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MEMORANDUM

TO:	Chair and Members of Halifax Watershed Advisory Board
FROM:	Tyson Simms, Planner, Community Development
DATE:	September 7, 2011
SUBJECT:	Case # 17056: Application by Kim Huskilson to amend the Land Use By-law for Planning Districts 14/17 (Shubennacadie Lakes) to consider larger buildings for agricultural use.

Synopsis of Proposal:

An application has been submitted by Kim Huskilson to amend Sections 10.5 and 11.5 of the Land Use By-law for Planning Districts 14/17 (Shubennacadie Lakes) to consider an increase to the maximum permitted floor area of buildings intended for agricultural use.

If approved, the applicant proposes to construct two buildings for agricultural use at 230 Church Street, Wellington. The first building, measuring 5,045 square feet (276.4 square metres), will house a minimum of 10 horses and serve as a storage area for hay and associated farm equipment. The second building, measuring approximately 20,000 square feet (1,858 square metres) will serve as an indoor riding arena. The applicant has indicated that no building will include a commercial component or business, the proposed is strictly for personal use.

Site Features:

- Approximately 152 acres in size;
- Located at 230 Church Street, Wellington;
- Watercourse along eastern portion of the property (identified on Schedule A);
- Property has extensive frontage on Grand Lake;
- Existing single unit dwelling (identified as cottage on Schedule A);
- Serviced with on-site septic system and well;
- Surrounding uses appear to be mainly residential;
- Property is designated as Residential, and;
- Property is zoned R-6 (Rural Residential).

Planning Process:

The Land Use By-law for Planning Districts 14/17 permits buildings for agricultural use in the R-6 (Rural Residential) and R-7 (Rural Estate) Zones, however building size is dictated based on the total lot size of the subject property:

- Properties with total lot areas less than 120,000 square feet (11,148 square metres) are permitted an agricultural use with a maximum building footprint of 1,000 square feet (92.9 square metres).
- Properties with total lot areas of 120,000 square feet (11,148) or greater, are permitted an agricultural use with a maximum building footprint of 2,000 square feet (185.8 square metres).

The subject proposal is for an amendment to the Land Use By-law for Planning Districts 14/17 to allow even larger agricultural buildings for larger properties. If approved, such an amendment will have implication on the maximum size of agricultural uses where they are permitted in the plan area.

Input Sought from the Halifax Watershed Advisory Board

As shown on the attached Schedule A, the proposed barn is setback approximately 502 feet (153 metres) from Grand Lake. The Land Use By-law for Planning Districts 14 & 17 requires that agricultural uses be setback a minimum of 300 feet (91.4 metres) from any watercourse. An amendment to the Land Use By-law to consider larger agricultural uses requires an analysis of appropriate setbacks from neighbouring properties, watercourses, dwellings and potable water supplies.

Pursuant to the Board's terms of reference, the Board's input is being sought with respect to the potential impact of the proposed development and associated land use by-law amendment to consider larger agricultural uses. HWAB's recommendation and specific comments will be included in the staff report to Marine Drive, Valley and Canal Community Council.

Attachments:

General Future Land Use Map Zoning Map
Site Plan
LUB Excerpt - Watercourse Setback Requirements LUB Excerpt - R-6 (Rural Residential) and R-7 (Rural Estate) Zones Aerial Photograph





