

WARD THREE MEETING SUMMARY

Overview

On June 11, the Ward Three Meeting was held at Town Hall. Mayor Rick Bonnette, Regional and Local Councillor Jane Fogal and Councillors Moya Johnson and Wendy Farrow-Reed were in attendance along with 15 residents. The format was informal, with a question and answer session led by the Mayor.

A handful of comments were submitted. Councillors will be in touch with residents who provided contact information on their comment cards.

The following issues were discussed:

Climate Change

Councillor Fogal spoke to this issue advising that Town Council passed a resolution in May recognizing the urgency of climate change and that staff are to report back on costs and the feasibility of implementing a number of suggested actions. She noted the success of climate change rallies and that the purpose was to keep the issue front-of-mind. The Mayor advised that climate change is an important issue for all political stripes. It was noted that the Town has long been a champion for sustainability and that many actions have already been taken including the installation of solar panels on the arenas, construction of LEEDS-standard buildings and water bottle refill stations in facilities.

Read the Town's resolution and media release on climate change [here](#).

Committee Participation

A resident expressed her appreciation for the Town's efforts in communicating information and for the opportunity to influence decision-making as a member of a committee.

Preservation of trees

Residents asked about tree-by-laws and it was reported that a consultant has been retained to develop the Town's vision for its tree canopy. The work anticipated to be completed in 2020, will be focused on trees located on private properties and will include public engagement. It was noted that Halton Hills lost many trees from the 2013 ice storm.

Train Whistles/‘Noise Pollution’

Concern was raised about the use of train whistles and a resident advised that she was not alone in bringing this issue forward, but rather, had spoken to her neighbours many of whom shared the same concerns. In a letter from Metrolinx, it was noted that the cessation of whistles is a municipal process. The Mayor advised that train whistles are for used for safety reasons but he has been advocating on behalf of residents including writing to the President of CN Rail.

Dufferin Truck Monitoring

A query was raised about the signage along Maple Avenue that notes truck monitoring. Councillor Johnson explained that previously, there had been an issue with trucks travelling residential streets sometimes without even having a destination in Town. The Town worked with Dufferin and implemented a monitoring system whereby they take pictures of license plates and track them against the drivers; drivers who use the route when they are not supposed to face suspension penalties.

Read the Town’s media release [here](#).

Development Updates

Questions were asked about a number of different developments. It was explained that the Town does not have authority over private establishments and can only enforce certain by-laws regarding property standards and safety.

- Exchange Hotel

Comment was made on its dilapidated state. The property is now owned by Habitat for Humanity and the Town is working with them to preserve the heritage aspect by dismantling the building, creating an inventory of the pieces and determining re-use when the building is reconstructed. The project supports the Town’s affordable housing strategy.

- Barber Mill

The Mayor advised that there had never been an application brought forward to Council on this private development; the Credit Valley Conservation Authority had concerns around the original proposal as it was set in a flood plain. Since then, the owner has had some new renderings created (but they have not filed a planning application) and the Town is hopeful that something will be constructed.

- McGibbon Hotel

This privately-owned building is another development that the Town would like to see re-started. The Mayor advised that he has had discussions with the developers and hopes to advance the agenda by meeting with the financing group at the end of this month.

Read more on the McGibbon [here](#).

GTA West Corridor

Questions were asked about this Provincial project that was put on hold in late 2015 and then announced in 2018 that the Environmental Assessment would not continue. Recently however, the Province announced that the Environmental Assessment would be reopened.

Provincial Issues: Bill 108 & Regional Review

The Mayor spoke to his recent correspondence to the Province whereby he advocated against the changes in Bill 108 noting impacts to the municipality and particularly those that affect planning. The Mayor also spoke to the Regional Review and the potential for amalgamation and noted that Minister Clark would not be making any announcements until after the federal election.

Read the Mayor's letter [here](#).

Comment Card Remarks

1. Which staff/department should it be contacted to receive updates regarding the proposed museum project (Lucy Maud) in Norval; impact to residential neighbours, park traffic etc. Would it be Planning & Development or Recreation and Parks? Thank you. PS I realize it is in Ward Two but would like to monitor progress and Town role.
2. 1. My wife and I are interested in becoming involved with any committee or group working on actions related to climate change. 2. Is there a specific timeline for the expansion of the GO Train through Georgetown?

My wife and I moved here five years ago and are very happy living in in Georgetown. We think there is a wonderful small town atmosphere here where people show respect for others. Combining this with relatively close proximity to both Toronto and Hamilton and Guelph creates a unique location with the best of both worlds. We appreciate very much the efforts of local government to develop and maintain this atmosphere.
3. Excessive use of train whistles on single track – we remain optimistic the municipality will do everything possible to stop/significantly reduce this unnecessary ‘noise’ long before the grade separation at Trafalgar/Lindsay Court is complete.
4. There are potholes that need fixing on the sidewalk by Salon JC and at the ice cream shop and at the grooming at Princess Anne and Main Street. I have photos if you need them. Thank you.