

**THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH  
REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL  
NOVEMBER 9, 2015 – FOLLOWING PUBLIC MEETING**

The meeting was held in the Municipal Office Council Chambers, Kenilworth.

**Members Present:**

**Mayor: Andy Lennox  
Councillors Sherry Burke  
Steve McCabe  
Dan Yake**

**Staff Present:**

**CAO/Deputy Clerk: Michael Givens  
Clerk: Karren Wallace  
Executive Assistant: Cathy Conrad  
Director of Public Works: Matthew Aston  
Treasurer: Paul Dowber  
Chief Building Official: Darren Jones  
Economic Development Officer: Dale Small  
Tourism, Marketing, Promotion Manager: April Marshall  
Fire Chief: Dave Guilbault  
Manager of Planning and Environment: Mark Van Patter**

**CALLING THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Lennox called the meeting to order.

**SINGING OF O' CANADA**

**PASSING AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**RESOLUTION 2015-468**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Agenda and the Supplementary Agenda for the November 9, 2015 Regular Meeting of Council be accepted and passed with the following additions:*

*Delegation Bill Blackwell*

*Delegation by Adrian Wise*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-469**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT the Agenda and the Supplementary Agenda for the November 9, 2015 Regular Meeting of Council be accepted and passed as amended.*

**CARRIED**

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**DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST(S) AND THE GENERAL NATURE  
THEREOF**

No pecuniary interest declared.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

**RESOLUTION 2015-470**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT the minutes of the Public Meeting and the Regular Meeting of Council held on October 19, 2015 be adopted as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

No business arising from minutes.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Pastor Harry Engel

- Thank you for assistance with Wellington North Farmers Market

Business Retention & Expansion Awards of Excellence

- Presented to Mayor Lennox at the County Council Meeting on October 29, 2015

Donor of Distinction Appreciation Award – Always Here For You Campaign

- Mayor accepted on behalf of Township at Donor of Distinction Dinner

**Retirement Certificates were presented to the following retirees:**

- Jim Morrison, Station Chief, Wellington North Fire Services, 33 years
- Andy Morrison, Captain, Wellington North Fire Services, 29 years
- Rob Schmidt, Captain, Wellington North Fire Services, 39 years
- Corey Schmidt, Captain, Wellington North Fire Services, 21 years
- Kyle Schmidt, Firefighter, Wellington North Fire Services, 8 years
- Don Bolen, Firefighter, Wellington North Fire Services, 19 years

**DELEGATIONS**

Brian McRae, OFAH, Zone/Member & Club Services Liaison

- Sunday Gun Hunt

Mr. McRae appeared before Council in support of Sunday Gun Hunting. He discussed Sunday gun hunt history, crop and livestock predation, wildlife management, public

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safety, economic benefits, and commented on a previous delegation in opposition to Sunday gun hunting. (see attached addendum #1 to minutes)

John Northcote,

- Sunday Gun Hunt

Mr. Northcote appeared before Council to oppose Sunday gun hunting. He cited several problems that he has had with hunters on his property and damage to public property that he has witnessed. He urged Council to consider what the residents are asking, not what a huge organization is asking.

Andy Tarc

- Sunday Gun Hunt

Mr. Tarc appeared before Council to oppose Sunday gun hunting. He expressed his concern with enjoyment of his property without the danger of hunters trespassing.

Bob Armstrong

- Sunday Gun Hunt Petition

Mr. Armstrong appeared before Council to oppose Sunday gun hunting presenting a petition with 200 signatures of people opposed to Sunday gun hunting. He noted there is no closed season or possession limit for coyotes and suggested that the Federation of Anglers and Hunters should lobby the Province to increase the possession limits for water fowl and deer and give hunters a longer season

Bill Blackwell, CFSC & CRFSC Instructor/examiner # ON 0055; Hunter Education Instructor/Examiner #17227

- Sunday Gun Hunt

Mr. Blackwell appeared before Council in support of Sunday Gun Hunting.

