

**Agenda****Township of Whitewater Region Official Plan Policy Review  
Steering Committee Meeting #6****September 27, 2006**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	Chairman calls the meeting to order.
2.	Review of Minutes of Meeting #5.
3.	Presentation from Jim Hutton, Director, Development and Property, County of Renfrew regarding County Official Plan Amendment Option.
4.	Committee Update on August 10, 2006 Muskrat Lake Committee Meeting and September 18, 2006 Meeting with Neighbouring Mayors.
5.	Next Steps? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Further discussion on Policy Options</li><li>- Policy Goals, Objectives and Actions Report</li><li>- Public Consultation</li><li>- New Official Plan vs. Amendments to County Plan</li></ul>

**Township of Whitewater Region  
Official Plan Policy Review Steering Committee Meeting #6**

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TIME/DATE: September 27, 2006 at 7:00 pm

PLACE: Township of Whitewater Region Council Chambers

**ATTENDEES:**

Committee Members – Dan Rathwell, Reeve, Whitewater Region  
Art Cobb, Councilor, Whitewater Region  
Joe Trimm, Councilor, Whitewater Region  
Jacob Rook, Councilor, Whitewater Region  
Beulah Wright, Councilor, Whitewater Region  
Jack Ferguson, Councilor, Whitewater Region  
Daryl McLaughlin, Councilor, Whitewater Region  
Jim Labow, Councilor, Whitewater Region  
Joe Kowalski, Citizens Association for the Future of Whitewater Region  
Jim Munroe, Citizens Association for the Future of Whitewater Region

Staff Dean Sauriol, CAO – Administrator, Whitewater Region

Consultants Brian Whitehead, Jp2g Consultants Inc.  
Steve Webster, Jp2g Consultants Inc.

County of Renfrew Jim Hutton, Director of Development & Property

**DISCUSSION:**

**1. Adoption of Previous Minutes**

The meeting minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting #5 dated July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006 were reviewed for errors and omissions. No errors or omissions were noted and there was a motion to adopt the minutes. The motion carried.

**2. Presentation by Jim Hutton**

Jim Hutton provided a brief presentation on his views on what the Township should consider with regards to the options either completing their own Official Plan or requested modifications to the County's Plan. In this he noted:

- He had received the Issues and Options report from Brian Whitehead, but he had not gone through it point by point.
- He feels that Township needs a "bare bones" Official Plan, as is the case with the County's Plan. It is his opinion that Official Plans do not attract growth.
- He noted that the policies for the Hamlet Communities are very general in the County's Plan.
- He noted that if the Township does undertake their own Official Plan, any policies on would have to be applied against the new Provincial Policy Statement's "shall be consistent with" criteria.

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- He noted that the County would work with the Township in order to get Official Plan Amendments to the County's Plan that would suit the goals and objectives of the Township. He feels this is the best option for the Township.

Following Jim's presentation, there was a question and answer session.

- Joe Kowalski reiterated his statements from previous meetings that he feels that zoning by-laws and Official Plans need to be implemented at the local level.
- Jim Labow questioned if the Township undertook their own Official Plan would that be approved by the County and if the changes were implemented by an OPA of the County Plan would that get approved by the Province. Jim Hutton confirmed that any OPA would have to be circulated to the provincial ministries. He also noted that if the Township did their own Official Plan, the County would be the approval agency, but they would have to balance the wishes of the Township with the PPS.
- Joe Trimm asked if Jim Hutton would support the 20m setback issue for shorelines. Jim acknowledged that he would since it is not a PPS issue.
- Jim Munroe asked how the County would feel about the Township dealing with their own severances. Jim Hutton indicated that he felt that the County had a very good system in place for dealing with severances and due to the volume of applications they do there is an economy of scale. He noted that staff can approve severances and that only refusals must go to the committee. He would prefer that they stay at the County level and cautioned that the Township would have a number of administrative issues if they took this on. Joe Trimm then asked what expertise the Township would need to deal with severances. Jim Hutton noted that they must have someone to review if it is a complete application, a staff member to deal with the paperwork, someone must prepare a planning report, the staff would have to approve the application, notices must be mailed out and someone must deal with the complaints.
- Daryl McLaughlin asked if the County could deal with the issue of archeological assessments. Jim Hutton noted that this is something the County could look at.
- Joe Kowalski asked if the County could address the issue of the 300 m setback for development on Muskrat Lake. Jim Hutton noted that he was not aware of any easy solution. Joe asked if the County could fight this issue. Jim noted that it would be tough but they would support trying to deal with this issue.

### **3. Muskrat Lake Committee Update**

Brian provided an update on the work that the Muskrat Lake Committee had been undertaking. The Muskrat Lake Committee met on August 10, 2006. At this meeting, Brian made a power point presentation on Muskrat Lake to the Muskrat Lake Committee and provided them with a summary of the status of work on the Source Water Protection Planning, discussions with Mr. Ian Smith, Director of the Source Water Protection Program for Ontario, and the status of work on the Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant Phosphorous Study. The Committee identified importance of having surrounding municipalities participate in any source water protection initiatives for Muskrat Lake

As a follow-up to the meeting, Reeve Rathwell and Deputy Reeve Lowe agreed to arrange a meeting with Recves and other representatives from neighbouring municipalities in the Snake River Watershed to present information on the work that has been done by the Muskrat Lake Committee and determine if there was any interest in participating in source water protection planning. The meeting took place on September 18, 2006. Brian made a power point presentation on Muskrat Lake. Following the presentation there were a number of questions about the information presented in the MOE Study (2005) prepared by Dana Cruickshank. It was decided that the meeting would be

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for information purposes only. There was no interest at the municipal level in participating in source water protection initiatives. It was suggested the Muskrat Lake Committee solicit participation directly from the residents of the watershed and not the local Councils.

**4. Next Steps**

Brian Whitehead was given the go ahead to draft an "Action Plan" to summarize the issues that the committee members would like to have addressed and the recommended actions to address these issues either in a new Township Official Plan or an amendment to the County's Official Plan. Brian will review the Action Plan with Jim Hutton to determine how the issues could be addressed through the County Official Plan option. Joe Kowalski noted that he would like the opportunity to review this draft report with the Citizens Association for the Future of Whitewater Region committee prior to this Steering Committee voting on it.

**5. Adjournment of Meeting**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made. The motion was carried.

THESE MINUTES WERE RECORDED AND DISTRIBUTED BY Jp2g CONSULTANTS INC. ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE UNDERSIGNED.



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Steven Webster

Distribution:

- All in attendance
- Ron Lowe, Deputy Reeve, Whitewater Region