



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, February 16, 2024

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

	Pages
1. Information Reports	
There are no Information Reports.	
2. Early Release Reports	
2.1 2024-P-** Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development	4
• Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services, on behalf of Bethesda Ridge Farms, to permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm properties in the Municipality of Clarington, File: OPA 2023-001 (Regional Official Plan Amendment #197)	
3. Confidential Reports Authorized for Release	
There are no Confidential Reports.	
4. Staff Correspondence	
There is no Staff Correspondence.	
5. Durham Municipalities Correspondence	
There are no Durham Municipalities Correspondence.	
6. Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions	
6.1 Municipality of Wawa	14
• Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 17,	

2024, in support of the Township of Tay's resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration and Management Support

6.2	Municipality of Wawa	16
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 17, 2024, regarding Fire Department Fire Apparatus Regulation	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 23, 2024, in support of Coleman Township's resolution regarding Conservation Officer Reclassification	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 29, 2024, that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario	
6.5	County of Renfrew	22
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on January 31, 2024, regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems in rural and small urban municipalities	
6.6	Town of Lincoln	25
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on February 5, 2024, in support of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming's resolution regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)	
7.	Miscellaneous Correspondence	
7.1	Durham Regional Police Services Board (DRPSB)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>Public Agenda – February 20, 2024</u>	
7.2	Greg Milosh, City of Oshawa Resident	30
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Correspondence dated February 12, 2024, to Finance and Administration Committee regarding unprecedented municipal	

property tax increase(s)

8. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

There are no Advisory/Other Committee Minutes

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at clerks@durham.ca, if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised not later than noon the day prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

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If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2564



EARLY RELEASE OF REPORT

**The Regional Municipality of Durham
Report**

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2024-P-**
Date: March 5, 2024

Subject:

Decision Meeting Report

Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services, on behalf of Bethesda Ridge Farms, to permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm properties in the Municipality of Clarington, File: OPA 2023-001 (Regional Official Plan Amendment #197).

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That Amendment #197 to the Durham Regional Official Plan, to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels, be adopted as contained in Attachment #3 to Commissioner's Report #2024-P-**;
- B) That "Notice of Adoption" be sent to the applicant, the applicant's agent, the Municipality of Clarington, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and all other person or public bodies who requested notification of this decision; and
- C) That the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be requested to modify the Council adopted Durham Regional Official Plan as shown on Attachment 4 so that the approvals granted by Regional Council through Amendment #197 are carried

forward and properly reflected in the Region's new Official Plan which is currently pending approval by the Minister.

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 On January 27, 2023, Clark Consulting Services on behalf of Bethesda Ridge Farms submitted an application to amend the Regional Official Plan (ROP) to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Municipality of Clarington.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 2.1 On April 4, 2023, the Planning and Economic Development Committee received the Public Meeting Report [#2023-P-8](#), which includes details of the proposed non-abutting surplus farm dwelling severance.

3. Site Description

- 3.1 The subject site is located at the northeast corner of Concession Road 6 and Clemens Road, approximately 870 metres south of the Hamlet of Tyrone and approximately 600 metres north of Highway 407. The property is municipally known as 2774 Concession Road 6, and is located in Parts 7 and Lot 8, Concession 6, former Township of Darlington in the Municipality of Clarington (refer to Attachment 1).
- 3.2 The subject site is generally rectangular in shape with an area of approximately 54 hectares (133 acres). The subject lands contain an existing farm dwelling, an enclosed pool, a garage, a barn, and metal storage sheds located on the southern portion of the site. The central portion of the property contains a wooded area, and Mackie Creek which flows in north to south direction.
- 3.3 The surrounding land uses adjacent to the subject site:
- a. North – rural residences, agricultural lands, and wooded areas
 - b. East – Bethesda Road, rural residences, and agricultural lands
 - c. South – rural residences, Concession Road 6, and agricultural lands
 - d. West – Clemens Road, rural residences, and agricultural lands

4. Background

- 4.1 Bethesda Ridge Farms operates a cattle farm and produces cash crops. The applicant owns a total of three agricultural properties with a total area of 217 hectares (536 acres) in the Municipality of Clarington (refer to Attachment 2). The applicant's home farm is located at the property 2669 Bethesda Road.
- 4.2 On March 31, 2022, the applicant purchased the subject farm property to expand agricultural production. The existing dwelling located on the property is not required by a farm employee and is surplus to the farm operation.
- 4.3 The applicant has proposed to sever a 0.93 ha (2.29 acre) rural residential lot with the dwelling and retain a 52.87 ha (131 acre) farm parcel.