He stated opposition to Sunday gun hunt is based on personal bias or perception; landowners have the right to decide not allowing Sunday gun hunting on their property, additional opportunity for families and friends to pursue their love of recreation and hunting and an individual's fundamental right to a freedom of choice. (see attached addendum #2 to minutes)

Adrian Wise, Wellington North Resident

Mr. Wise appeared before Council in support of Sunday Gun Hunting. He discussed limited time to hunt due to his career, economy and conservation, freedom of religion free of persecution and harassment, other activities on Sundays, landowner concerns and discrimination against hunters. (see attached addendum #3 to minutes)

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**STANDING COMMITTEE, STAFF REPORTS, MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Report from Karren Wallace, Clerk

- CLK 2015-054 regarding Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation (Murray)

**RESOLUTION 2015-471**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CLK 2015-054 being a report on Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation (Murray);*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North authorize payment of \$165.00 to Peter Murray for Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation livestock claims with a kill date of October 4, 2015;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Livestock Valuator be paid \$75.00 for Livestock Valuer fees and \$18.00 for mileage;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Clerk be directed to submit an application to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) to compensate the municipality in the amount of \$195.00.*

**CARRIED**

Report from Karren Wallace, Clerk

- CLK 2015-055 being a report on Consent Application for a lot line adjustment for B99/15; B100/15; B101/15 (Stodolak) known as Part Lots 34 & 35, Concession 1, formerly Arthur Township now Township of Wellington North

**RESOLUTION 2015-472**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CLK 2015-055 being a report on Consent Application for a Lot Line adjustment for B99/15; B100/15; B101/15 (STODOLAK) Known As Part Lots 34 & 35 Concession 1 formerly West Luther Township now Township Of Wellington North be received;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Township of Wellington North supports consent application for a lot line adjustment for B99/15; B100/15; B101/15 as presented with the following conditions:*

- 1) *THAT the Owner satisfy all the requirements of the local municipality, financial and otherwise which the local municipality may deem to be necessary at the time of issuance of the Certificate of Consent for the proper and orderly development of the subject lands; and further that the Local Municipality file with the Secretary-Treasurer of the Planning and Land Division Committee a letter of clearance of this condition.*
- 2) *THAT the Owner satisfy the requirements of the Local Municipality in reference to Proof of Drainage. Prior to consent being endorsed on the deeds, proof of drainage,*

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*shall be provided by the applicant to serve the lands being conveyed and the lands being retained, with the costs of such drainage being solely at the expense of the applicant.*

- 3) *THAT the Owner satisfy the requirements of the Local Municipality in reference to Drainage Apportionment. Prior to consent being endorsed on the deeds the property owners are to execute an agreement for drainage apportionment due to lands severance or sale approved by the Municipality OR in the alternative, the Clerk shall direct the Engineer to prepare the apportionment and the owner will deposit a cheque to reimburse the municipality for the cost of the Engineer's work related to calculating the reapportionment.*
- 4) *The barn on the property has collapsed and the remains must be completely demolished and removed from the property and the area to be left in a graded and leveled condition.*
- 5) *The septic system on the retained lands is within the well head protection area. The septic system must have an inspection as per the Wellington Source Water – Mandatory Septic Re-inspection Program and the owner shall take any remedial action identified in the report.*

**DEFEATED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-473**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North does not support the creation of a 10 acre lot as applied for in Consent Applications B99/15, B100/15 and B101/15*

**CARRIED**

Report from Karren Wallace, Clerk

- CLK 2015-056 being a report on All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) on roads in the Township of Wellington North

**RESOLUTION 2015-474**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CLK 2015-056 being a report on All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) on roads in the Township of Wellington North be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

Staff were directed to bring back further information including Minto and Mapleton's position on the issue; statistics on charges laid in Wellington North; costing on signage, shoulder maintenance and enforcement and join and several liability.

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Report from Karren Wallace, Clerk

- CLK 2015-057 being a report to provide Notice of the Meeting Date to consider the Engineer's Report for the proposed drainage works for Drain 64

**RESOLUTION 2015-475**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CLK 2015-057 being a report to provide notice of the meeting date to consider the final engineer's report for the proposed drainage works for Drain 64, be received for information;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the date at which the report will be considered has been established as December 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Township of Wellington North.*

**CARRIED**

Report from Dave Guilbault

- FIRE 2015-008 being a report regarding Wellington North Fire Service Strategic Plan

**RESOLUTION 2015-476**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive for information report FIRE 2015-008 being a report regarding the Wellington North Fire Service Strategic Plan;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North approve in principle the Wellington North Fire Service Strategic Plan with the exception of recommendation 1 to be considered in closed session.*

**CARRIED**

Report from Darren Jones, Chief Building Official

- CBO 2015-14 Building Permit Review Period Ending October 31, 2015

**RESOLUTION 2015-477**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CBO 2015-14 being the Building Permit Review for the period ending October 31, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

Report from Darren Jones, Chief Building Official

- CBO 2015-15 Site Plan Agreement for Robert's Farm Equipment Sales Inc.

