

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

Appeals Committee (Property Standards) Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Members of

Committee Present: Dave Neeson

Lee Dale

Dan Fellini (Absent)

Staff Present: Lisa Hnatiw

Mike Hutchinson Nicole Bohn

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 Neeson

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)

Two addendum items for the meeting.

Additional correspondence received from Tai Phuc Nham and Officer Nicole Bohn pertaining to appeal 24-2157.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By: Councillor Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Neeson

Carried.

7. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL OR WITHDRAWAL

None.

8. PROPERTY STANDARDS APPEALS

1. Property Standards Appeal 24-2157

Owner - Tai Phuc Nham, located at 546 Lake Drive South, Keswick.

Requesting appeal for Property Standards Order issued for "546 Lake Drive South".

Calls for Tai Phuc Nham initially went unanswered and the Committee decided to proceed with Appeal 24-2364 prior to Appeal 24-2157.

Moved By: Councillor Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Neeson

Carried.

Upon completion of Appeal 24-2364, the Committee returned to the Property Standards Appeal for 546 Lake Drive South.

Appeal #24-2157, is deferred to a future date to give the appellant and/or Town staff the opportunity to obtain translator or interpreter services for the appellant

2. Property Standards Appeal 24-2364

Owner - Betty Barker, located at 23406 Kennedy Road, Keswick.

Requesting appeal for Property Standards Order issued for "23406 Kennedy Road".

Blake Barker, the son of owner Betty Barker, spoke on behalf of the property owner. He acknowledged the presence of old vehicles and farm

equipment on the property and stated that while some of the items have been removed, certain equipment is still in use for farming purposes. However, he noted that not all equipment is used annually, depending on the farm's needs.

Property Standards Officer Nicole Bohn provided a summary of the violations identified during the inspection conducted on July 9, 2024. Officer Bohn outlined the condition of the property and the specific items that were in violation of property standards.

Councillor Dale inquired about the location of most of the photographs, based on the satellite image. Officer Bohn explained that the majority of the photos were taken halfway up the property and around the house. She noted that cattle were present in the back field, making it unsafe to conduct an inspection in that area.

Councillor Neeson requested clarification on which items were considered to be junk or broken farm equipment. Officer Bohn provided a detailed explanation of the items deemed to be broken or inoperable.

Jordan Coates, a Director for the York Region Federation of Agriculture, spoke on behalf of Blake Barker. Mr. Coates elaborated on the usage of the farm equipment, explaining that Mr. Barker retains some equipment for parts and that the cleanup timeline is too short, given his dual responsibilities of managing the farm and maintaining employment outside of farming.

Councillor Dale asked Mr. Barker to specify the amount of time required for the cleanup. He also asked if all visible equipment was essential for farm production. Mr. Barker confirmed which items are critical to the farm's operations and identified those that could potentially be removed.

Councillor Neeson addressed the issue of non-farming items on the property. Mr. Barker responded by confirming that he had already removed some items but requested additional time due to his other duties on the farm.

Councillor Neeson asked Mike Hutchinson, Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement, to clarify the bylaw requirements for vehicles being used as farm equipment. Mr. Hutchinson stated that such vehicles must be in operating condition.

Councillor Dale asked Mr. Hutchinson about the bylaw concerning project vehicles. Mr. Hutchinson explained that such vehicles would need to be housed within a structure to comply with the by-law.

Douglas Strong, a resident of East Gwillimbury, expressed his willingness to assist Blake Barker with the cleanup. However, Mr. Strong raised concerns regarding the timeline for completing the cleanup and requested that the committee grant Mr. Barker additional time.

The committee engaged in a thorough discussion regarding the timeline for cleanup and the necessary actions to resolve the violations.

Decision:

Moved By: Councillor Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Neeson

Carried.

The Property Standards Order for Appeal #24-2364, located at 23406 Kennedy Road, is confirmed, with an extension to the compliance date of January 1, 2026, on the condition that within 30 days of this decision, the appellant arranges to meet with the investigating officer at 23406 Kennedy Road to review the equipment and vehicles on the property and determine which items are used for normal farming practices. At the site meeting, the appellant must provide a progression plan to the officer for having nonfarming related items in the Order removed from the yard area. The officer has the exclusive right to measure progress and may take legal action prior to the compliance date if the progress is determined to be unsatisfactory.

9. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on March 24, 2025.

Moved By: Councillor Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Neeson

That the minutes of the meeting held on March 24, 2025 be adopted as presented.

Carried.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on April 23rd, 2025 at 7:00pm

12. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved By: Councillor Dale

Seconded By: Councillor Neeson

The meeting adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

Carried.