5. Reports Submitted in Support of the Application

- 5.1 A Planning Justification Report prepared by Clark Consulting Services was submitted in support of the application. The report concluded that the proposed amendment would be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conforms with the Greenbelt Plan and the Durham Regional Official Plan and meets the Provincial Minimum Distance of Separation (MDS) requirements.
- 5.2 A Phase One Environmental Site Assessment was completed for the subject site by GHD Ltd. The report indicated that the property has no potential environmental concern.

6. Provincial Plans and Policies

- 6.1 The subject site is located within the Protected Countryside designation of the Greenbelt Plan. Both the Provincial Policy Statement and the Greenbelt Plan permit the severance of a residence surplus to a farming operation as a result of farm consolidation, provided the planning authority ensure that a residential dwelling is not permitted on the proposed retained lot created by the severance and will be limited to the minimum size needed to accommodate the use.

7. Durham Regional Official Plan (ROP) Context

- 7.1 The subject site is located within the "Prime Agricultural Areas" designation in the current ROP. The property is located within the Provincial Agricultural System. The central portion of the property contains Key Natural Heritage and/or Hydrologic Features. Severance applications for agricultural uses may be considered in accordance with the relevant policies of the Sub-Section 9A of the ROP.

- 7.2 Policy 9A.2.10 of the current ROP may permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of a farm acquiring a non-abutting farm, provided that:
- a. the dwelling is not needed by a farm employee;
 - b. the farm parcel is of a size which is viable for farming operations;
 - c. within the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt Plan Area, the dwelling was in existence as of December 16, 2004; and
 - d. the farm parcel is zoned to prohibit any further severances and the establishment of any residential dwelling.

No further severances shall be permitted from the acquired farm parcel.

8. Planning Analysis

- 8.1 The existing dwelling located on the subject farm property is not required by a farm employee and has been deemed as surplus to the farming operation as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting agricultural properties.
- 8.2 The proposed severed parcel is limited to the minimum size to support the existing dwelling, well, and septic system. The retained farm parcel of approximately 52.87 ha (131 acres) will remain a viable size for agricultural use.
- 8.3 The farm dwelling located on the subject site was constructed in 1846, prior to December 16, 2004, when the Greenbelt Plan came into effect. The proposed amendment requires the retained farm parcel to be rezoned to prohibit any further severances, prohibit the establishment of any residential dwellings, and prohibit the barn to be used for housing livestock.
- 8.4 The proposed amendment is consistent with the PPS and conforms with the Greenbelt Plan and the Durham Regional Official Plan.

9. Public Meeting and Submissions

- 9.1 In accordance with the Planning Act, a notice of public meeting regarding this application was published in the appropriate newspaper, mailed to those who own lands within 120 metres (400 feet) of the subject lands, and a public meeting was held on April 4, 2023. Commissioner's Report [#2023-P-8](#) provides information on the application.
- 9.2 The Region did not receive any written submission from the public related to the amendment application. The applicant's consultant was present at the Public Meeting to answer questions of Committee.

10. Consultation

- 10.1 On January 12, 2024, the Municipality of Clarington provided supporting comments for the proposed Regional Official Plan Amendment application.
- 10.2 The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, the Regional Health Department, the Regional Works Department, and the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee indicated no concerns regarding the approval of the application.
- 10.3 No comments or concerns were received from any member of the public.

11. Notice of Meeting

- 11.1 Written notification of the meeting time and location of the Planning and Economic Development Committee was sent to all who requested notification, in accordance with Regional Council procedure.
- 11.2 The recommendation of the Planning and Economic Development Committee is scheduled to be considered by the Regional Council on March 27, 2024. If Council adopts the proposed Amendment, notice will be given by the Regional Clerk and Council's decision will be final unless appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT).

12. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 12.1 In the processing of ROP amendment applications, the objective is to ensure responsive, effective and fiscally sustainable service delivery in accordance with Goal 5 of the Durham Region Strategic Plan (DRSP), "Service Excellence".