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**RESOLUTION 2015-478**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CBO 2015-015 being a report on Robert's Farm Equipment Sales Inc. site plan agreement;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Township of Wellington North direct the Mayor and CAO to execute the site plan agreement with Robert's Farm Equipment Sales Inc.*

**CARRIED**

Report from Darren Jones, Chief Building Official

- CBO 2015-16 Site Plan Agreement for Home Hardware Stores Limited

**RESOLUTION 2015-479**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report CBO 2015-16 being a report on Home Hardware Stores Limited site plan agreement;*

*AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North direct the Mayor and CAO to execute the site plan agreement with Home Hardware Stores Limited.*

**CARRIED**

Cultural Roundtable Committee

- Minutes, October 15, 2015

**RESOLUTION 2015-480**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Cultural Roundtable Committee meeting held on October 15, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

Public Works Committee

- Minutes, October 20, 2015

**RESOLUTION 2015-481**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on October 20, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

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**RESOLUTION 2015-482**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North not proceed with implementing a community safety zone committee within the Township;  
AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Township of Wellington North and Township staff continue to address resident concerns about speed and traffic safety on a case by case basis, and in conjunction with the local Ontario Provincial Police office;  
As recommended in report PW 2015-077 being a report on Community Safety Zones (CSZ) received at the Public Works Committee meeting on October 20, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-483**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North direct Township staff to inform Blumetric that they will not pursue membrane bioreactor technology as part of the Arthur Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade, as recommended in report PW 2015-074 being a report on membrane bioreactor technology received at the Public Works Committee meeting on October 20, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

Administration and Finance Committee  
- Minutes, October 26, 2015

**RESOLUTION 2015-484**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Administration and Finance Committee meeting held on October 26, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-485**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North supports the 2016 SVCA Budget as presented at the Administration and Finance Committee meeting held on October 26, 2015.*

**CARRIED**



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Economic Development Committee

- Joint Economic Development Committee Meeting, October 27, 2015

**RESOLUTION 2015-486**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the minutes of the Joint Economic Development Committee meeting held on October 27, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

Cheque Distribution Report dated November 4, 2015

**RESOLUTION 2015-487**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Cheque Distribution Report dated November 4, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE FOR COUNCIL'S REVIEW AND DIRECTION**

Township of Puslinch

- Bill 100 Supporting the Ontario Trails Act

**RESOLUTION 2015-488**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North support the resolution of the Township of Puslinch regarding Bill 100, Supporting the Ontario Trails Act.*

**CARRIED**

G.J. (Shep) Shepetunko

- Sunday Gun Hunt

Received as information

Robert Bell

Sunday Gun Hunt

Received as information

Ervin Bauman

- Sunday Gun Hunt

Received as information

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Black, Shoemaker, Robinson & Donaldson Limited  
Jim Coffey

- Park Dedication, Eastridge Landing Subdivision
- Correspondence received from Gil Deverell, dated April 28, 2014

**RESOLUTION 2015-489**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council agrees to waive the parkland dedication requirement being 5% of the subject lands or payment of cash in lieu of the lands as per the Planning Act and the County of Wellington Official Plan, for the application submitted by 2073022 Ontario Inc. – J. Coffey (Eastridge Landing Subdivision-2014 Phase 3).*

**CARRIED**

**BY-LAWS**

**RESOLUTION 2015-490**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT By-law Number 078-15 being a by-law to amend Zoning by-law Number 66-01 being the zoning by-law for the Township of Wellington North be read a First, Second and Third time and finally passed. (Part Lot 9, Concession 6, 7444 Sideroad 5 East, former Township of Arthur, Reeves)*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-491**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT By-law Number 079-15 being a by-law to repeal by-laws rendered redundant by staffing changes and to reinstate a portion of a by-law repealed in error being:*

*- By-law 41-99 being a by-law to appoint Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers is hereby repealed;*

*- By-law 4-99 wherein Mary Jo Marshall be appointed Deputy Treasurer for the Township effective January 1, 1999 is reinstated*

*be read a First, Second and Third time and finally passed.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-492**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT By-law Number 080-15 being a by-law to authorize the execution of a Site Plan Agreement be read a First, Second and Third time and finally passed. (Part Lot 32, Concession 1, Division 3, Normanby Part 5 on 61R6948, Part 2 on 60R-2829 and Part 3 on 60R-2336 Except Part 1 on 60R-2989 and Part 3 on 61R-6948 – Home Hardware Limited)*

**CARRIED**

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**RESOLUTION 2015-493**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor Burke

*THAT By-law Number 081-15 being a by-law to authorize the execution of a Site Plan Agreement be read a First, Second and Third time and finally passed. (Park Lot 11 Survey Foster's Mount Forest; Part Lot 33; Concession 1 Normanby; Part Duke Street Survey Foster's Mount Forest Closed by By-law DN6730; Part 1 60R2494; in the Township of Wellington North, in the County of Wellington having Property Identifier Number 7102-0107 (LT) (ROBERT'S FARM EQUIPMENT SALES INC.)*

