



STAFF REPORT

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Brad Haines – By-law & Property Standards Enforcement Officer

Meeting Date: May 27, 2025

Report Number: 2025-088

Subject: By-law Enforcement Status Update – April 2025

Recommendation

THAT Council receives Report – By-Law Enforcement Status Update – April 2025, for information purposes.

Executive Summary

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the current status of the By-law Enforcement Department, enforcement/prosecution activities, upcoming training, equipment use and upcoming / ongoing projects.

Key Findings

This report will focus on:

- Parking Enforcement and Statistics
- Recent Complaints & Inquiries
- Canine Control
- Equipment Use / Upgrades

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications to this report.

Report

Background

To provide Council with an update of the By-law and Property Standards Enforcement activities for the month of April 2025.

Discussion

Parking Enforcement

The winter parking regulations ended on April 15th, allowing overnight street parking (2am – 7am) until November 15th. By-law Enforcement has continued with proactive parking patrols, patrolling multiple times per shift, issuing parking infractions proactively, in addition to reactive patrols upon receiving any complaints from the public which have become more frequent.

Ongoing coordination with Public Works and other Town staff, has ensured prompt response to both proactive and reactive enforcement. By-law Enforcement has continued to receive parking inquiries and addressing them as received and providing public education when warranted. An ongoing effort of sporadic early morning / overnight parking has continued to help keep parking regulations consistent.

Stats - Parking Enforcement – April 2025:

- Total Infraction notices issued = 13
- Total Notices paid = 12
- Impending Conviction Notices sent = 11
- Sent for Conviction to POA-Caledon = 9
- Vehicles Towed = 0

Recent Complaints and Inquiries

A complaint that was recently brought to By-law Enforcements attention was an abandoned trailer / mobile home that had been on a vacant lot without any ongoing construction or prospected construction. As per the Town's Zoning By-law (Sections 3.23 - Recreational Vehicles and Equipment and section 5.2.2 - Permitted Uses) of the zoning by-law do not allow for a mobile home / recreational vehicle to be used as a permanent or primary residence unless being used temporarily while construction of a permanent new home is taking place. The

property owner was issued an infraction letter and they agreed to have the trailer / mobile home removed by the given date to come into compliance with the zoning by-law.

With the recent spring weather, an influx of property standards and clean yards complaints have begun to be filed more frequently. By-law Enforcement has reminded residents to attempt to rectify problems with their neighbours directly first, before submitting a complaint with the Town as it keeps neighbours on good terms before escalating conflict unnecessarily.

With the severe winter that took place this year, there was a large amount of trees and branches that were knocked down throughout the municipality. An inquiry from a resident was received, regarding large tree branches that broke falling from a neighboring property. The resident asked if they were able to remove the broken branches from their property or if the neighbour was liable. The resident was told that anything on or over the property line could be disposed of. However, if there was damage to a building or vehicle, the neighbor who owns the tree could be liable.

By-law Enforcement and Public Works have started seeing small illegal dumping sites throughout the municipality, specifically in the rural areas. Unfortunately, this is something that many rural municipalities are having to deal with. Public Works staff will advise By-law Enforcement upon coming across a dumping site, allowing By-law Enforcement to document and investigate the scene. From an enforcement standpoint, this is very hard to enforce as you either have to catch them in the act, or hope that some evidence was left behind, allowing the garbage and debris to be tracked back to its owners. In instances where evidence is left behind, the clean yards by-law can be used as the enforcement legislation, or a call goes to the OPP for assistance depending on what was dumped.

Canine Control

With the existing contract for canine control services coming to an end, By-law Enforcement is working with the CAO and Deputy Clerk to complete an updated contract that will fulfill the needs of Grand Valley going forward. Once a Canine Control Services contractor is selected, By-law Enforcement will request feedback from the chosen service provider on a draft revision to the Town's by-law before bringing the final By-Law to Council for passing.

Upon Council's direction, By-law Enforcement is working with other Town employees to complete the count of dogs in Grand Valley. An updated brochure has been created to distribute during the Count, and a property directory will be used to document dogs. The Count will take place the week of May 26 to meet Council's June 1 deadline.

Equipment Use / Upgrades

By-law Enforcement is working to be as efficient as possible by installing a workstation in the by-law enforcement vehicle, similar to the workstation in Public Works vehicles. The Town had a Google Chromebook not in use, so the only associated cost is for the vehicle laptop mount and car power inverter. Mobile internet will be provided through the By-law Enforcement Duty phone as an internet hot spot. Mobile workstations are a common practice among all types of law enforcement and emergency services.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications to this report.

Consultations

None

Attachments

None

This report was submitted by

Brad Haines – By-law & Property Standards Enforcement Officer.

This report was approved by

Meghan Townsend
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk
519-928-5652 extension 222