

STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: March 14, 2022

Title: Municipal Dock By-law

Prepared By: Pamela Skillen, Chief Building Official

Department: Building and Planning

Report Number: Building & Planning-2022-005

Recommendation:

Please accept the proposed Municipal Dock By-law #2022-14 to provide staff with ability to regulate the use of Municipal public docks, launches and accesses in the City of Dryden.

Background:

The Municipal Act grants municipalities the power to create and enforce by-laws that are deemed necessary to ensure protection of persons and property.

As directed, staff are reviewing existing Municipal Code Sections for removal and update. Through this ongoing review, it was determined that the existing Chapter 257 of the Municipal Code under By-law 2615-98 is outdated and had minimal enforcement or regulatory powers, therefore warranted being modernized.

Discussion:

The Building and Planning department is responsible for by-law enforcement in general.

The Waterfront By-law, Chapter 257, as it exists today, does little to provide information and guidance to the community and to By-law Enforcement staff on how these Municipal facilities are to be utilized. It also does not provide any enforcement measures in which to deal with abandonment or parking concerns as they relate to boats, trailers, ice shacks or vehicles.

A comparison of by-laws in 5 separate communities who regulate dock, launch and access points were consulted to create this by-law. All were fairly consistent in their approach and only varied for unique circumstances within their respective Municipality.

The proposed by-law does not restrict the use of the dock in any unreasonable way. It underscores the responsibility of the owners or operators of boats, trailers, vehicles, material, and ice shacks to manage their possessions accordingly and in a timely manner.

The by-law does not restrict use of the dock facilities such as Skene Landing for longer term parking of boats but, does restrict all facilities from parking or docking for longer than 13 hours to keep clear the docks, launches and accesses for all users. This timeframe is in consideration of the current usage of Skene Landing for parking of boats to accommodate work shifts in the municipality.

This proposed by-law has been revised but has purposely been kept simple in its regulations as no major on-going issues have arisen to date to require stricter measures.

Financial Implications:

There are no immediate or long-term financial implications or major additional revenue associated with adopting this by-law as currently the docks, launches and accesses are generally not problematic.

Current Budget Allocation:

Account #:

Attachments (Reference Material):

Municipal Code Chapter 257 enacted under By-law # 2615-98 Proposed New Dock By-law