**CARRIED                      FIX FIRST PAGE OF BY-LAW**

**RESOLUTION 2015-494**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the report dated November 3, 2015 prepared by Linda Redmond, Senior Planner, regarding Community Living Guelph Wellington – Group Home, 235 Murphy Street, Mount Forest, Zoning By-law Amendment.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-495**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT By-law Number 082-15 being a by-law to amend Zoning By-law Number 66-01 being the zoning by-law for the Township of Wellington North be read a First, Second and Third time and finally passed. (Part Lots 9 & 10, registered Plan 61R-7923, Part 3, 235 Murphy Street, Mount Forest)*

**CARRIED**

**ITEMS FOR COUNCIL'S INFORMATION**

AMO Watchfile

- October 15, 2015
- October 22, 2015

October 29, 2015

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority

- Board of Directors Meeting #8/15 Minutes, September 16, 2015

Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

- Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, September 24, 2015

Save the Nation

- Correspondence to Kathleen Wynne, Premier, regarding *Green Energy Act*

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Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure

- David C. Onley Award for Leadership in Accessibility

Randy Pettapiece, MPP Perth-Wellington

- Resolution for Fairness in Provincial Infrastructure Funds

Sunday Gun Hunt

- Ruth Edgcumbe – opposed
- Monica and Tom Landoni – opposed
- Richard Turner – support
- James Florence - support

**RESOLUTION 2015-496**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive the Items for Council's Information as listed in the November 9, 2015 Regular Council Meeting Agenda.*

**CARRIED**

**CULTURAL MOMENT**

World War II Documentary 'The Story of Canada's Phantom Regiment & The Liberation of the Netherlands'

The 70<sup>th</sup> for the 12<sup>th</sup> Field Committee invite you to join them for the Premiere of the World War II Documentary 'The Story of Canada's Phantom Regiment & The Liberation of the Netherlands' at the Norgan Theatre in Palmerston November 15th

A documentary feature of a Wellington County and area Artillery unit Battles from Normandy to Utrecht, Netherlands and Aurich, Germany. The 12th Field Royal Canadian Artillery Regiment fought in some of the most historic World War II battles; that was integral to the 1945 Liberation of the Netherlands. This is the untold story of the 12<sup>th</sup> Field boys and men who left their homes, families and friends to train and fight and often die for the free world we now take for granted. They say **“once a Gunner, always a Gunner.”** A bond exists between the men who served under the Royal Canadian Artillery that is rarely mentioned and even less known. A brotherhood hard worn by metal, smoke & fire without whom the war would simply not have been won. The fear the enemy suffered at some of the most important battles in history was induced & dictated by our very own Canadian Artillery Regiments.

Theirs is a story of untold bravery, honour and sacrifice; virtues that won the war and freedom we enjoy today. Through the eyes of those that lived it, history comes alive through interviews, WW2 archival footage, still photographs and authentic material. It is a personal story about remarkable men and women and their memories of their time.

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Every breath we take honours their efforts and sacrifices. On Remembrance Day, November 11, we honour those who have given their lives serving Canadians and helping people of other nations, but we must and always remember. A local reminder include a series of murals displayed throughout the Village of Arthur ‘Canada’s Most Patriotic Village’ honouring local soldiers efforts and sacrifices.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

No notice of motion tabled.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor McCabe announced that he had attended the Remembrance Day Dinner at the Mount Forest Legion on Saturday, November 7 noting the son of one of the veterans gave a presentation about his father’s experiences.

Mayor Lennox reminded everyone of the following:

- The municipal office will be closed for Remembrance Day, November 11, 2015
- The municipal office will be open until 8:00 p.m. to assist voters on Thursday, November 12, 2015
- Open houses regarding the brush program will be held in Arthur at the Arthur Arena, Upper Hall on December 2, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and in Mount Forest at the Mount Forest Sports Complex – Plume Room from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- The Arthur Santa Claus Parade will be held Saturday, November 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
- The Mount Forest Santa Claus Parade will be held Friday, December 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

**CLOSED MEETING SESSION**

**RESOLUTION 2015-497**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT Council go into a meeting at 9:55 p.m. that is closed to the public under subsections 239 (2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, specifically (b) personal matter about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employee and d) labour relations or employee negotiations:*

- 1. Report FIRE 2015-08 Strategic Plan, (recommendation 1 of the report only) being a personal matter about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employee and labour relations or employee negotiations*
- 2. CAO – verbal report being a personal matter about an identifiable individual including municipal or local board employee*
- 3. Review of Closed Session Meeting Minutes October 19, 2015*
- 4. Receipt of Closed Session Meeting Notes October 26, 2015*

