

Council receives planner and engineer reports

Council received reports from both the Town Planner and the Contract Development Engineer at the August 24th Town Council meeting. Jack Tupling reported on the flow monitoring and sanitary sewer infiltration reduction program and Steven Wever Town Planner reported on a consent application and a minor variance application.

The Consent application for Besley Country Market, straddling the municipal boundary between the Town of Shelburne and the Township of Amaranth, is for the creation of a new lot from the property at 716 Victoria Street by severing the area containing the existing home and farm buildings from the balance of the property. The proposed area covers two hectares at the south end of the Besley property now occupied by their home and farm buildings.

The retained parcel, 7.92 hectares, is currently used for field crops. The severance will better position the northerly lands for future urban development and is within keeping of the Town's Official Plan and Zoning By-law. Council agreed with the Planner's recommendation that the Committee of Adjustment grant conditional approval of the Consent Application subject to conditions. The minor variance for a Centre Street property permitting the construction of a sunroom addition to the existing residential building was also approved.

Jack Tupling's report on flow monitoring compared the sewer flow monitoring data with water usage and estimated the percentage infiltration in the sewer system as well as comparing the flow over two periods before and after a "rainfall event." The report stressed that monitoring "is not an exact science" rather Tupling said it gave "a snap shot" of the situation providing an approximation of the percentage infiltration, and identified areas where rehabilitation should occur.

Recommendations included CCTV (closed circuit television camera) inspections of sewers in several catchment areas and setting up rehabilitation programs in any problem areas found in sewers in those areas. One of the objectives of the work is to eliminate some infiltration in the sewers to gain additional capacity at the water pollution control plant allowing for expansion.

Mr. Tupling noted that the work that will be undertaken on the inspections has been allowed for in the 2015 Town budget. He reported that staff will "put for the appropriate (cost) amount for the detailed pipe inspection and rehabilitation work that could be accomplished in 2016 for consideration during the budget deliberation."

In a motion, Council accepted the August 20th report from the Development Engineer and approved the overall sewer rehabilitation program as set out in the report and directed staff to include cost estimates in the 2016 and subsequent year budgets for consideration.

By Marni Walsh