



Agriculture Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting

Virtual Conference
January 19th, 2022

Present: Councillor Metcalfe, Henk Lise (Chair), Bruce Armstrong, Richard Blyleven, Ron Young, Stephanie Campbell-Heron, Rick Armstrong, Louise Heyming (GRCA),

Staff: Lidy Romanuk, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism and Alison Earls, Senior Economic Development Officer.

Regrets: Jordan Fowler, Stuart Heeg, Nick Kinkel (OMAFRA)

1. Welcome and Introduction

Meeting called to order by Chair Henk Lise at 6:12 p.m.

2. Agricultural Advisory Committee Chair and Vice Chair Election

The committee deferred elections until the March 16, 2022 meeting due to committee member absences.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Ron Young and seconded by Stephanie Campbell- Heron that minutes of Agriculture Advisory Committee Meeting dated November 17th, 2021, be approved as presented at 6:13 pm.

APPROVED

4. Council Update

Councillor Metcalfe provided an update on Council activities , key highlights included:

- Telecommunications infrastructure continues to be installed throughout the County. Installation has been occurring in Rainham Centre and Kohler over the past few weeks.
- Staff have been working diligently to clear roads after a major snow event happened this week.
- Council recently approved the updated water and wastewater fees for 2022.
- Municipal elections will be held in October of 2022.

A discussion then ensued.

5. Rural Water Quality Projects

L. Heyming provided a brief overview of the current budget for the Rural Water Quality Project. L. Heyming then presented one Rural Water Quality Project for the committee's approval.

File # 121- Tree planning and tall grass prairie project was presented.

Moved By Ron Young, and seconded by Stephanie Heron- Campbell that the project be approved totaling \$5,000 at 6:23 pm.

APPROVED

6. 2022 Work Plan Priorities

H. Lise reviewed the work plan topics that were identified by this committee at the beginning of the term of Council. It was determined at our next meeting the committee will hold breakout sessions to further discuss a 2022 work plan and action items.

The topics that were identified as key areas of interest include attracting youth to agriculture and identifying alternative viable crops.

A discussion then ensued.

7. EDT Update

A. Earls then delivered an EDT update, key highlights included:

- Funding for Increasing Deadstock Capacity
- Funding for Increasing Veterinarian Capacity for Ontario Farms
- The Haldimand Marketplace
- The Farm 911 Emily Project
- Digital Service Squad Update and Webinars

A discussion then ensued.

8. New Business

No new business was brought forward.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm

10. Next Meeting

March 16th, 2022 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Location to be determined