**CARRIED**

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**RESOLUTION 2015-498**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT Council rise from a closed meeting session at 11:00 p.m.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-499**

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

*That the November 9, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North be extended past the 11:00 p.m. curfew as set out in Section 6.5 of the Procedure By-law.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-500**

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

*THAT the council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North resume closed session at 11:03 p.m.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-501**

Moved by: Councillor Burke

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT Council rise from a closed meeting session at 11:39 p.m.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-502**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT Council provide confidential direction to the CAO in regards to a personnel matter.*

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2015-503**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North approve the Closed Session Meeting Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on October 19, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

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**RESOLUTION 2015-504**

Moved by: Councillor Yake

Seconded by: Councillor McCabe

*THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North approve the Closed Session Meeting Notes for the Special Council Meeting Held on October 26, 2015.*

**CARRIED**

**CONFIRMING BY-LAW**

**RESOLUTION 2015-505**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT By-law Number 083-15 being a By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North at its Regular Meeting held on November 9, 2015 be read a First, Second and Third time and finally passed.*

**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**RESOLUTION 2015-506**

Moved by: Councillor McCabe

Seconded by: Councillor Yake

*THAT the Regular Council meeting of November 9, 2015 be adjourned at 11:42: p.m.*

**CARRIED**

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**MAYOR**

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**CLERK**

PRESENTATION TO THE  
**Township of Wellington North**  
SUNDAY GUN HUNTING  
Monday November 9, 2015



BRIAN MCRAE - ZONE/MEMBER AND CLUB SERVICE LIAISON  
ONTARIO FEDERATION OF ANGLERS AND HUNTERS (OFAH)



## OFAH SPEAKING POINTS ON SUNDAY GUN HUNTING

Good evening, Your Worship, Members of Council, staff and members of the audience. My name is Brian McRae, and I am the Zone/Member & Club Services Liaison for the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. On behalf of our 100,000 members, subscribers, supporters, and 725 member clubs, we would like to thank you for affording me the opportunity to appear before you this evening in support of Sunday gun hunting.

As you will hear tonight, individuals, including myself, will touch on a number of topics and subjects, as it relates to Sunday gun hunting. There will be hard fact and statistics, and there will be perceived thoughts and/opinions. It is important to remember that there is a distinct difference between the two, and it is our hope that in the end, the decision to approve Sunday gun hunting is clear.

1. As a result of a policy developed by the MNRF, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) in 2005, 67 municipalities across southern Ontario passed resolutions in support of Sunday gun hunting. For these municipalities, this came into effect on September 1, 2006 during existing hunting seasons.
2. Most of the current Sunday gun hunting provisions that previously existed were enacted in the 1950's. Gun and archery hunting on Sundays is allowed in northern Ontario, archery hunting on

Sundays everywhere in the province and prior to this initiative, Sunday gun hunting was allowed in some eastern areas of the province.

3. Originally, there were three overriding reasons why this issue was brought forward. In some cases, these are even more relevant today than they were in 2005.

### **CROP AND LIVESTOCK PREDATION**

- According to the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, each year approximately over \$50 million in crop damage is caused by wildlife, most notably deer, raccoons, coyotes and waterfowl.
- The problem has become so extensive that the OFAH and OFA teamed up to produce the Ontario Crop & Livestock Wildlife Damage Assessment model, and the MNR struck a committee specifically to look at wildlife/human conflicts.
- In recent years, livestock predation in Ontario has been increasing. This has resulted in increasing demands from the public for controls over predators like wolves, coyotes and bears.

- Many municipalities are finding that livestock predation is becoming a frequent and costly burden given the compensation that is being paid out to producers for lost livestock.

## **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has repeatedly stated that hunting is the most cost-effective wildlife management tool, without which, the Ministry could not possibly be able to cope with burgeoning wildlife populations in many areas. In fact, studies have shown that many people are at their limit with respect to tolerance for increasing wildlife species, while far fewer are at this same limit with respect to seeing, hearing or being bothered by hunters.
- Since 1999, MNRF policy has clearly stated that bylaws that appear to restrict hunting as an activity, based largely on public perceptions, acceptance or appropriateness of hunting should be challenged.
- While this applies more in the case of no-discharge bylaws, the Ministry could challenge a municipal decision to restrict hunting in areas where there is a clear and present concern for either agricultural losses, a risk to public safety or restrictions on the Ministry's ability to manage wildlife.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

- Wildlife populations in Ontario are healthy and in many areas, increasing in numbers. While this is generally good news, there are a number of cases where populations have reached levels that are resulting in unacceptable impacts on agriculture, the environment and most importantly, public safety.
- According to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, there is a motor vehicle/wildlife collision every 38 minutes in this province, and 90% involve whitetail deer.
- One out of every 18 motor vehicle collisions in Ontario involves some form of wildlife.
- The number of motor vehicle/wildlife collisions is increasing annually. (15,000 per year on average) These collisions result in death, hundreds of serious injuries and tens of millions in damage claims. (Note: OPP estimate that the number of collisions with wildlife that go unreported are likely double of what was reported).
- 90 per cent of these collisions occur on two-lane roads outside of urban areas.
- 84 per cent occur in good weather.

