

Memo



Date: July 7, 2010
File: 0360-20
To: City Manager
From: Director, Land Use Management
Subject: Council Appointments to the Agricultural Advisory Committee
Report Prepared by: Greg Sauer, Land Use Planner

Recommendation:

THAT Council appoint Pete Spencer as one of seven community at-large-members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2009 - 2011 term.

AND that Council recognize Edwin (Ed) Henkel's retirement from the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Purpose/Background:

The Agricultural Advisory Committee was formed to advise Council on issues important to the agri-business community. The Committee advises Council on land use and economic development matters with respect to agriculture, and acts as a liaison between Council and the agri-business community.

Typically members of Council advisory committees are appointed by Council for a three-year term, to run concurrent with the Council term. Where circumstances demand it, Council may be required to appoint a new member to a committee to fill a vacancy.

This memo reflects the need to acknowledge the early departure of Ed Henkel from the Agricultural Advisory Committee effective December 31, 2009. The vacancy created by this departure initiated a search for a new member to replace Mr. Henkel. Land Use Management recommends that Council appoint Mr. Pete Spencer for the remainder of the 2009 - 2011 term.

To assist in filling the vacant at-large position to the Agricultural Advisory Committee, the City placed advertisements in local newspapers requesting that interested persons submit their name, qualifications and their interest in the position. Staff also relied heavily on word of mouth to get this information out to a relatively small and tight knit community. The advertising yielded some results with three submissions received. Land Use Management staff has reviewed the submissions from the public, and is pleased to recommend that Pete Spencer be appointed to the vacant position.

Pete Spencer comes to the Committee with 30 years of animal husbandry and crop production experience. Mr. Spencer's ownership of a cow/calf operation in Vanderhoof, B.C. over a 30 year period provides knowledge in an area of agriculture that is currently missing on the Committee.

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Following three decades as an owner/operator, Pete served two years as Environmental Stewardship Coordinator for the British Columbia Cattleman's Association. In addition to his animal husbandry work, Pete has become trained as an Environmental Farm Plan Advisor. Pete's work as an Environmental Farm Plan Advisor has resulted in him visiting agricultural operations of all commodities and assessing the production and environmental management. Pete also has nine years of horticultural production experience and operates a tree nursery/Christmas tree operation on his property.

As a final note, Mr. Spencer comes recommended by Carl Withler, Resource Stewardship Agrologist with the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.

Internal Circulation:

Deputy City Clerk

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Local Government Act, section 953

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Personnel Implications:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Community & Media Relations Comments:

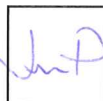
Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:



F/ S. Gambacort, Director, Land Use Management

Approved for inclusion:



Jim Paterson
General Manager of Community Sustainability

cc: Carl Withler, Resource Stewardship Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture
Karen Needham, Deputy City Clerk
Arlene McClelland, AAC Recording Secretary