Attachment A Sita Plan



Attachment B LUB Excerpt - Watercourse Setback Requirements

Planning Districts 14 & 17

4.17 WATERCOURSE SETBACKS AND BUFFERS

- (1) (a) No development permit shall be issued for any development within 20m of the ordinary highwater mark of any watercourse, except on lots zoned R-1C.
 - (b) Where the average positive slopes within the 20m buffer are greater than 20%, the buffer shall be increased by 1 metre for each additional 2% of slope, to a maximum of 60m.
 - (c) Within the required buffer pursuant to clauses (a) and (b), no excavation, infilling, tree, stump and other vegetation removal or any alteration of any kind shall be permitted in relation to a development.
 - (d) Within the required buffer pursuant to clauses (a) and (b), activity shall be limited to the placement of one accessory structure or one attached deck not exceeding a footprint of 20 m² or a combination of an accessory structure and attached deck not exceeding 20 m², fences, boardwalks, walkways and trails not exceeding 3 metres in width, wharfs, boat ramps, marine dependent uses, fisheries uses, conservation uses, parks on public lands, historic sites and monuments, and public road crossings, driveway crossings and wastewater, storm and water infrastructure.
 - (e) Notwithstanding clause (a), the required buffer for construction and demolition operations shall be as specified under the applicable CD Zone.
 - (f) Within the buffer required pursuant to clause (e), no excavation, infilling, tree, stump and other vegetation removal or any alteration of any kind shall be permitted in relation to a development.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), where an existing residential main building is located within the required buffer, accessory structures, subject to meeting other requirements of this by-law, shall be permitted provided they are located no closer to the watercourse than the existing main building.
- (3) Where the configuration of any existing lot, including lots approved as a result of completed tentative and final subdivisions applications on file prior to the effective date of the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy, is such that no main building could be located on the lot, the buffer distance shall be reduced in a manner which would provide the greatest possible separation from a watercourse having regard to other yard requirements.
- (4) Notwithstanding subsection (1), nothing in this by-law shall prohibit the removal of windblown, diseased or dead trees, deemed to be hazardous or unsafe.
- (5) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the selective removal of vegetation to maintain the overall health of the buffer may be authorized by the Development Officer where a management plan is submitted by a qualified arborist, landscape architect, forester or forestry technician.
- (6) Every application for a development permit for a building or structure to be erected pursuant to this section, shall be accompanied by plans drawn to an appropriate

scale showing the required buffers, existing vegetation limits and contours and other information including professional opinions, as the Development Officer may require, to determine that the proposed building or structure will meet the requirements of this section. (RC-Jun 27/06;E-Aug 26/06)

Attachment C LUB Excerpt - R-6 (Rural Residential) and R-7 (Rural Estate) Zones

R-6 (RURAL RESIDENTIAL) ZONE PART 10:

10.1 **R-6 USES PERMITTED**

No development permit shall be issued in any R-6 (Rural Residential) Zone except for the following:

Residential Uses Single unit dwellings Two unit dwellings CSA approved mobile dwellings Day care facilities for not more than fourteen (14) children in conjunction with permitted dwellings Business uses in conjunction with permitted dwellings Existing industrial uses Pet care facilities in conjunction with a permitted dwelling (HE/MDVCCC-Aug 6/09;E-Aug 22/09)

Community Uses Parks and open space Recreation uses **Denominational institutions** Educational institutions and uses Nursing homes Residential care facilities Government offices Public works (HE/MDVCCC-Aug 6/09;E-Aug 22/09)

Resource Uses Agriculture uses Firewood mills Existing forestry uses (C-Aug 17/92;M-Oct 2/92)

10.5 **OTHER REQUIREMENTS: AGRICULTURAL USES**

- No building intended for any agricultural use shall be permitted unless the (a) following requirements are satisfied:
 - (i) minimum lot area:

40,000 square feet (3716 m²)

- (ii) minimum frontage:
- 100 feet (30.5 m)
- On a lot area of less than 120,000 square feet (11,148 m²), any building **(b)** intended for the keeping of livestock shall conform to the following requirements:

1,000 square feet (92.9 m²)

(ii) minimum front or flankage yard:

100 feet (30.5 m) 50 feet (15.2 m)

(iii) minimum side or rear yard:

- (iv) a minimum distance of 100 feet (30.5 m) shall be maintained from any dwelling or potable water supply that is not located on the same lot.
- (v) a minimum distance of 300 feet (91.5 m) shall be maintained from any watercourse.
- (c) On a lot area equal to or greater than 120,000 square feet (11,148 m²), any building intended for the keeping of livestock shall conform to the following requirements:
- (i) maximum floor area: 2,000 square feet (92.9 m²)
 (ii) minimum front, flankage
 - side or rear yard: 150 feet (45.7 m)
- (iii) a minimum distance of 300 feet (91.5 m) shall be maintained from any watercourse or potable water supply, except for a potable water supply that is located on the same lot.
- (d) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (c), where the floor area of a building intended for the keeping of livestock has a floor area equal to or less than 1,000 square feet (92.9 m²), the requirements of clause (b) shall apply.
- (e) Any disposal area for livestock waste shall be located a minimum distance of 300 feet (91.5 m) from any watercourse or potable water supply, except for a potable water supply that is located on the same lot.

