

Town of Berwick

Public Hearing

Proposed Non-Domestic Animal Bylaw

Minutes of the Meeting

June 12, 2007

Attendance

In attendance

Mayor John Prall
Deputy Beth Easson
Mayor
Councillors Richard Horsburgh
Mike Trinacty
Don Clarke
Gary Whittier
Anna Ashford-Morton

Chair

Guests Ms. Alanna McGill
Mr. Danny Lecky
Ms. Cathy MacAskill
Mr. Mike Larsen
Mr. David Lonergan
Ms. Stephanie Morse
Mr. Larry Morse
Mr. Bob Stewart
Mr. Brad Morse
Mr. Dwight Johnson
Ms. Carol Tobin

Media Sarah Keddy

Kings County
Register

1. Call to Order

The Hearing was called to order at 6:30 pm

2. Public Hearing

The Chair, Deputy Mayor Easson, noted that this Hearing was for Council to receive public input on the proposed Non-Domestic Bylaw. She reviewed the proposed amendments to the Berwick Land Use By-Laws.

The Chair asked members of the gallery to give any input at this time.

Mr. Mike Larsen of 259 Main Street has four (4) acres and has a barn on his property, equipped for horses. He is opposed to the proposed Animal Bylaw. He says his property is big enough to handle horses. Horses have always been at this property, although he does not keep any at present. He added that the proposed bylaw, by restricting its uses, would have a negative impact on the resale value of his property.

Mr. Bob Stewart of Commercial Street apologized for this situation as he felt that because he had horses and there were complaints, it has led to this proposed bylaw. Mr. Stewart says that he has clients who has declined to live in town because of the proposed bylaw. He is opposed.

Mr. Mike Morse of 121 Willow Avenue explained that he felt this was not a good direction for the town to take. He feels that it is great to see agriculture in town and disagrees 100% with limiting same. He asked "What are people with barns suppose to do with them?" He concluded by saying that the Town should be promoting its agricultural society.

Ms. Alanna McGill noted that she was against the proposed bylaw.

Mr. Danny Lecky indicated that the Town should not be taking away the agricultural aspects of the Town. He stated he was opposed to the proposed bylaw.

Ms. Carol Tobin of 127 Willow Avenue relayed that she and her husband have 16 acres on Willow Avenue and bought this property because they could enjoy the amenities of the Town, plus the fact that they were able to have animals. Ms. Tobin indicated that at present they own Jersey's and chickens. She expressed to Council that she encourages them to help people in her position maintain this way of life. She encouraged Council to do more talking with people who have concerns. She noted that she was opposed to the this proposed bylaw.

Deputy Mayor Easson indicated that this Bylaw was proposed to primarily protect the smaller residential lots.

Mr. Larsen emphasized that Council is not going to please everyone, but this proposed bylaw does impact many families and homes.

Mr. Ashley highlighted the technical difference between primary use and accessory use.

Ms. Stephanie Morse indicated that she and her husband, Larry, are against this bylaw, as well.

Deputy Mayor explained what the process will be hereafter and thanked the gallery for coming and expressing their concerns.

3. Adjournment

The Hearing was adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Deputy Mayor Easson
Chair

Chantal L. Pineo-Atwood
Recording Secretary