13. Conclusion

- 13.1 The proposed amendment is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and conforms with the policies of the Greenbelt Plan and the Durham Regional Official Plan. The required implementing Zoning By-law will prohibit any future severances and the construction of new dwellings on the retained farm parcel; and the use of the existing barn for housing livestock. Accordingly, it is recommended that Amendment #197 to the ROP, as shown on Attachment #3, be adopted.
- 13.2 During the transition period between the current in-effect ROP (2020 Consolidation) and prior to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing's approval of the adopted ROP (Envision Durham), it is recommended that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing also be requested to include an amendment, as contained in

Attachment 4, as a modification to the adopted Regional Official Plan through its approval process.

14. Attachments

Attachment #1: Location Sketch

Attachment #2: Applicant's Total Land Holdings

Attachment #3: Amendment #197 to the Durham Regional Official Plan

Attachment #4: Modification to Council adopted ROP (Envision Durham)

Respectfully submitted,

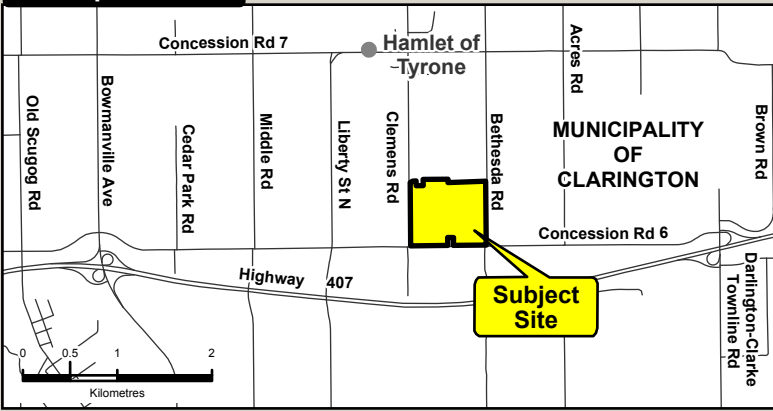
Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP, PLE
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

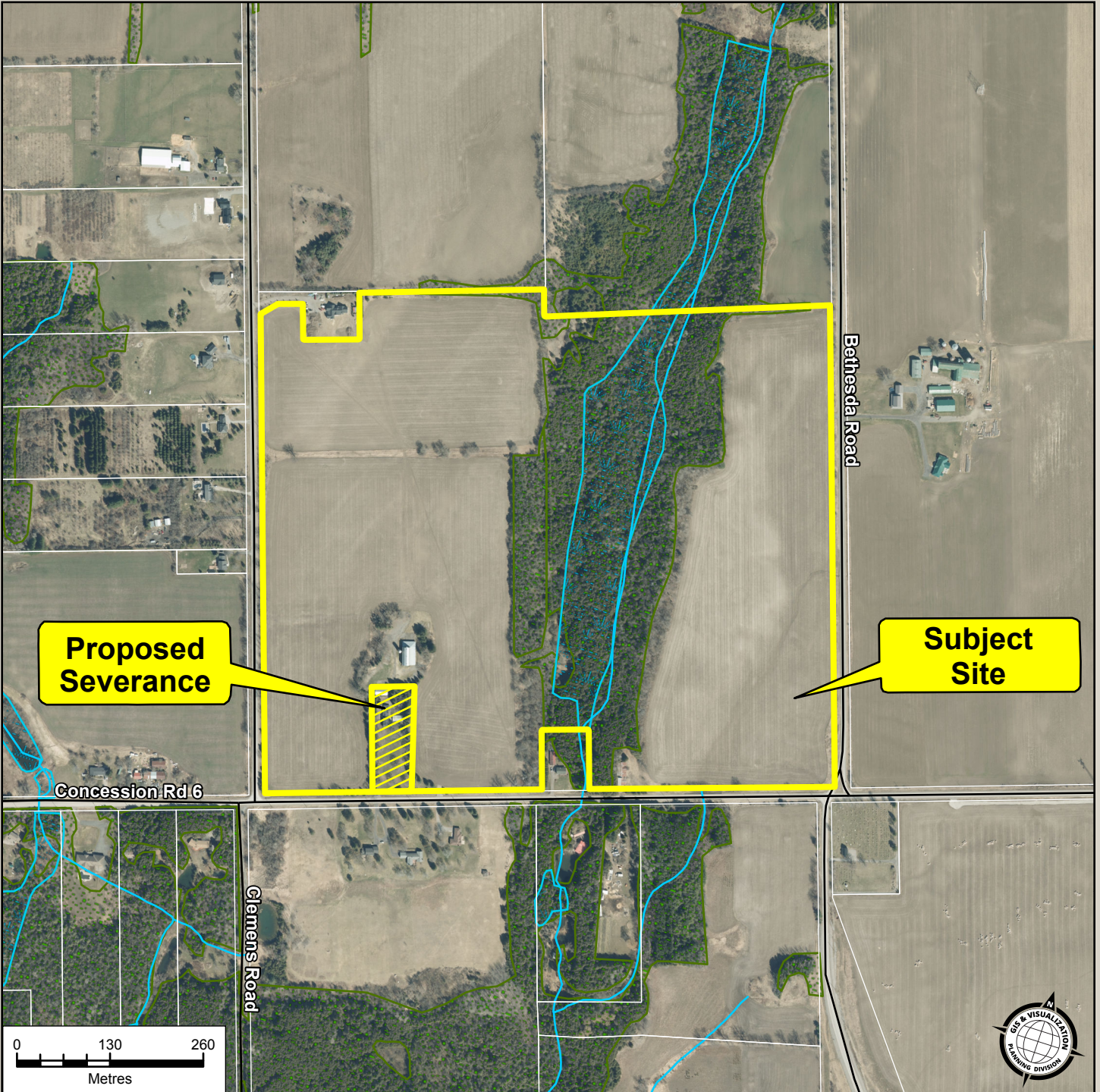
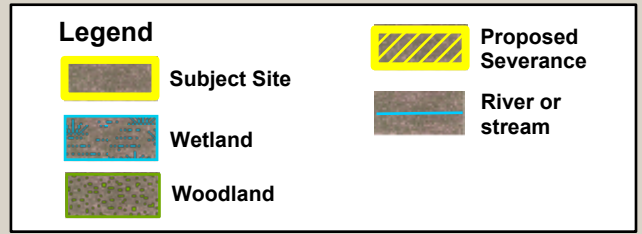
Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer

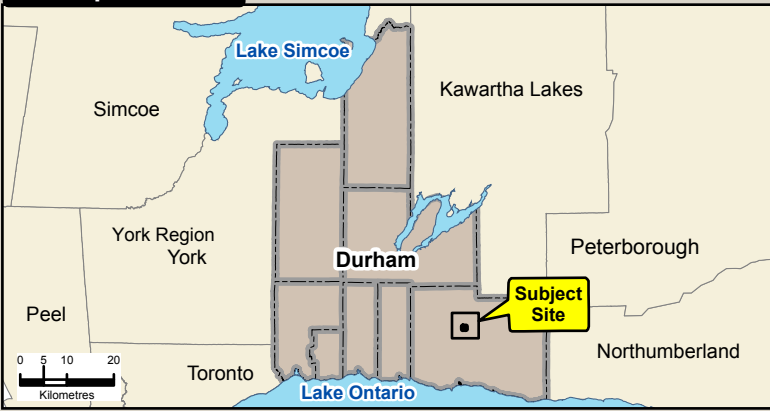
Municipal Context



Attachment #1
Commissioner's Report: #2024-P-**
File: ROPA 2023-001
Municipality: Municipality of Clarington



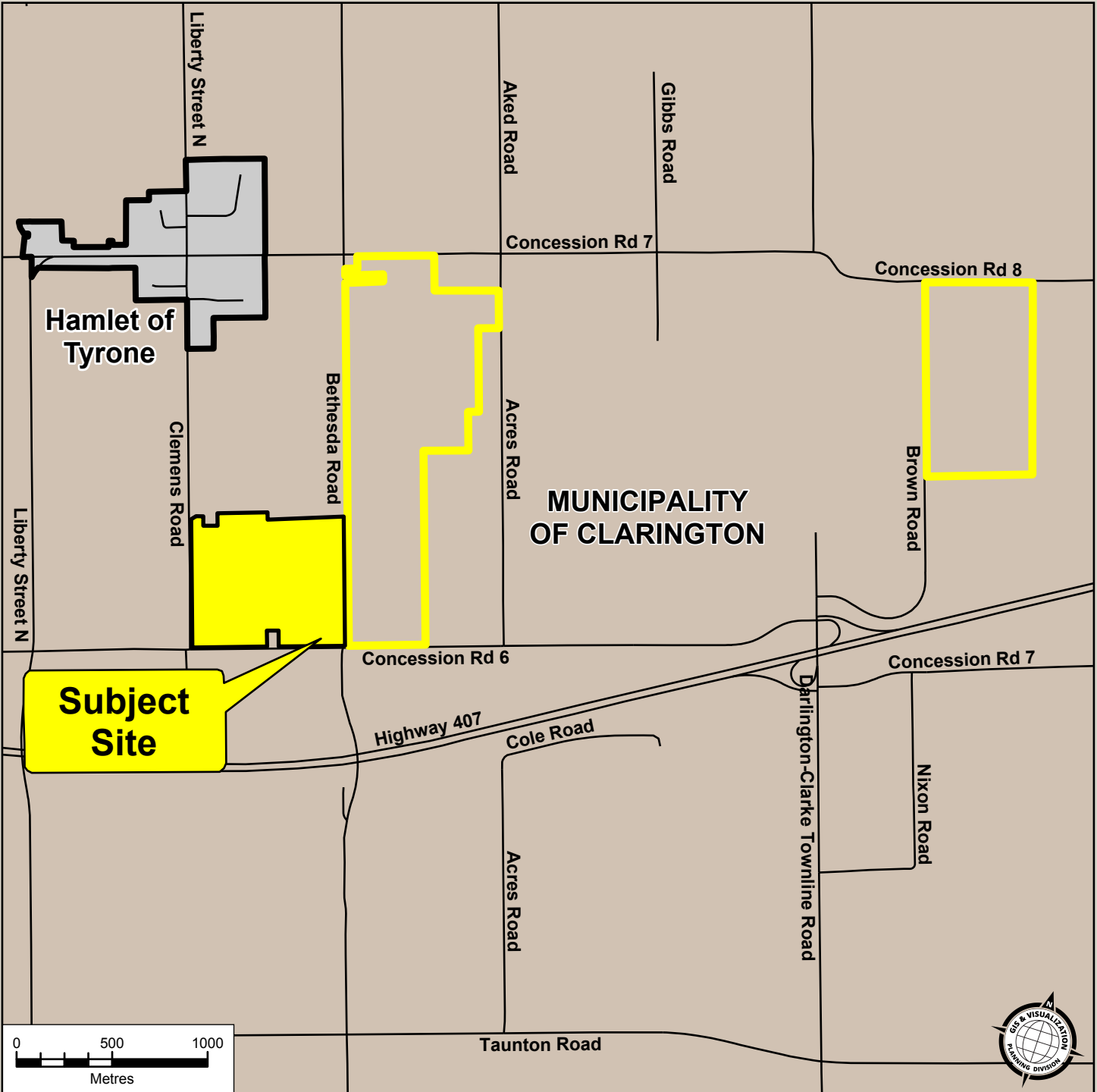
Municipal Context



Attachment #2
Commissioner's Report: #2024-P-**
File: ROPA 2023-001
Municipality: Municipality of Clarington

Legend

-  **Subject Site**
-  **Other Lands Owned by Bethesda Ridge Farms**



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 The Region hereby disclaims all representations and warranties.



Amendment #197 to the Durham Regional Official Plan

- Purpose and Effect:** The purpose of this Amendment is to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels on lands designated as “Prime Agricultural Areas.”
- Location:** The subject site is located at the northeast corner of Concession Road 6 and Clemens Road, approximately 870 metres south of the Hamlet of Tyrone and approximately 600 metres north of Highway 407. The property is municipally known as 2774 Concession Road 6 and is located in Part of Lots 7 and 8, Concession 6, former Township of Darlington, in the Municipality of Clarington.
- Basis:** The subject farm property has been consolidated with the other non-abutting farm parcels owned by the applicant. The residential dwelling on the subject site is not required by, and is surplus to, the farm operation. This amendment conforms with the Durham Regional Official Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement.
- Amendment (current Regional Official Plan – 2020 Consolidation):**
- The Durham Regional Official Plan is hereby amended by adding the following policy exception to Section 9A.3.2:
- “9A.3.2 hhh) A surplus farm dwelling rendered surplus from the parcel identified as Assessment No.18-17-010-110-06100 located in Part of Lots 7 and 8, Concession 6, former Township of Darlington, in the Municipality of Clarington, subject to the inclusion of the provisions in the zoning by-law to prohibit the construction of any new dwelling on the retained parcel; and the use of the existing barn for housing livestock. In accordance with Provincial and Regional policies, no further severances of the property are permitted.”*
- Implementation:** The provisions set forth in the Durham Regional Official Plan regarding the implementation of the Plan shall apply in regards to this Amendment.
- Interpretation:** The provision set forth in the Regional Official Plan regarding the implementation of this Plan shall apply in regards to this Amendment.