- The number of collisions with wildlife has increased by 86% over the last ten years.
- Accidents between cars and wildlife not only kill and injure people, they cause millions of dollars' worth of accident claims and leave tens of thousands of wild animals dead each year.
- Municipalities that restrict hunting opportunities or enact discharge bylaws in the interest of public safety need to be cautious about inadvertently not creating a bigger public safety issue. As a wildlife management tool, hunting helps to keep population numbers in check – the absence of such, particularly in areas of the province where deer populations are known to be thriving, can be hazardous.

## **ECONOMIC**

- A fourth reason for allowing the expansion of hunting to include Sundays is related to economic growth.
- Hunting in Ontario represents \$1.5 billion in annual economic activity.
- For many communities, hunters mean an influx of dollars for hotel owners, gas stations, marinas, grocery stores, restaurants, etc.

## SUMMARY

- Hunting is a heritage activity, recognized under provincial legislation passed in 2002.
- There are over 450,000 trained, licensed, responsible hunters in Ontario, who contribute hundreds of millions each year to fish and wildlife programs, including the Special Purpose Account, which funds all fish and wildlife programs in the province from licence revenues.
- 2015 also marks the 10 year anniversary of Sunday gun hunting in Southern Ontario. Your Worship, and members of Council, in those 10 years, there have been no complaints or incidents, nor has any municipality decided to opt out of the program.
- Currently, 169 municipalities in southern Ontario have voted in favour of Sunday gun hunting, including SouthGate and North Perth. A special note that Bradford West Gwillimbury just unanimously passed a motion to approve Sunday gun hunting just last week.
- The MNR, the OFAH and the OFA firmly believe that by adjusting existing hunting regulations to allow gun hunting on Sundays during existing hunting seasons, this will increase harvest

levels, decrease predation on crops and livestock, help to increase public safety and potentially provide increased economic activity.

- For many, hunting is a family activity, but for those who work during the week, they currently have only one day per week where they can share in this activity with other family members. By allowing for Sunday gun hunting, you are doubling their opportunities to hunt.
- In the case of private property, landowners still have the right to determine whether or not to allow Sunday gun hunting on their land, just as they do for the rest of the week.
- There has been a suggestion that Sunday gun hunting would interfere with religious practices. For the record, the province of Quebec, which has the highest level of religious participation in Canada, has had Sunday gun hunting for over a decade. (In light of all the activities which are now commonplace on Sundays, including shopping, gambling, beer and liquor purchases, etc., it is unlikely that religious opposition to Sunday gun hunting would survive a challenge in the courts).
- According to Statistics Canada, hunting today is measurably safer than bicycling, boating, swimming, horseback riding and most recreational field sports, including baseball and golf. In fact, both the Canada Safety Council and the National Safety Council have

stated that hunting in Canada is responsible for only 0.001% of accidents, which pales in comparison to injuries from the sports mentioned above, and the number of injuries occurring as a result of automobile accidents, insect bites and even lightning strikes.

- Hunting is also one of the few recreational activities that require proof of competence BEFORE engaging in the activity through both hunter safety and firearms safety courses. Since the advent of the hunter safety courses provided by the OFAH on behalf of the MNRF, the injury rate for hunting accidents has dropped to virtually nil. For anyone who feels that allowing Sunday hunting would increase the danger to anyone walking the woods, they are more likely to be injured by an insect bite, or by being struck by lightning, than being injured by a hunter.
- The bottom line is this, if the threat to public safety doesn't exist from Monday to Saturday, **why would it be any greater on Sunday?**
- Individuals are permitted to target shoot on Sundays within the Township of Wellington North, so why can't they choose to gun hunt on Sundays?
- What we are talking about here is equal opportunity for everyone, as echoed by section one of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms – equality rights for all.



