



LOCAL SERVICES BOARD OF LORING, PORT LORING AND DISTRICT

PO Box 148, Port Loring, Ontario P0H 1Y0

secretary@loringslb.com (705)757-3947

Minutes of Board Meeting June 15, 2016

The minutes can also be viewed on our website: www.loringslb.com

Attending:

Darrell Rogerson, Mike Buchanan, Steve Davis, Hilary Chambers and Peggy Whitehead

Absent: Julia Moore

7 community members

ACRONYMS

Ministry of Finance (**MOF**), Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (**MPAC**), Local Services Board (**LSB**), Provincial Land Tax (**PLT**), Standard Operating Procedure (**SOP**), Activity Centre (**AC**), Argyle Community Centre (**ACC**), Argyle Heritage Celebration (**AHC**), Conflict of Interest (**COI**), Ministry of Natural Resources (**MNR**)

Call to order by Darrell at 7:02 p.m.

Our current powers are water, fire protection, emergency telecommunications, recreation and library.

Darrell explained the purpose of the meeting and that it was our 2nd information session and read the boundaries that we are proposing to obtain. Darrell read a handout to the public from June 8th, 2016 meeting. Darrell then showed on the map our existing boundaries and the proposed boundaries. Chuck Weller asked about Blair and Darrell said we already have this from approximately 1999. Darrell also explained that there are 44 properties in Brown Township, including government, MNR and corporations.

Judy Pringle asked how to find out about the meetings. The Board said they are posted in 6 places and on the website. Lewis Berger had a complaint that the electronic sign that the notice was really quick. Tanya Buchanan apologized for that and asked people to call the LSB if something is wrong on the sign.

Hilary mentioned that we need to protect our borders, and Tanya Buchanan elaborated on her point. If at some point a municipality was looking at taking us over, they would not have as much interest in doing so, if we are a large land mass with lots of protected areas (Parks etc), as they would not have enough of a tax base to make it worth their while.
(hypothetically speaking)

Hilary spoke to the benefits of having these additional lands under LSB jurisdiction. We have the potential of having more Parks, conservation and reserve lands than other places in the province. This creates a unique opportunity to brand and market our area, as different from other regions of Ontario. With this possibility means MORE tourists coming to our region and spending money here, in turn this means that the camps hire more people, and there are more people to spend money in our local businesses. Also the draw of wilderness space such as this, will draw new permanent residents to the area, potentially with children.

Our Regional Tourism Organization Explorers Edge is interested in helping brand us as an undiscovered wilderness destination for those wanting to visit new places.

Hilary has had 2 phone conversations recently about how Algonquin Park is oversaturated, overused, and that people are tired of the same old place and are looking for somewhere new to cottage, camp, canoe and explore. We have the possibility of becoming this new region.

Lewis Berger says the boundaries is in the area, LSB says it is, but someone else could take it if we don't. He also said Hardy that they drew the line as the fire department could not service above the line.

Darrell said the LSB has the legal ability to do this.

Steve said the Fire Department is already servicing the area and we should be taxing for the service.

Brown has 44 properties half of which are MNR or other Government Agencies. About 22 properties would be paying the LSB for services that we can provide. Hardy has another 12 below the Hydro Dam within Concession XX on islands and a few scattered throughout the interior. Concession XXI of Hardy has approximately 40 properties on islands and the mainland. They are not included in the area defined by Bylaw to be considered as a Boundary Addition.

Pam Dekoter said raising the red flag with the government might go for amalgamation.

Hilary said the bigger we are the safer.

Financially and hypothetically, Darrell said that they would contribute approximately \$3,000.00 to the Budget. It is hypothetical because this Board cannot propose any fees, levies or taxes for the new Board to implement. Darrell said that the Fire Department has said they can service the proposed areas in the same manner they service our existing areas that have similar geography. They have the equipment and training to do so. Their contracted arrangements are unlikely to change significantly.

Darrell explained the voting process and what happens if the vote is a yes or no. If it is a yes we proceed with the same information sessions and vote with the proposed boundaries and if it is a no, then nothing happens.

Next session will be for voting on Thursday, June 23th, 2016 at 6:30-8 p.m. voting time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Prepared By

Peggy Whitehead

Peggy Whitehead
Secretary/Treasurer

Posted on June 21, 2016