Request by Durham Region Council to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to Modify the Durham Regional Official Plan

- Request: Durham Region Council hereby requests the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing modify the new Durham Regional Official Plan as adopted on May 17, 2023 by adding the following policy exception to Section 10.4:
- “10.4.20 hhh) a surplus farm dwelling rendered surplus from the parcel identified as Assessment No. 18-17-010-110-06100 located in Part of Lots 7 and 8, Concession 6, former Township of Darlington, in the Municipality of Clarington, subject to the inclusion of the provisions in the zoning by-law to prohibit the construction of any new dwelling on the retained parcel; and the use of the existing barn for housing livestock. In accordance with Provincial and Regional policies, no further severances of the property are permitted;”*
- Rationale: On May 17, 2023, Durham Region Council adopted a brand new Regional Official Plan which is currently before the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing pending approval. On March 27, 2024, Durham Regional Council adopted Amendment #197 to the currently in effect (the “old”) Official Plan to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Municipality of Clarington. This requested modification to the new Official Plan will enable the permissions granted by Amendment #197 to be carried forward and property reflected in the new Official Plan.

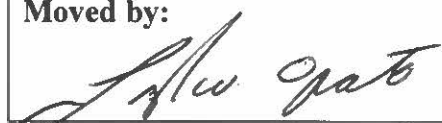
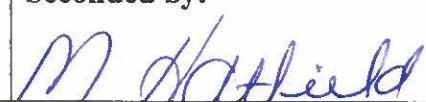


REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Date & Time Received:	February 09, 2024 2:41 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24017	Meeting Order: 6
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS the Wawa Cemetery Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 where the Committee received correspondence from Tay Township requesting support regarding Provincial Cemetery Management,

AND WHEREAS, under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

AND WHEREAS over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

AND WHEREAS municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

AND WHEREAS the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

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The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amending the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
• Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
• Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
• Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost;

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Jill Dunlop and all Ontario municipalities.

Table with 4 columns: RESOLUTION RESULT, RECORDED VOTE, MAYOR AND COUNCIL, YES, NO. Rows include CARRIED, DEFEATED, TABLED, RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT), PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED, and WITHDRAWN.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

Table with 2 columns: DEPUTY MAYOR - JIM HOFFMANN, CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL. Contains handwritten signatures for both roles.

This document is available in alternate formats.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Date & Time Received:	February 09, 2024 2:38 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Resolution # RC24016	Meeting Order: 5
Moved by: 	Seconded by:

WHEREAS By-Law 1070-96, being a By-Law to continue and regulate a Fire Department for the Corporation of the Municipality of Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 1070-96, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on January 24, 2024, Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa received the 2024 Wawa Fire Service Review by The Loomex Group that identifies and evaluates Wawa's current and anticipated fire protection needs, Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

AND FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt;

AND FINALLY RESOLVE THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.


Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

DEPUTY MAYOR - JIM HOFFMANN	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL

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 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 14, 2024 2:04 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

February 14th, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

ATTENTION: Premier of Ontario

Dear Premier Ford:

RE: Resolution – Conservation Officer Reclassification

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held January 23rd, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Roberts

Seconded by Councillor Summers

THAT, Council supports the resolution from Coleman Township regarding Conservation Officer Reclassification;

AND THAT, this resolution of support be circulated to the Premiere of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, local Members of Parliament and all Ontario Municipalities.

Resolved

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. Minister of Natural Resources, Graydon Smith
Local MP's and MPP's
Association of Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities

Resolution
Regular Council Meeting



Agenda Number: 9.4.
Resolution Number 23-371
Title: 23-R-49 Letter of Support - Conservation Officer Reclassification
Date: Monday, November 20, 2023

Seconded by: M. Lubbock

Moved by: S. Cote

WHEREAS Ontario has 196 field Conservation Officers including 6 canine handlers who provide protection to Municipalities Natural Resources and uphold public safety by enforcing hunting and firearm laws and investigate gruesome injuries and even deaths that result from hunting-related accidents; in addition, Conservation Officers are often First Responders and ensure public safety by facilitating evacuations and enforcing Emergency Area orders during forest fires during record breaking wildfires such as we witnessed this past summer; and

