Recommendation

That the report of the Planner regarding the Update on the Cannabis Cultivation and Processing Policies and Regulations Study be received for information; and

That the Public Open House with respect to this study be set for Wednesday, September 11th, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Information

On January 17, 2019 Township Council passed Interim Control By-law 2019-001 which was intended to prohibit the establishment of Cannabis Production and Processing Facilities throughout the entire municipality for a period of one year in order to allow for the appropriate completion of research and consultation related to the use of lands as Cannabis Production and Processing Facilities. At that time Council directed by resolution that the necessary research and consultation be undertaken with respect to developing land use planning policies and regulations concerning Cannabis Cultivation and Processing Facilities on all lands located within the Township of Selwyn.

At its May 14, 2019 meeting Council further resolved to engage Meridian Planning Consultants Inc. (Meridian) to provide planning services related to the above noted study. Since that time Staff and Meridian have been working together to complete the Background Report; and have established that amendments to the Official Plan and / or Zoning By-law would most likely be recommended. Further, dates have been established to provide Council with the Background Report and presentation, as well as the public open house and the statutory public meeting (if required) as noted below:

- September 10th, 2019 – Meridian Presentation to Council (Background Report to be circulated)
- September 11th, 2019 – Public Open House – 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm – Meridian to be in attendance
- November 12, 2019 – report to Council summarizing public input as well as providing recommendations / draft amendments for Council’s consideration related to the proposed Official Plan And Zoning By-law Amendments – prepared by Meridian
• November 19th, 2019 - prescribed circulation of the public hearing
• December 10th, 2019 – Statutory Public Meeting related to the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments – Meridian to be in attendance.

The interim control by-law passed via By-law No. 2019-01 on January 17th expires one (1) year from the passage of the by-law. Given the timeframe noted above, the Township will not be in a position to pass / approve the necessary amendments to the Official Plan and / or the Zoning By-law within the one (1) year time frame. It is anticipated that the matter would be completed in the 1st quarter of 2020.

Section 38.(2) of the Planning Act, indicates that Council may amend an interim control by-law to extend the period of time during which it will be in effect provided that the total period of time does not exceed two years from the date of passing of the interim control by-law. If it is determined that amendments to the Official Plan and / or Zoning By-law are required then at that time Council should consider passing an amending by-law which will extend the period of time of the interim control by-law to be in effect for an additional six (6) months. This would ensure that proper public consultation is conducted, together with providing additional time for the matter to be considered by both Township Council and County Council.

Financial Impact

The recommendation in this report has no financial impact.

Environmental Impact

The recommendation in this report has no environmental impact.

Strategic Plan Reference

Goal 3: Support a sustainable, balanced, and investment-ready community.

Attachment

None

Jeannette Thompson
Prepared By: Jeannette Thompson, Planner

Robert Lamarre
Reviewed By: Robert Lamarre, Manager of Building & Planning

Janice Lavallee

Reviewed By: Janice Lavallee, CAO