(f) For any building that is not intended for the keeping of livestock, the requirements of Section 10.2 shall apply.

10.2 <u>R-6 ZONE REQUIREMENTS</u>

In any R-6 Zone, where uses are permitted as Residential Uses, no development permit shall be issued except in conformity with the following:

Minimum Lot Area:	
Central water and sewer services	10,000 square feet (929 m ²) per dwelling unit 40,000 square feet (3716 m ² per dwelling unit
Other	40,000 square feet $(3716 \text{ m}^2 \text{ per dwelling unit})$
Minimum Frontage	
Central water and sewer services	75 feet (22.9 m)
Other	100 feet (30.5 m)
Minimum Front or Flankage Yard	30 feet (9.1 m)
Minimum Rear or Side Yard	8 feet (2.4 m)
Maximum Lot Coverage	35 percent
Maximum Height of Main Building	35 feet (10.7 m)

PART 11: R-7 (RURAL ESTATE) ZONE

11.1 <u>R-7 USES PERMITTED</u>

No development permit shall be issued in any R-7 (Rural Estate) Zone except for the following:

Residential Uses Single unit dwellings Two unit dwellings CSA approved mobile dwellings Day care facilities for not more than fourteen (14) children in conjunction with a dwelling Business uses in conjunction with permitted dwellings Pet care facilities in conjunction with a permitted dwelling (HE/MDVCCC-Aug 6/09;E-Aug 22/09)

<u>Community Uses</u> Open space uses Institutional uses Fraternal halls Nursing homes Residential care facilities

Resource Uses Forestry uses Agricultural uses Intensive agricultural uses (MC-Mar 28/94;SCC-Apr 12/94;E-May 7/94)

11.2 <u>R-7 ZONE REQUIREMENTS</u>

In any R-7 Zone, no development permit shall be issued except in conformity with the following:

Minimum Lot Area	80,000 square feet (7,432 m ²)
Minimum Frontage	200 feet (61 m)
Minimum Front or Flankage Yard	30 feet (9.1 m)
Minimum Rear or Side Yard	8 feet 2.4 m)
Maximum Lot Coverage	35 percent
Maximum Height of Main Building	35 feet (10.7 m)

11.5 OTHER REQUIREMENTS: AGRICULTURAL USES

- (a) No building intended for any agricultural use shall be permitted unless the following requirements are satisfied:
- (i) minimum lot area: 80,000 square feet (3716 m²)
- (ii) minimum frontage: 200 feet (30.5 m)

(b)	On a lot area of less than 120,000 square feet (11,148 m ²), any building
	intended for the keeping of livestock shall conform to the following
	requirements:

- (i) maximum floor area:
- (ii) minimum front or flankage yard 100 feet (30.5 m)
- (iii) minimum side or rear yard
 - (iv) a minimum distance of 100 feet (30.5 m) shall be maintained from any dwelling or potable water supply that is not located on the same lot.

1,000 square feet (92.9 m²)

50 feet (15.2 m)

- (v) a minimum distance of 300 feet (91.5 m) shall be maintained from any watercourse.
- (c) On any lot area equal to or greater than 120,000 square feet (11,148 m²), any building intended for the keeping of livestock shall conform to the following requirements:
 - (i) maximum floor area: 2,000 square feet (92.9 m^2)
 - (ii) minimum front, flankage side or rear yard: 150 feet (45.7 m)
 - (iii) a minimum distance of 300 feet (91.5 m) shall be maintained from any watercourse or potable water supply, except for a potable water supply that is located on the same lot.
- (d) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (c), where the floor area of a building for the keeping of livestock has a floor area equal to or less than 1,000 square feet (92.9 m²), the requirements of clause (b) shall apply.
- (e) Any disposal area for livestock waste shall be located a minimum distance of 300 feet (91.5 m) from any watercourse or potable water supply, except for a potable water supply that is located on the same lot.
- (f) For any building that is not intended for the keeping of livestock, the requirements of Section 11.2 shall apply.

HWAB Memo

September 21, 2011

Attachment D Aerial Photograph



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