



## **The Business Development and Planning Advisory Committee (BDAPAC) Meeting**

Location: Thrive Cannabis, 41 Townline Road, Townsend

Monday November 18, 2019

**Present:** Mayor Hewitt (Chair), Councillor Rob Shirton (Vice-Chair), Chris Hibbs, Mike Lessard, John Edelman, Adam Peet, Garrett Eggink, Trudy Parsons, Tauri Caputo, Phil Hauser & Kellie Stephan.

**Staff:** Lidy Romanuk, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism & Breanna Beauchamp, Division Support.

**Regrets:** John Vanderzanden

### **1. Thrive Cannabis Presentation**

Committee toured the Thrive Cannabis facility and then Geoff Hoover, CEO of Thrive Cannabis delivered a presentation on the economic impact of Thrive Cannabis and the projected growth of the company including product development, marketing, and future targets for employment.

A discussion then ensued.

### **2. Call to order**

Meeting called to order by Manager of Economic Development & Tourism at 2:29 p.m.

### **3. Public Transportation Update**

Mayor Hewitt provided the committee with an update on a potential public transportation option. A flyer outlining an electric vehicle concept was distributed to the committee as a potential option. The Mayor discussed a pilot project that could see a vehicle such as the one shown used in an urban area (ex. Dunnville) for public transportation. Additionally, other models of the vehicle could be used by the County for Bylaw and Facilities, Parks, Cemeteries and Forest Operations staff on a seasonal basis.

Overall, the initial investment and maintenance would be fairly low cost, and would provide an environmentally friendly option for transportation. Initiating a pilot project would allow the County the opportunity to measure the need and uptake from the public before a County-wide public transportation program is established.

The committee members provided feedback on the proposed pilot project.

Uber and Lyft (as potential public transportation options) were raised in conversation, however neither currently operate in Haldimand County. Options for growth in rural areas are limited due to restrictions and boundaries set by these corporations directly. As well, there would need to be a certain level of demand before Uber/Lyft will consider expansion in rural communities.

**4. Adjourned at 3:16 pm**

**5. 2020 Meetings**

Monday February 24<sup>th</sup>, May 25<sup>th</sup>, September 21<sup>st</sup>, and November 25<sup>th</sup>.