



THE CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWN OF GEORGINA

GEORGINA

Appeals Committee (Aggressive/Dangerous Dogs) Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024  
Time: 7:00 PM

Members of  
Committee Present: Dan Fellini  
Dave Neeson  
Lee Dale

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 Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Fellini

Councillor Neeson be appointed as Chair for tonight's meeting

**Carried**

**3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None

**4. EXPLANATION OF MEETING PROCEDURE**

Councillor Neeson 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 Fellini

Seconded By: Councillor Dale

The May 28, 2024 agenda be approved as amended

**Carried**

**7. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL OR WITHDRAWAL**

None

**8. AGGRESSIVE/DANGEROUS DOG APPEALS**

1. Aggressive/Dangerous Dog Appeal 23-3877

Owner - Andrew Knight & Irene (Irka) Dorosh, located at 272 Kenwood Avenue, Keswick.

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

Andrew Knight and Irka Dorosh spoke on the incident that happened with their dog River and his character. States that River is an emotional support dog. They stated what they have done to make sure this incident doesn't happen again.

Councillor Neeson states how emotional these appeals can be for both parties.

Councillor Fellini asks if this isn't the first time something like this has happened with River.

Mrs. Dorosh had addressed the two times when River got loose.

Councillor Dale asks the owner, if Mr. Knight and River reside in the RV. Mr. Knight and River do not reside in the RV. They take the RV camping.

Councillor Dale asks if River is a registered support dog. Mr. Knight states that River goes everywhere with him and has the papers to support that River is an emotional support dog.

Councillor Dale states on page 33 out of 49 of the agenda, there are notes from the license veterinarian that there were behaviour concerns of River before he was adopted. Mrs. Dorosh states that since River has been in their house he has not displayed any aggressive behaviour. She states River is good with other dogs and kids since he was adopted.

Councillor Dale asks the appellants to speak on one of the witness statements.

Councillor Neeson asks the appellants if they could give anymore detail regarding the incident on September 2, 2023.

Charlene Biggerstaff is asked to speak. Technical difficulties arose.

Six minutes granted at 7:54pm to give Charlene Biggerstaff time to fix the technical issues.

Moved By: Councillor Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Fellini

Meeting will reconvene at 8:00pm

**Carried**

Charlene Biggerstaff stated her feelings on the situation and stated that she would like the committee members to give the dog owners a chance to request for adjustments.

Mrs. Biggerstaff did not want to talk about the incident further as she had provided everything in her written statement. She also stated that she had no interest in euthanizing the dog.

Councillor Dale and Councillor Neeson asks Mrs. Biggerstaff some clarifying questions regarding the night of the incident.

First public speaker, Philippa Mullins speaks on the character of River.

Second public speaker, Daniel Podilczyk speaks on the character of River.

Mr. Knight and Mrs. Dorosh states the character of River and everything they have done to make sure an incident that happened, doesn't happen again.

Councillor Neeson asks the appellants if there any amendments they would like or want the title to be rescind.

Mr. Knight and Mrs. Dorosh state the amendment they would like.

Councillor Dale and Councillor Neeson ask bylaw staff clarification questions regarding the order and the bylaw.

Councillor Dale asks clarification questions to the appellants.

Committee discusses their thoughts on the matter.

**Decision:**

Moved By: Dale

Seconded By: Fellini

**Carried**

The dog "River" be deemed Aggressive instead of Dangerous, with the modification to the leash length from 6ft in the bylaw, to 12ft to accommodate Mr. Knights mobility challenges.

**9. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting held on January 29, 2024.

Moved By: Councillor Fellini

Seconded By: Councillor Dale

That the minutes of the meeting held on January 29th, 2024 be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**11. NEXT MEETING**

TBD

**12. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Moved By: Councillor Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Fellini

The meeting adjourn at 8:46 p.m.

**Carried.**