WHEREAS Conservation Officers perform comparable work to Police Officers and other Enforcement Officers within the province and are professional, armed Peace Officers trained to police standards and undergo the same training; and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required that their constituents are informed, and their interests are safeguarded and ensure they have access to outreach and natural resources compliance services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Coleman does here by support the Ontario Conservation Officer's Association (OCA) in their efforts to have Conservation Officers in the Province of Ontario reclassified as Enforcement Officers and be compensated fairly; and

FURTHER request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution with a letter of support be forwarded to Ontario Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, the Local Provincial Member of Parliament (MPP) John Vanthof, Temiskaming Municipal Association and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

YES: 4

NO: 0

ABSENT: 0

S. Cote

M. Lubbock

P. Rieux

L. Perry

Certified True Copy

Christopher W. Oslund
CAO/Clerk - Treasurer




2297 Highway 12
PO Box 130
Brechin, ON L0K 1B0
www.ramara.ca

February 9, 2024

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Attn: Minister Paul Calandra
777 Bay Street, 17th floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Via email: minister.mah@ontario.ca

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 12, 2024 8:19 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RE: Township of Ramara Resolution 2024.24
Request for Province of Ontario and AMO Social and Economic Prosperity
Review to Promote the Stability and Sustainability of Municipal Finances

Dear Minister Paul Calandra,

At their regular meeting on January 29, 2024, the Council of the Township of Ramara passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS current provincial-municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 billion a year;

WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can't afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario.

AND THAT staff circulate it to MPP Jill Dunlop, applicable Ministries, and Ontario Municipalities.

I trust the above is self-explanatory; however, if you require further information or clarification, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Connor CMO, AOMC

Director of Legislative Services & Community Services / Clerk

Cc. MPP Jill Dunlop

Via email: Jill.Dunlop@pc.ola.org

Office of the
County Warden




9 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
PEMBROKE, ON, CANADA
K8A 6W5
613-735-7288
FAX: 613-735-2081
www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca

January 31, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	February 14, 2024 8:07 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

RE: Rural and Small Urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems

Dear Premier Ford,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on January 31, 2024, The County of Renfrew passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) (Section 1.6.6.2) states that municipal sewage services and municipal water services are the preferred form of servicing for settlement areas to support protection of the environment and minimize potential risks to human health and safety and that intensification and redevelopment within these settlement areas should be promoted; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Section 2.2.1 (f)) states that planning authorities shall protect, improve, or restore the quality and quantity of water by implementing the necessary restrictions on development and site alternation to protect all drinking supplies and designated vulnerable areas, and protect, improve, or restore vulnerable surface and ground water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive groundwater features, and their hydrologic functions; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Sections 2.2.1(h) and (i)) states that there is consideration of environmental lake capacity as well as stormwater management practices; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Protection and Conservation (MECP) Procedural Guideline B-1-5 Policy 2 provision states that water quality which presently does not meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives shall not be further degraded and all practical measures shall be undertaken to upgrade the water quality to the Objectives; and

WHEREAS in 2014 the Township of Whitewater Region authorized Jp2gConsultants Inc. to undertake a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the purpose of evaluating viable options to upgrade the 1979 Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant did not meet guidelines for effluent flow into Muskrat Lake and Cobden Wetland being highly sensitive, at-capacity, inland lake, and Provincial Significant Wetland (PSW) and acknowledged as one of

the most eutrophic in the province. The plant had ongoing seasonal overflow events, and was operating at maximum capacity; and

WHEREAS in 2018 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region approved the construction of a new parallel mechanical system that would meet all provincial environmental and regulatory requirements including accommodating future growth. Federal and provincial contributions only covered 50% of the final construction costs, as there was no ability to renegotiate with federal and provincial partners once real costs were known. As a result, the balance of costs (\$6M) was debentured over 30 years at interest rates that are slightly punitive to rural and small urban municipalities; and

WHEREAS in 2019 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region conducted a Water and Wastewater Rate Study that demonstrated the need for rate increases of over 100% to fund the new wastewater treatment plant construction debenture and the significantly increased operating costs for a parallel mechanical system. Rural and small urban municipalities experience very limited growth as federal and provincial policies heavily support growth in urban centers. As there are no other sources of available operational funding, rural and small urban municipalities are expected to fund the construction and operation of these state-of-the-art systems from existing property owners and nominal forecasted growth; and