- We are asking for you to pass a simple motion here tonight, that would allow everyone the choice whether or not to gun hunt on Sunday.
- Before closing, I would like to take a moment to address some of the comments made by Mr. Armstrong in a recent letter to council and through media.
- Mr. Armstrong states that in this municipality, the rural properties are increasingly owned by the Mennonite community, and states that we should respect their values, as well as those of the non-hunting community. In addition, he comments about the worry of being near gun-wielding hunters. To start, we don't disagree that there is a very strong population in the Mennonite community within the Township of Wellington North. Their values, as everyone's, should be respected. However, they are no different than all of the other property owners and hunters, living within those same boundaries. As a private landowner, you have the final say on who enters onto your property, for any activity. Who owns the property, doesn't matter. Should it not be up to the property owner to decide what happens on their property and when? Furthermore, as you have heard here tonight, hunting is one of the safest recreational activities you can participate in, due to the training that an individual has to complete before legally participating in the activity. As a result, we question Mr.

Armstrong's comment regarding "gun wielding hunters", a characterization that we find surprising coming from a licensed firearms safety and hunter education instructor.

- Mr. Armstrong also references an enforcement blitz that recently took place at Luther Marsh. He states that there were 29 individuals charged. This is inaccurate. First off, like any enforcement blitz, be it a seat belt blitz, a speeding blitz or wildlife enforcement blitz, they are all designed, by nature, to catch those breaking the law. This only strengthens our point that the rules and regulations for hunters are being enforced, even on weekend (which is when this blitz occurred). As for the number of charges, it was 29 charges AND WARNINGS issued, a point that Mr. Armstrong neglected to mention. What he also neglected to point out is that a number of those charges/warnings were for operating a pleasure craft with insufficient personal flotation devices or life jackets, and operating a vessel without the proper safety equipment on-board –which are not hunting related. As for the other charges laid, like anything in this world, if you break the law, you will be charged.
- The final point that I would like to address is the comment about the influx of hunters that would swarm to Wellington North. In Mr. Armstrong's opinion, if Sunday gun hunting were to be approved, many of the hunters who would come to hunt here on Sundays would indeed be drawn from larger centers, and bring with them a

distinct lack of knowledge of the precarious balance of our wildlife populations. There is absolutely no statistical evidence to back this comment up. If the Township of Wellington North was the only municipality to permit Sunday gun hunting in Ontario, we might be able to see some validity to this point. However, as you have seen by the map, the majority of Southern Ontario already permits Sunday gun hunting, so it is unlikely that everyone will suddenly be drawn to the Township of Wellington North.

- Once again, we would like to thank all members of Council for their time and consideration in this matter, and for allowing me to appear before you tonight. I would be more than pleased to answer any questions that you might have.
  
- Thank You.

**Bill Blackwell**

**Sunday Gun Hunting Presentation**

**to**

**Township of Wellington North**

**November 9, 2015**

Good evening, Your Worship, Members of Council, staff and members of the audience. My name is Bill Blackwell and I would like to thank you for affording me the opportunity to appear before you this evening to speak in support of Sunday gun hunting.

It is only fair that as a non resident of Wellington North that you know my personal credentials and qualifications that would enable me to speak to you on the issue.

- Immediate Past President of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- 2001–present Chair of OFAH Firearms & Hunter Education Advisory Comm.
- Ontario Hunter Education Instructor for 35 years
- Canadian Firearms Instructor / Examiner since its inception in 1994
- Provincial Trainer for both Canadian Firearms & Hunter Education Programs
- Was Canada's Volunteer rep. on Board of Directors of IHEA for 7 years
- Member of Bd. of Directors of Canadian Wildlife Federation for 6 years
- Court Qualified expert for Firearms Safety and Hunter Education Programs

I have spent over half my life training people in the safe and responsible use of firearms and hunting.

At the end of this evening you will have had 5 presentations given to you regarding the question of Sunday Gun hunting in the township of Wellington North, 2 for and 3 against. From all the presentations you will need to decide either for or against the resolution. As elected officials you will be tasked with making a decision, one that should be based on quantifiable facts, not hearsay or conjecture. So in retrospect what have you heard or been told this evening?

Those opposed to Sunday gun hunting have presented a scenario based largely on personal bias or perception. While I appreciate their point of view, **they have not presented any quantifiable safety, legal, or justifiable reason why people should not be allowed to Sunday Gun Hunt in Wellington North.** You have had a petition presented to you signed by people who, because they are non hunters and likely against hunting in any form, or some who hunt but for some reason have a personal bias in this case, and from others who for personal religious convictions would not hunt or allow people to hunt on their property on Sunday. They noted that they want to be able to walk their own property on Sunday, without fear of being shot, a fear that is not borne out by facts.

