

**TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON
PROPERTY STANDARDS APPEAL COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 21, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Members Present

Mayor Darren White – Acting as Chair of this meeting due to Deputy Mayor McLean attending virtually
Deputy Mayor James McLean (Virtual)
Councillor Ralph Moore (Virtual)
Councillor Bill Neilson
Councillor Ruth Plowright

Staff Present

Denise B. Holmes, CAO/Clerk
Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk
Chris Johnston, By-law Enforcement and Property Standards Officer

Appellant Present

Jagmeet Singh Swagh
Paramjit Swagh

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair White. Chair White advised that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted on the Township website within five business days.

Land Acknowledgement Statement

Chair White shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

Chair White advised that disclosure of pecuniary interest can be declared at this time or anytime throughout the meeting by giving the general nature thereof and that declarations must be submitted to the Clerk in writing. There were no declarations declared.

Approval of Draft Minutes – August 10, 2023

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson that the Property Standards Appeal Committee approve the minutes of the Hearing on August 10, 2023 as circulated. Carried.

Hearing Matter

Chair White advised that the purpose of the meeting today was to deal with the appeal of Sukhwinder Sidhu, Jagmeet Swagh, Paramjit Swagh and Makhan Sidhu on the Order to Comply for Violation located at 476145 3rd Line, issued by the By-law Enforcement and Property Standards Officer, Chris Johnston on October 9, 2024.

Chair White called upon the Township's By-law Enforcement Officer, Chris Johnston to present his evidence. The Clerk administered the Oath. Mr. Chris Johnston identified

himself as Chris Johnston and provided the background details relating to the Order to Comply issued on October 9, 2024. Mr. Johnston also provided a synopsis of events. The Appellants were asked by Chair White if there were any questions regarding Mr. Johnston's evidence. There were no questions.

The Appellants were asked to provide their evidence. The Clerk administered the Oath. The appellant identified himself as Jagmeet Singh Swagh. Mr. Swagh advised the Committee that he owned the trailers but needed them there to start his agricultural business next Spring. He plans to grow vegetables on the property in the Spring, and it will be a hobby farm. He has parked them there because in the winter he can't start his operation. There is no shelter or barn on the property, so he needs the trailers for this purpose. He has three trailers, he will use them for his seeds, fertilizers and his produce.

The Property Standards Appeal Committee took a recess at 7:21 p.m. so they could deliberate the matter. At 7:35 p.m. the Committee reconvened.

Chair White advised that the trailers would have to be removed from the property and explained to the Appellants how the Committee came to their decision. Chair White advised that the Township has been dealing with other property owners bringing in trailers and parking them on their properties, and the Township has made them remove them. The Township also has a matter coming up in Court, and that would affect the case if we allowed the Appellants to keep the trailers. The Appellants were advised to contact Township Staff in the Spring regarding their agricultural storage needs. The Appellants understood. The Committee wanted the trailers removed by December 20, 2024 but the Appellants asked that it be extended to January to find another location to take them to. The Committee agreed to the first Friday in January, 2025.

The decision of the Property Standards Appeal Committee is:

1. Uphold the Property Standards Order issued on October 9, 2024.
2. Amend the date to bring the property into a condition of compliance in accordance with the Order issued on October 9, 2024 to Friday, January 3, 2025.

Chair White advised that the Notice of Decision will be sent to the Appellants within five business days and that it would be sent by email due to the postal strike.

Adjournment

Moved by Plowright, Seconded by Neilson that the Property Standards Appeal Committee adjourn this meeting at 7:45 p.m. Carried.