

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

MINUTES

MEETING: Authority – Special
DATE: Wednesday November 23, 2016
TIME: 7:00 pm
LOCATION: Administration Office, Formosa

CHAIR: Luke Charbonneau

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Bell, Robert Buckle, Barbara Dobreen, Kevin Eccles,
Wilf Gamble, Dan Gieruszak, Stewart Halliday, Steve McCabe,
Sue Paterson, Mike Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT WITH REGRET: Dan Kerr, Brian Gamble, Andrew White

MEMBERS ABSENT: Maureen Couture

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Brohman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Erik Downing, Manager, Environmental Planning & Regulations
Paul Elston, Regulations Officer
Janice Hagan, Recording Secretary

Chair Luke Charbonneau called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION #G16-98

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No persons declared a pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes of the Authority Meeting – November 2, 2016

MOTION #G16-99

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Mike Smith

THAT the minutes of the Authority meeting, held on November 2, 2016 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

John Bell arrived at 7:05pm.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

a. 2017 User Fee Schedule

The General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the 2017 Fee Schedule with the Authority members. He reviewed the Campground fees and after discussion the Members agreed that the increases were acceptable.

Erik Downing gave an overview of the recommended increases and additions to Section 8, Planning & Regulations Fees. He explained that most of the increases were incremental and were reflective of normal inflation rates. He told the Authority that the reason for the large increase in the Minor Works, Alteration of a Watercourse was to make it consistent with the Minor Works to Alter a Regulated Area. Both of these include two site inspections and a permit and should be at the same rate. Erik told the Authority that the Property Clearances should have a separate fee for files that are required to be expedited. There was discussion regarding the proposed fee for email specific responses. Erik explained that this would be a step up from the verbal general response, but differs from a letter specific response as it would contain less review and critical analysis. If the file progressed to a permit, then the permit would be discounted by the fee previously billed. Erik addressed the proposed addition to Municipal Drain Maintenance Review Fees, differentiating it from the New Municipal Drain Review. This is to be consistent with the fees for Specific Property inquiries. Paul Elston clarified that some drains are actually classified as watercourses. Erik also addressed the added Engineering Report Review and explained that a cost recovery is necessary when producing these reports. The Chair would like the ratio between User Fees and Levy to be maintained at a 50/50 ratio for the Planning & Regulation department in order to avoid burdening municipal levies. He requested that Staff review and compare Planning & Regulations fee structures with other Conservation Authorities and report back to the Authority Members. There was no further discussion and the following motion was passed.

MOTION #G16-100

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the 2017 User Fee Schedule, dated September 2016, be adopted.

Carried

Kevin Eccles arrived at 8:04pm.

5. Review of Planning & Regulations Policies Manual – Chapter 4 THE ADMINISTRATION OF ONTARIO REGULATION 169/06, AS AMENDED

The Authority members reviewed Chapter 4 of the Draft Planning & Regulations Policies Manual and discussed each section. There was a concern that some of the wording was ambiguous and subjective which could lead to varied interpretations. The Chair stressed the importance of being clear and concise. The Members discussed if risk to public safety is a good reason to prohibit development (Section 4.5.2-2) and if SVCA can regulate based on this reason as this is not mentioned in the Conservation Authorities Act. After discussion the following motion was carried:

MOTION #G16-101

Moved by Stewart Halliday

Seconded by Mike Smith

THAT the first line: “risk to public safety” be struck from Policy 4.5.2-2.

Carried

A coffee break was called at 9:04pm. The meeting was reconvened at 9:12pm.

The Members asked why Section 4.5.2-3 had been included in the Manual as this section refers to the Provincial Policy Statement which municipalities are required to follow, and building structure usage is not referred to in the Conservation Authorities Act. The Members discussed the Tests of the Regulation and that there must always be a scientific reason for accepting or denying a permit. After discussion the following motions were passed:

MOTION #G16-102

Moved by Kevin Eccles

Seconded by Stewart Halliday

THAT Section 4.5.2-3 be struck from the Planning and Regulations Policies document.

Carried

MOTION #G16-103

Moved by Kevin Eccles

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT in any place within the Policy where a permit is required, and Tests of the Regulation have been met and fees have been paid, then a permit will be granted.

Carried

The Members continued to discuss the remaining sections and directed Staff to go through each one and eliminate any redundancies. The GM/S-T informed the Members that a final draft would be ready for public consultation in January and that the changes to the draft document will be tracked.

6. New Business

- a. The GM/S-T reminded the Members that he is available to attend Municipal Council meetings to present the Draft 2017 SVCA Budget.
- b. The GM/S-T informed the Members that he is working on the 2017 SVCA meeting schedule and that the Annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday January 13, 2017 at 1:00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 pm on motion of Robert Buckle.

Luke Charbonneau
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary