proceed with organizing a public meeting in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act for the draft revised OPA No. 31. CARRIED.

Mr. Howarth advised that OPA No. 32 is a resubmission from the applicant who decided to withdraw the previous application at the provincial level and resubmit to the County. The new submission will not require Ministry approval.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-71

Moved by Councillor Reinwald

Seconded by Councillor Regier

THAT the Development and Property Committee recommend that a By-law be passed to Adopt and Approve Amendment No. 32 to the Official Plan of the County of Renfrew. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-72

Moved by Warden Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Reinwald

THAT the Development and Property Department Report and the Addendum to the Report attached as Appendices B and C be approved. CARRIED.

New Business**Petawawa Air Monitoring Station**

Chair Sweet advised Committee that he has had a meeting with Chris Charron and Tony Munoz from Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks with regards to the proposed closure of the Petawawa Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) air monitoring station located in Chalk River which was established in 2007. Their rationale was that all the readings were the same with North Bay, Petawawa, Dorset, and the City of Ottawa and that there may be an opportunity to have an option to reconsider this.

Committee directed staff to inquire with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, on behalf of all 17 municipalities, to find out what their position is and bring a report back to this Committee for consideration.

Cannabis Operation Study

Mr. Kelley advised Committee that following Committee and Council's resolution approval to conduct a Cannabis Operation Study, a Request for Proposal was issued and has been awarded under his authority to WSP Canada Inc. from Toronto, Ontario.

RESOLUTION NO. DP-C-21-06-73

Moved by Councillor Regier

Seconded by Councillor Lynch

THAT this meeting adjourn and the next regular meeting be held on August 10, 2021. Time: 3:35 p.m. CARRIED.