



Committee Minutes

Hanover-Owen Sound Task Force

October 2, 2020 9:00am

Hanover Civic Centre

The Hanover-Owen Sound Task Force met on the above date at the Hanover Civic Centre with the following members in attendance:

Present: Chair Selwyn Hicks; Councillors O'Leary, Milne Desai; and Warden McQueen

Staff

Present: Randy Scherzer-Director of Planning, Savanna Myers-Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture, Anne Marie Shaw-Director of Housing, Barb Fedy-Director of Social Services, Rob Hatten, Communications Manager, Brian Tocheri-Hanover CAO, Tim Simmonds-Owen Sound CAO and Heather Morrison, Clerk.

Mayor Sue Paterson, Hanover staff- April Marshall, Don Tedford and Jeff Dentinger were present for the Hanover presentation portion of the meeting.

Call to Order

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 9:06 am and welcomed everyone to the Hanover Civic Centre.

Declaration of Interest

There was none.

Hanover Presentation

Brian Tocheri welcomed everyone to Hanover and provided an overview of Hanover as an urban area in Grey County. He noted that boundary issues are impacting employment, assessment and housing opportunities. Commercial lands are needed to accommodate future development over the next 25 years.

Through a PowerPoint presentation, April Marshall provided some quick facts about Hanover including population, business numbers and land mass area. Ms. Marshall highlighted some of the economic development areas of Hanover including the Hanover Casino, P&H Centre, Launch Pad and MacLean's Brewery.

Mr. Tocheri identified the boundary areas of the Town and provided a historical review. He spoke about the urban fringe designation as outlined in Grey County's 1998 Official Plan and the amalgamation results coming out of the 2001 municipal amalgamations. Mr. Tocheri spoke to Grey County's Official Plan Amendment 80 and the challenges this provided relative to growth development, housing and social services issues. He noted that Hanover has the smallest assessment in Grey County and spoke to the challenges of 2020 related to COVID-19 and the unavailability of the OLG Casino capital investment in Hanover. He highlighted that Hanover is in Phase Two of its Growth Plan review.

The Task Force recessed briefly and then reconvened.

Mr. Tedford spoke to the current subdivision growth and general development occurring within Hanover. He noted that Hanover has eliminated the height requirement in certain zones in order to permit more development within the boundaries of Hanover. Broadband was highlighted as an opportunity for residents of Hanover to allow for the availability to work remotely and provide support for businesses in Hanover. Mr. Tedford highlighted the efficient water and sewer services within Hanover.

Mr. Tedford spoke to recent issues related to housing and social issues. He spoke about the recent issues at the Forum, a housing complex that recently suffered a fire and the impacts it had on the residents. He noted the vulnerable residents that were impacted by this fire. Mr. Tedford also stated that temporary solutions have been put in place to assist with the safety of the residents.

Barb Fedy spoke to the situation from the County's perspective. She noted that the Ontario Works staff at the Hanover satellite office quickly provided partner support for the residents. Mr. Tedford noted the follow up being completed by various organizations. Mr. Tocheri thanked Barb Fedy, Anne Marie Shaw and County staff for their efforts in assisting the residents following the fire.

Barb Fedy spoke to the historical formation of the Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy to deal with the growing drug crisis occurring in Hanover and surrounding areas. She noted that various agencies throughout both Grey and Bruce Counties are part of this Strategy.

General questions and comments from the Members occurred throughout the presentation.

Hanover Site Tour

Rob Hatten provided a brief overview of the logistics of the audio tour.

CAO Tocheri then provided a guided tour of the Town of Hanover. Members drove to various points of interest within the Town while CAO Tocheri provided commentary via Zoom audio on the stops along the route.

Points of interest included: current and ongoing developments, Hanover hospital, industrial and commercial developments and Hanover's downtown. Questions and comments from the members occurred during the tour.

Other Business

There was none.

Next Meeting Dates

October 16, 2020

On motion by Councillors O'Leary and Desai the meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Selwyn Hicks, Chair