

**Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Members Present:** Councillor Valerie Durston, Mayor David Mayberry, Councillor Paul Buchner, Deb Riley, Catherine White and Tabitha Kosmal

**Staff Present:** Clerk Julie Middleton

**Regrets:** Jen Thomson

## Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Chair Valerie Durston, and a quorum was present.

## Approval of the Agenda

Resolution No. 1      Moved by Catherine White  
Seconded by Deb Riley

RESOLVED that the agenda for the May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Engage & Inform committee meeting be approved, as amended (Wind Turbine Proposals).

**DISPOSITION:** Motion Carried

### Approval of the Minutes

Resolution No. 2      Moved by Paul Buchner  
Seconded by David Mayberry

RESOLVED that the regular minutes of the April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 Engage & Inform committee meeting be approved.

**DISPOSITION:** Motion Carried

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

## Event Debriefs

- Earth Day – April 26, 2025:
  - Earth Day event was well-attended, started early in the morning.
  - \$965 worth of sales were made, which is down from previous years.
  - Sold 50 blue boxes, 9 black composters, 7 green cones, and 15 rain barrels.
  - People inquired about where to get grease collector containers and accelerator for the green cones – Municipal Office.

- Vegetables and breads were given away – Mary Jane from Cycle of Life was thanked for her contribution.
- Act On Litter Day – May 5, 2025:
  - Approximately 130kg of litter was collected. It was suggested that the Township encourage residents to pick up litter on Litter Day and that the Township provide garbage bags and tags to people who volunteer to pick up litter.
  - Concerns were raised about people taking advantage of the offer. Last year, it was suggested that if people put the litter in clear bags, then the Township could pick up the bags and would recognize the contents as being roadside garbage/litter.
  - Clerk Julie Middleton advised that she would speak with Works Superintendent Adam Prouse about this.

### SWOX Township Fare Event

The Committee reviewed the draft floor plan and proposed scavenger hunt and noted the following:

- The event is scheduled for May 24th. Setup will take place on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. There are over 40 vendors registered for the event. The layout for outside will still need to be confirmed (i.e. Food Trucks, Little Hobby Hill Farm, Dog Training).
- Ox on the Run may also be present.
- Nicole will contact the vendors that are registered in advance of the event to advise them:
  - About setup times – to start at 10:00 a.m. Julie will be there around 9:00 a.m. on Saturday.
  - Vendors may host their own door prize draws as long as it is at no cost and available to everyone.
  - Vendors should park their vehicles at the back of the parking lot or in the overflow parks south of the park after they have unloaded and set up.
  - Vendors scavenger hunt will take place – vendors will be provided with stamps? Or pens to initial on the scavenger hunt sheets. Staff to confirm if all registered vendors are on the scavenger hunt?
  - Township will provide prizes for scavenger hunt – candy bags?
- Township committees will have a prize for signing up for the Township e-Newsletter and then name will be entered into the draw – prize to be blue box and recycling bin and other donated prize?
- The goal of the event is to raise community awareness of local businesses.
- A questionnaire will be given to vendors following the event to gather feedback on the event. Questions will include what was done right, what could be improved, and interest in future events.
- The committee is considering making the event an annual occurrence – same weekend in May in 2026. Information regarding the 2026 Municipal Election should be shared if the event continues into 2026.

## **Correspondence**

### **SWOX Talks and Village Voice**

The Committee reviewed the monthly newsletters and Village Voice ads for April, 2025.

## **Discussion Items**

### **Wind Turbine Proposals – Community Engagement and Communication**

The Committee engaged in extensive discussion regarding two proposed wind turbine projects within the Township: Bower Hill Wind Farm and Cedar Flats Wind Farm, brought forward by ProWind and WPD Corporation, respectively. Members reviewed the community consultation processes currently underway for both proposals.

It was explained that the proponents are required to consult with both the Township and the public before submitting their applications to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) and before seeking a municipal resolution of support.

Should a proposal be approved by the IESO, the company must then apply for a zoning by-law amendment and obtain site plan approval from the Township prior to being eligible for a building permit.

The Committee suggested that the Township's communications with the public focus on outlining the process and directing residents to information made available by the proponents. It was emphasized that these proposals are not initiated by the Township.

It was further noted that, Council will need to carefully consider all relevant information, including public input, the potential benefits to the broader community, individual property rights, and any demonstrated impacts of the proposed developments.

## **Standing Items**

Review of SWOX 2030 Action Item List (minutes of August 12th, 2015 meeting)

1. Social Responsibility
2. Communication
3. Active Living
4. Safety & Security

### Adjournment

Resolution No. 3      Moved by David Mayberry  
Seconded by Paul Buchner

RESOLVED that there being no further business, the Engage and Inform Committee adjourn at 2:44 p.m. to meet again on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

DISPOSITON: Motion Carried