

Campground Licensing Bylaw Discussion

Planning Advisory Committee

May 17, 2022

Planning & Development Department



EAST HANTS

Background

- In November Council passed motion C21(342), which authorized staff to include provisions in the Land Use Bylaw to regulate new campgrounds by site plan approval as part of the Plan Update.
- At their February 23, 2022 meeting, Council passed the following two motions:
 - *C22(60) Moved that Council authorize staff to conduct an educational campaign with campground owners on East Hants Bylaws that regulate noise, air quality, light control, and solid waste; and that owners be put on notice Council may consider a licensing bylaw.*
 - *C22(61) Moved that Council direct Staff to continue to work on developing a Campground Licensing Bylaw.*



Discussion

- Each campground owner operating in the Municipality was mailed a letter outlining current regulations including municipal bylaws and provincial regulations.
- Also included in the letter was a request for comments regarding the possible development of an East Hants bylaw to require the licencing of campgrounds.
- In addition to the letter, information on campgrounds was also included in the spring newsletter.
- In total there were 16 letters mailed and seven response letters from East Hants campground operators received.

Discussion Continued

- The Campground Association of Nova Scotia also provided their comments on the subject of licencing campgrounds.
- A summary of the comments have been included in the staff report and a copy of all of the letters have been provide to PAC for their review.
- Not all of East Hants campground operators are a part of the Campground Association.
- A basic bylaw to regulate the licencing of campgrounds has been drafted.
- Staff recommend that a stakeholder meeting is organized to discuss the proposed Bylaw prior to it being given first reading.

Draft Campground Bylaw

- Items included in the draft Bylaw P-1300, Campground Bylaw include:
 - Licence cost \$100 and has to be renewed each year.
 - Copy of the approval for the wastewater disposal system and water supply.
 - Requirement for site plan.
 - Manager maintains the campground so that there is no pooling or stagnant water on roads, camp sites and common areas.
 - Indicates that there shall be no year-round habitation of a Recreational Vehicle or a Tent.
- Council may add other items to the bylaw as long as they are not related to items that should be regulated by the Land Use Bylaw.
- A draft of the Bylaw has been attached to the staff report as Appendix A.

Recommendation

- That Planning Advisory Committee recommend that Council authorize staff to hold a stakeholder meeting with campground operators on draft Bylaw P-1300, Campground Bylaw.

Recommended Motion

Planning Advisory Committee recommends that Council:

- *authorize staff to hold a stakeholder meeting with campground operators on draft Bylaw P-1300, Campground Bylaw.*

Alternative Recommendation

- That Planning Advisory Committee recommend that Council authorize staff use the existing Municipal Bylaw regulations to enforce items that need to be addressed instead of developing a Campground Bylaw in order to licence campgrounds.