

TOWNSHIP OF ADMASTON/BROMLEY

Planning Committee

Date: Thursday, February 16th, 2023 – 6:30 pm

Present: Committee members present were Keith Gourley, Michael Donohue, and Brian Hamilton, present via electronic participation was Kevin LeGris, staff members present were CAO/Clerk Jennifer Charkavi, Finance Clerks Andrea Leclair and Meagan Jessup

1. Keith Gourley called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.
2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest – None.
3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Brian Hamilton **Seconded by:** Michael Donohue

BE IT RESOLVED that the Committee approve the agenda for the February 16th, 2023, Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting as presented this date.

“Carried”

4. Keeping of Backyard Hens

Moved by: Michael Donohue **Seconded by:** Brian Hamilton

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Planning and Economic Development Committee direct staff to create a survey for public comment on the keeping of Backyard Chickens;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Planning and Economic Development Committee direct staff to summarize the surveys and bring the information back to a future committee meeting.

“Carried”

CAO/Clerk Charkavi read the report and noted that the Township Staff and Councillors receive a number of calls from ratepayers inquiring on the rules and by-laws in place for keeping of chickens.

It was noted that staff is currently working on a by-law, which is being reviewed by MLES, By-Law Officer Jim McBain.

Committee member LeGris had said that this By-Law needs to be kept simple and should not be complicated.

Committee member Donohue brought up the concerns of Public Health with avian flu and diseases. There were also concerns with lot sizes, requirements, composting, the increase of predators if ratepayers in smaller communities in the Township were to allow chickens.

Committee agreed that a survey should be conducted of the ratepayers of Admaston/Bromley with questions for those who would like or would not like backyard chickens. A draft survey will be circulated to Committee members for comment once completed.

Committee Member Gourley had said that this is a sustainable way to raise food, lowering the bill at the grocery store for many ratepayers who have seen a substantial increase in groceries. There should also be a fee for community members having chickens, this ensures accountability and shows the ratepayer is invested.

6. Next Meeting

At the call of the Chair.

7. Adjournment

Moved by: Brian Hamilton **Seconded by:** Michael Donohue

BE IT RESOLVED that the Thursday, February 16th, 2023, Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting be adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

“Carried”

Chair

Clerk