Let me reiterate. As a landowner it is your decision as to whether or not you will allow people on your **private property** on Sunday to hunt. From a Luther Marsh perspective the chances of getting shot while taking a Sunday stroll are completely unfounded and the proof of that is that there are and have been no such accidents in Parks in areas where Sunday gun hunting is allowed. So again, their opposition is not based upon fact, but rather personal bias. I would also point out that in the words of the former MNRF District Manager for this area, “revenues generated by hunters pay for the ongoing operation of the Marsh”.

On the flip side, people who are favor of Sunday gun hunting have given you several proven reasons why it should be allowed. Firstly it does not have any proven safety issues by allowing it. Secondly it has the ability to help farmers with crop and stock predation. Thirdly it is a proven game management tool that does help to prevent accidents and fourth there can be economic benefits to businesses in Wellington North. I do not want to imply that people will come here in droves just because you have Sunday gun hunting. Remember that there are currently 169 other communities where people can Sunday gun hunt, not including Bradford West Gwillimbury, which voted in favour of Sunday gun hunting last week, so Wellington North will not suddenly become the “go to” place to hunt on Sundays.

I would like to touch on two more benefits for you to consider in your deliberations. First is the social and family aspect of this. Mr. McRae did mention it slightly in his presentation and to elaborate on it more we need to take into consideration the busy lives we all lead. Parents are working all week and Saturdays are devoted to taking kids to hockey, gymnastics and all the other programs kids are in these days. Coupled with all the other demands on our time, it leaves a family or even just a member of that family little time to pursue their love or recreation of hunting. Sunday gun hunting would allow families and friends the opportunity to get out on that one day to enjoy the outdoors, each other’s company and the family bonding that takes place. In our busy world and rushed lives, that one day in the bush is their relaxation and stress reliever.

Lastly and probably one of the most important reasons why you should vote in favor of a resolution to allow Sunday gun hunting is an individual’s fundamental right to a freedom of choice. Wellington North is likely comprised of about 90 to

95% privately owned land. Therefore should it not be up to each and every person who owns that land should have the ability to decide and chose for themselves whether or not they want to hunt or allow someone else to Sunday gun hunt on the land they own and pay taxes on. Why should people who do not own my land and have no quantifiable reason for opposing the addition of Sunday hunting other than personal opinion and bias get to decide what legal activities a property owner can engage in on their own land. If I own land and do not subscribe to Sunday Gun hunting, I will not give permission for anyone to hunt on that property, as is my right, and this applies to the other six days of the week as well. But if I do own land and want to gun hunt on it or other properties where I have permission why should I not have the right and freedom to decide that for myself? Why should the decision or choice be made by people who do not own my land? Why should resident land owners in Wellington North be forced to go to neighboring communities where Sunday gun hunting is allowed when there is no logical or justifiable reason for not allowing them to hunt on their own property, during existing seasons, while obeying all of the rules set down in the hunting regulations?

Your Worship, Members of Council and staff I thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening and if there are any questions I would be pleased along with my colleague Mr. McRae assistance to answer them.

**Bill Blackwell**

ADRIAN WISE

Nov 8/15

cc Council  
Nov 9/15

- FAMILY - 2 DAUGHTERS - SPORTS - GIRL GUIDES FAMILY FUNCTION;
- CAREER - MON - FRI ~~10~~ DAWN - PUSK DARK.
- / CAN ONLY HUNT SATURDAY'S MATHE.
- ECONOMY / CONSERVATION  
 \$ APPROX 700 WITH GREAT ALONE CONSERVATION THIS YR.  
 APPROX \$ 2000 IN LOCAL ECONOMY HUNTING ACC / GEAR.  
 WOULD PROVIDE OTHER LOCAL BUSINESS REVENUE.  
 I.E. STOPPING FOR LOCAL LUNCH / SHOPPING.
- CANADA FREEDOM OF RELIGION FREE OF PERSECUTION / HARASS<sup>MENT</sup>  
 RESPECT THAT BUT THAT NEEDS TO BE A 2-WAY ST.  
 I RESPECT OTHERS RELIGIOUS BELIEFS / TRADITIONS  
 BUT DON'T AGREE WITH IMPOSING THOSE BELIEFS  
 + TRADITIONS ON OTHERS (FREEDOM TO CHOOSE)  
 ON SUNDAYS. WHY ARE HUNTERS?  
 - SNOWMOBILES + SHOPPERS ARE NOT RESTRICTED  
 LAND OWNERS WORRIED ABOUT HUNTERS ON SUNDAY  
 ON PROPERTY THEY STILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
 DENY ACCESS - IT WOULD BE ILLEGAL.

AT THE END OF THE DAY THE ARCHAIC LAW OF NO  
 SUNDAY GUN HUNTING IS IN OF ITSELF A FORM  
 OF DISCRIMINATION.