



THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF GEORGINA

GEORGINA

Appeals Committee (Aggressive/Dangerous Dogs) Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 24, 2024
Time: 7:00 PM

Members of
Committee Present: Charlene Biggerstaff
Lee Dale
Dan Fellini

Staff Present: Lisa Hnatiw
Mike Hutchinson

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Town of Georgina recognizes and acknowledges that we are on lands originally used and occupied by the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties First Nations and other Indigenous Peoples, and on behalf of the Mayor and Council, we would like to thank them for sharing this land. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our close neighbour and friend, one with which we strive to build a cooperative and respectful relationship.

We also recognize the unique relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory. They are the water protectors and environmental stewards of these lands and we join them in these responsibilities.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Moved By: Councillor Fellini

Seconded By: Councillor Biggerstaff

Councillor Dale be appointed as Chair for tonight's meeting

Carried

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

4. EXPLANATION OF MEETING PROCEDURE

Councillor Dale provided an explanation of the meeting procedures and proper speaker etiquette.

5. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEM(S)

No addendum items.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By: Councillor Biggerstaff

Seconded By: Councillor Fellini

Carried

7. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL OR WITHDRAWAL

None.

8. AGGRESSIVE/DANGEROUS DOG APPEALS

1. Aggressive/Dangerous Dog Appeal 23-2813

Owner - Mike & Juli Boehmker, located at 116 Church Street, Keswick.

Requesting appeal for Dangerous Dog Order issued for "Charlie".

Julie Boehmker provided a detailed account of her perspective regarding the incident that occurred on June 15, 2024. She elaborated on subsequent events involving the declarant in the days following the incident and requested the removal of the Dangerous Dog Order for her dog, Charlie.

Councillor Biggerstaff requested clarification on the date of the incident and sought further details surrounding it.

Councillor Fellini inquired whether the dog was on a leash during the incident. Julie states that the dog had escaped from the house.

Councillor Dale asked Julie Boehmker to clarify the assessment made regarding any wounds on the victim dog.

The declarant was not present at the appeal meeting.

Councillor Dale asked Mike Hutchinson regarding the timeline of when Municipal Law Enforcement staff attended to the declarant and the dog. Mr. Hutchinson informed the committee that the dog bite incident was not reported to Animal Services until July 2, 2023, and provided insights from the investigating officer's notes regarding the incident.

Councillor Biggerstaff asked Julie Boehmker if she would like any sections amended should the order remain in effect. Julie expressed that the entire order seemed inappropriate. She highlighted the financial burden of modifying their fence height to 6 feet, as most of their current fence is between 4 to 5 feet tall. She also requested the removal of the requirement for "Beware of Dog" signs from the order.

There were no members of the public present for the appeal meeting.
Councillor Dale shared his perspective on the incident.
Councillor Biggerstaff also expressed her opinion regarding the matter.
The committee engaged in discussion to arrive at a decision.

Decision:

Moved by: Councillor Biggerstaff

Seconded by: Councillor Fellini

The order for the Aggressive/Dangerous dog appeal #23-2813 be upheld with the follow amendments. The designation be changed from "Dangerous" to "Aggressive". Section 3.1 (g) regarding the "Beware of Dog" warning sign be waived, and allow the owners to keep the fence around their yard at its existing height.

9. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the meeting held on September 16, 2024.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on September 25, 2024.
3. Minutes of the meeting held on September 26, 2024.

Moved By: Councillor Fellini

Seconded By: Councillor Biggerstaff

That the minutes of the meeting held on September 16, 25, and 26, 2024 be adopted as presented.

Carried

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on October 28th, 2024 at 7:00pm

12. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved By: Councillor Fellini

Seconded By: Councillor Biggerstaff

The meeting adjourn at 7:48 p.m.

Carried.