

The Council of the Township of East Garafraxa held a Special Meeting of Council in the Administration Office, Laurel, Ontario on September 24,2008 at 5:00 p.m. Councillors Fran Pinkney, Tom Nevills, Allan Boynton and Deputy Mayor Guy Gardhouse were in attendance, with Mayor Allen Taylor presiding. The purpose of the meeting was a Growth Visioning & Strategic Planning Session, to initiate discussion and obtain preliminary feedback regarding the Township's vision for future growth. Susan M. Stone, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer; Christine Gervais, Planner, Glenn Wellings, Township Planning Consultant and Karen Wianecki, Facilitator, were also in attendance, as well as members of the Township Planning Advisory Committee - Neil Hoogendoorn, Gord Edick, Lenora Banfield, and John Kerr. Ted Bryk and Laurie Gordon were in attendance in the gallery.

OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor Taylor brought the meeting to order.

1 AGENDA

- Motion to approve.

2 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST WITH REASONS

Can be declared at any time during the meeting. None declared at this time.

3 DELEGATIONS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

Karen Wianecki, Planning Solutions, Facilitator conducted the Visioning Exercise for Council and Planning Advisory Committee members. Following lengthy discussion, the following appeared to be the vision for East Garafraxa:

- agriculture important historically and significant
- development lands should be developed, but should be controlled
- business base needs to be built
- stable population - historical balance that we want to maintain
- steady influx of population, but not a huge influx
- school is community focus and community hub
- community pride in being part of the Township
- strong, financially viable
- sense of pride living here
- mid-tax range
- personal contact - small community
- rate of growth slow and steady
- need for more employment opportunities
- green communities should be focus

Vision for 2020

- fuel station
- new public school
- own municipal building
- new community centre
- arena - to have own vs continue to share
- recreation facility - baseball diamonds, soccer fields

- horse farms - equine industry very viable
- same/similar landscape especially around Grand River
- Marsville is focus of growth - 200 to 300 acres designated in Official Plan; however, numbers pursuant to Official Plan will not meet the Growth Plan targets.

Vision for Marsville

- identified as growth centre
- controlled growth
- need for intensification
- shared services/growth - makes Township what it is
- no more subdivisions like Thunderbird Estates
- no townhouses
- maintain fabric of Township
- promote community integrity
- housing stock - diversified
- ageing population base
- arenas?
- trails
- soccer field/baseball diamond
- services located in Marsville for entire Township
- community centre
- multi use facility
- gas station
- create sense of identity/community focus

Opportunities for Commercial Growth:

- existing OP allows home industries/occupations - need to enhance opportunities
- nothing more than Hillsburgh and Grand Valley
- employment opportunities (service based) will come with population growth
- controlled growth vs uncontrolled - Marsville has a defined boundary

Where to from here:

- summary of meeting and time to digest
- re-convene and discuss, to see if everyone still feels same way
- possibility of secondary plan
- "go forward" approach

Karen indicated she would provide summary in 48 hours for consideration and further discussion.

4. BYLAWS

The following by-laws were adopted:

- 4.1 Confirming By-Law 34-2008

5. ADJOURNMENT

- 5.1 Council adjourned at approximately 9:20 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS:

MOVED BY PINKNEY, SECONDED BY NEVILLS

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.
CARRIED.

MOVED BY PINKNEY, SECONDED BY NEVILLS

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

MOVED BY BOYNTON, SECONDED BY NEVILLS

THAT leave be given to introduce a bylaw to confirm the proceedings of the September 24, 2008 special meeting of the Council of the Township of East Garafraxa and that it be given the necessary readings and be passed and numbered 34-2008.

CARRIED.

Allen Taylor

HEAD OF COUNCIL

Susan M. Stone

CLERK