

The Corporation of the Town of Deep River
REPORT
2020-CAO-008

Council Meeting Date: September 23 2020
Council Meeting Time: 6:00 PM
Council Meeting Place: Electronic Meeting

File Storage

Subject: Back Yard Hen Pilot Project

Author: Sean Patterson, Acting CAO

RECOMMENDATION(S):

BE IT RESOLVED THAT report number 2020-CAO-008 “**Backyard Hen Pilot Project**” be received,

THAT staff be directed to develop regulations for a 1-3 year pilot project for the keeping of backyard hens within the residential areas of Town of Deep River,

THAT Council continue to suspend the levying of fines against existing owners until March 2021 and

THAT Staff report to Council with a proposed program no later than March, 2021

BACKGROUND:

At the June 10, 2020 Council meeting a delegation proposed that Deep River implement a pilot project for the keeping of backyard hens in the residential zones. This potential was discussed and staff were requested to bring a report back at a future Council meeting. At the June 24th, 2020 Council meeting the following resolution was passed:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report number 2020-CBO 001 “Backyard Hens” be received,
THAT Council direct staff to conduct an electronic survey to determine the level of support for a Pilot Project for the keeping of backyard hens, and

THAT Council suspend the levying of fines in the interim against existing owners until a report containing the outcome of the survey is brought back to Council for consideration.

A survey was conducted with Deep River Residents in August 2020 to verify if there is interest for a 1-3 year pilot project to house back yard hens within the residential zones of Deep River. The results from the survey are as follows:

Yes (in favor)	No (not in favor)
208	110

Note* A copy of the survey has not been attached as it contains names and addresses.

RATIONALE:

This recommendation is based on the attached survey results 65% of the 318 responses were in favor of conducting a one to three year pilot project for the keeping of back yard hens within R2 and R3 residential zones of Deep River.

OTHER ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Maintain existing by-law including enforcement was considered by not recommended as it is not consistent with survey results.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATONS:

There are no quantifiable financial considerations included in this recommendation.

STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS:

This recommendation will help to ensure “*Transparent, Fair and Effective Governance*” by engaging the community to ensure a pilot project is fully supported. This recommendation will also support a “*Strong Collaboration with Community, Businesses & Neighbours*”

CONSULTATIONS:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

None