

## CITY OF SALMON ARM

Minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting held in Room 100 of City Hall, 500 – 2 Avenue NE, Salmon Arm, BC, on **December 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. (GoTo Meeting)**

*We acknowledge that we are gathering here on the traditional territory of the Secwepemc people, with whom we share these lands and where we live and work together.*

### Present

Councillor Tim Lavery, Chair  
Serena Caner  
Jen Gamble  
Mike Schroeder  
Ron Ganert  
Don Syme  
James Hanna  
John McLeod

Melinda Smyrl, Planner/Recorder - staff (non-voting)  
Lindsay Benbow, Ministry of Agriculture (non-voting)  
Alison Fox, Ministry of Agriculture (non-voting)

### Absent

Barrie Voth

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm

1. **Call to Order**
2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY**
3. **Approval of Agenda**

No late items presented  
Moved: James Hanna  
Seconded: Jen Gamble

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2020**

Moved: James Hanna  
Seconded: Jen Gamble

THAT: the minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting of November 18, 2020 be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **5. Old Business**

### **5.1 Applications Considered by Council since March 15 (not reviewed by AAC due to COVID-19 protocols)**

A summary of ALC Applications was presented to the group at the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Chair offered a questions period to the group.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Moore ALC Exclusion Application (MOTi)**

Staff summarized the ALC Exclusion application. MOTi is making an application to Exclude the subject area from the ALR in conjunction with the on-going works related to the Trans Canada Highway 1 improvement project. Most of the ALR land within the project area has been addressed via the ALC process prior to the recent changes in legislation. Prior to September 30, 2020 MOTi would have negotiated the exclusion separate from any local government input. Under the new ALR regulations they are considered a 'prescribed body' with local government input required prior to ALC application submission.

The Committee questioned ALC and City processes. The Committee discussed recommending that Council reject the application on the basis that the land has soil capability and why meaningful input was not sought prior to this late stage of project. The group also discussed the importance of the highway project to the whole community and had this been prior to the legislative changes the AAC and City would not be considering input into this part of the process.

Mike Schroeder requested a copy of the AAC Terms of Reference. Staff will distribute the Terms of Reference in advance of the January AAC meeting.

Serena Caner entered meeting at 2:10pm.

The group discussed possible motions – to support, to reject or support noting the lack of information on process and input as limiting factors.

Lindsay Benbow left the meeting at 2:30pm

THAT: the AAC recommends to Council that the application submitted by Talisman Consulting Ltd on behalf of the Ministry of Transportation and Highway Infrastructure be rejected.

Moved: Ron Ganert

Seconded: John McLeod

Opposed: Don Syme, James Hanna, Mike Schroeder and Tim Lavery

Abstain: Serena Caner

**MOTION DEFEATED**

## **6.2 DeMilles (Birch Haven Farms Ltd.) Liquor License – Non Farm Use**

Staff summarized the application. The owner/operator has requested the ALC consider allowing liquor retail sales on the premises. Should the application be supported by the ALC, rezoning would be required.

James Hanna spoke regarding the rules and restrictions for producers with the ALR and that supporting liquor sales in addition to the existing retail would give an unfair advantage to Birch Haven that would be difficult for producers under ALC restrictions to compete with.

THAT: the ACC recommends that Council support the Non-Farm Use application submitted by Birch Haven Farms Ltd.

Moved: Mike Schroeder

Seconded: Don Syme

Opposed: John McLeod, James Hanna

Abstain: Ron Ganert

**CARRIED**

## **7. Ideas for larger issues to consider over the next year.**

The Chair lead a discussion on possible topics/projects that the group may want look at and at later meetings expand on how to address those items and when to address the topics/projects as a group.

Possible topics/projects:

- City Food Policy/Food Systems Plan with the Food Charter as a starting point. Staff will distribute the Food Charter to the Committee via email in advance of the next meeting.
- Water Quality/Drainage Plan for Salmon River Valley Area
- Supporting Agriculture in Education
- Align City Regulations and Bylaws with ALC Regulations
- Develop a Framework for Decision Making with a Food Systems Lens

Serena Caner requested that the AAC send a letter to the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Education emphasizing where food for school programs is sources and ensure that local producers are included as a primary source for school food programs. The Chair requested that Serena bring materials for the group to consider with this request to the January meeting. Alison Fox will also bring forward in January information that she has received from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Education on this same topic.

**8. Next Meeting – January 13, 2020, 2:00pm-3:30pm**

The Chair advised the committee that the group will review the recent changes in ALC legislation and role of the AAC in those changes at the January meeting. Staff will provide information in advance of the meeting. Staff will also contact ALC to see if a staff member would be available to attend to answer questions.

**9. Adjournment**

Moved: Ron Ganert

Seconded: James Hanna

THAT: the Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting of December 9, 2020 be adjourned.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm

“T. LAVERY”

Endorsed by Meeting Chair

Received for information by Council on the 25 day of January, 2021