WHEREAS in 2023 the Township of Whitewater Region combined water and wastewater rates have risen to almost \$3,000/year for its five hundred and eleven (511) users and are among the highest in the County of Renfrew and across the Province of Ontario. There are similarly high user rates in the Township of Madawaska Valley as a result of Provincial regulations and a small number of users. Other examples of rapidly increasing rates include the Towns of Deep River, Renfrew, Arnprior, Laurentian Hills, and Petawawa, and the Townships of Bonnechere Valley, Laurentian Valley and Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, where significant upgrades in short periods of time are making rates unaffordable even with an increased number of users.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Renfrew:

Advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and Advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Emon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Emon, Warden

County of Renfrew

warden@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

cc: Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario)
Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada)
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Cheryl Gallant, MP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke
John Yakabuski, MPP, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.



4800 SOUTH SERVICE RD
BEAMSVILLE, ON L0R 1B1

905-563-8205

February 7, 2024

SENT VIA EMAIL: eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming
546 Niagara Street, P.O. Box 250
Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0

RE: Town of Lincoln Council Resolution – Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln at its Council Meeting held on February 5, 2024, received and supported correspondence from the Town of Plympton-Wyoming dated December 1, 2023, regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters) with the following motion:

Resolution No: RC-2024-06

Moved by Councillor JD Pachereva; Seconded by Councillor Mike Mikolic

THAT Council support and endorse the resolution within the correspondence received re: Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters.

CARRIED

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

Julie Kirkelos
Town Clerk

jkirkelos@lincoln.ca

JK/dp

Cc: Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities



Lianne Rood
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

December 1st 2023

Sent via e-mail: Lianne.Rood@parl.gc.ca

Re: Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the *Income Tax Act* (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters)

Dear Ms. Rood,

Please be advised that at the Regular Council Meeting on November 29th 2023, the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion, supporting the attached resolution from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Support of Bill C-310 and Amendments to Subsections 118.06 (2) & 118.07 (2) of the *Income Tax Act* (Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters).

Motion 13

Moved by Councillor Mike Vasey

Seconded by Councillor Bob Woolvett

That Council support item 'R' of correspondence from the Municipality of Wawa regarding Tax Credit for Volunteer Fire Fighters.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

cc: Sent via e-mail
Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario – info@oafc.on.ca
The Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO) – resolutions@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Resolution # RC23265	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: <i>Cathy Farnon</i>	Seconded by: <i>J. Mal</i>

WHEREAS Canada has 90,000 volunteer firefighters who provide fire and all hazard emergency services to their communities; in addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year; and

WHEREAS many of these individuals receive some form of pay on call, an honorarium, or are given some funding to cover expenses, but they do not draw a living wage from firefighting; and;

WHEREAS without volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers, thousands of communities in Canada would have no fire and emergency response coverage; and;

WHEREAS in 2013, the federal government initiated a tax credit recognizing these individuals, and calling on the federal government to increase this tax credit from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;

- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06 (2) and 118.07 (2) of the Income Tax Act in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000; and;

FURTHERMORE THAT a copy of the resolution be shared with the Association of Fire Chiefs of Ontario, Algoma Mutual Aid Association, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield	
<input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED	Cathy Cannon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann	
<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opato	

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.

From: [Greg Milosh](#)
To: [Clerks](#)
Subject: Correspondence for Feb. 13/24 Finance Committee meeting
Date: February 12, 2024 9:59:33 AM

please include the following as correspondence for tomorrow's finance committee meeting:

noted Globe & Mail columnist Andrew Coyne recently wrote a column on municipal taxation and included the following paragraph

'Taxation is not theft, but it does mean taking people's money from them by force. Before they decide to make so much more of our money, at a time when household budgets are already strained, the people who govern us are obliged, at the least, to show there is no better alternative.'

Which begs the obvious questions of Durham Region Council and staff.

Have they done everything they could to minimize the property tax increase?
Have all cost reductions and revenue sources been considered.
Have all (un)allocated reserves and the rate stabilization fund been fully utilized.
Have hiring and wage freezes been considered?
Has imposition of parking fees for Durham employees been considered.

Mr. Coyne suggests, and I think rightfully so, that it is your responsibility to show that there is no better alternative to the extraordinary and unprecedented property tax increase(s) you are considering for this and ensuing years.

Please rethink and reconsider the scale of your property tax increase for this budget.
As I mentioned, when I spoke to your committee in December, failure to do so, may imperil your political future

thank you for your consideration

Greg Milosh
Oshawa