

R.M. OF LUMSDEN No. 189
NOTES OF THE INTENSIVE LIVESTOCK PRODUCER MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 29TH, 2010

The Lumsden Rural Municipal council convened a special informational meeting to review the proposed Official Community Plan changes to the Intensive Livestock Operations, inviting Intensive Livestock Producers or potential Intensive Livestock Producers in the Council Chambers, on the evening of Tuesday, June 29th at 7:00 p.m. with Agriculture Committee Chairman, Councillor Tom Harrison presiding.

Present:	Councillors:	Tom Harrison, Bill Marquardt, Al Szeles
	Assistant Administrator:	Darcie Cooper
	Municipal Planner:	John Wolfenberg
	Attendees:	Mark Catley, Irwin Catley, Ron & Marge Sebastian, Lisa Russell, Allan Floyd, David Nicholson, Bill Gilmour, Dean McEwen
	Belle Plain Colony:	Sam B Tschetter, Paul Tschetter,
	Arm River Colony:	Daniel Hofer, Joe Hofer, Dave Hofer, Paul Hofer
	Bezan Land & Livestock:	Layton Bezan
	Ministry of Agriculture:	Andy Jansen, Christopher Pinno
Absent:	Reeve:	Jim Hipkin
	Councillors:	Jim Atcheson, Kent Farago, Dale Srochenski

Municipal Planner John Wolfenberg explained the role and purpose of an Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw to a municipality. John went through the background information sent out with the meeting invitation regarding proposed changes to the Intensive Livestock Operation sections. He explained the role of the Ministry of Agriculture with respect to Intensive Livestock Operations. The floor was opened up for comments and questions.

Discussion

Attendees wanted to know what prompted the change to not allow any more Intensive Livestock Operations and indicated that if this change being proposed was as a result of one application, then they felt that council may be over-reacting.

Bill Marquardt indicated that council felt that Separation distances are inadequate in the current plan, as well they wanted to take into consideration the increase in Country Residential development and land use conflict.

Comments were that they felt the separation distances were adequate and asked if there had been any other major problems other than one recent application.

Some expressed that they felt the proposed changes were discriminatory against the farmer to the benefit the residential property owner. Some felt that these types of changes open it up for additional restrictions for farming and agriculture operations.

Tax Revenue was discussed and it was indicated to the group that a lot of the municipal tax dollars comes from Residential development. Some members wondered if that was why council seemed to be favoring residential over agriculture and had there been a cost comparison to what farming costs the municipality and what residential costs the municipality, in terms of providing services.

Comments were that the existing farmer should be allowed to expand. It was felt that anyone starting up an ILO would likely look in another municipality, but there should be an opportunity for the existing farmer or their family to start up an ILO

Question to council, if they would have allowed any of the current operators a permit?

Comment that the agriculture producers, if they are not expanding every year, then you're not doing good business. Therefore there should be allowances for that expansion.

Comment from council - there are lots of municipality's with lots of land for developing. Comment from group - vice versa for residential developing.

The group felt this was a very anti-agricultural move.

John Wolfenberg went through the separation distances. There was a suggestion to change the separation criteria for the first line of the chart (Dwellings in Ag or CR1 district) to the following:

Drop Separation for 20-299 AU

300 - 499 AU - 500 metres

500-2000 AU - 1000 metres

>2,000 AU - 1600 metres

Comment from group - what happens to all the livestock producers not on the list, they would like to see permits issued to those people as well.

Group looked at the maps indicating the room for ILO's given the separation setbacks.

Comment from the group was that council was out to get the big producers.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.