



STAFF REPORT

TO: Members of Shelburne Municipal Council

FROM: Darrell Locke, By Law Enforcement Officer

APPROVED BY: **Marcia d'Eon, Director of Operations & Protective Services**

DATE: February 5, 2024

SUBJECT: Bylaw Enforcement Report

PURPOSE

To provide an update on the By Law Enforcement Officer activities within the Municipality.

FOR DISCUSSION:

DOG BY LAW COMPLAINTS

There have been dog complaints, mostly dogs at large. The dog by law was amended in 2020 we have been attempting to have offences scheduled with the Nova Scotia Department of Justice to allow for monetary penalties (fines) for offending dog owners. Several contacts have been made with the Municipal lawyer and he reports that the hold-up is with the province.

1. July 3, 2023, complaint that a dog left the property of the owner, ran into the roadway and engaged with a dog that was on a leash and being walked on the roadway. A male intervened and was bitten on the finger.
2. August 24, 2023 and ongoing, report of a dog at large in Sandy Point getting into the garbage, being on neighbors' property. Attended and provided education regarding the requirement to keep the dog on the property of the owner. Limited success.
3. December 21, 2022, complaint of dogs at large. Attended at 585 MacLeans Lake Road. This issue is slowly being resolved with the assistance of partner agencies. Many hours consumed dealing with this file.
4. Ongoing file relating to barking dog complaints from Shore Road. No recent complaints, this file is also being resolved with the assistance of partner agencies. Many hours consumed dealing with this file.
5. January 31, 2024, complaint from Canada Hill regarding a resident allowing her dog to walk on a neighboring property. This is more of a property line dispute between neighbors than a dog complaint.

SOLID WASTE BY LAW

Solid waste complaints have levelled off with a couple of open files currently.

1. October 13, 2023, complaint of possible illegal burning on Woodlawn Drive. Attended at 601 Woodlawn Drive. Evidence that solid waste was being disposed of by burning, provided education.
2. December 12, 2023. Complaint of burning and burying of solid waste. Took photographs of the area, contacted property owner, provided education.

DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY

1. The structure located at 4619 Hwy. 103, Jordan Falls was demolished, and site remediation was completed on November 28, 2023. This file was concluded on December 11, 2023.
2. The structure located at 4625 Hwy. 103, Jordan Falls was removed. The property owner refused registered mail that was sent as a result of his appearance at Council, he was subsequently personally served with the documentation on October 4, 2023. To date there has been no contact from the property owner. The work on the property has not been completed to the satisfaction of the administrator, awaiting further instruction from Council.
3. Conducted preliminary discussions with the Director of Finance, Director of Operations and Protective Services and the Municipal Lawyer regarding potential properties when funding becomes available in this year's budget.
4. Additional properties that require attention are:
 - 4625 Hwy. 103 Jordan Falls
 - 13 Hemeon Lane, Sandy Point
 - 56 Shore Road, Birchtown
 - 20 Jordan Branch Road, Jordan Falls
 - 5202 Shore Road, Northeast Hbr. (Old Church)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

I was provided with the tax sale notices in November and located the listed properties and either personally served a registered property owner or posted a copy of the tax sale notice on the property. There were three or four properties, either islands or very remote locations that I was not able to access. This took the month of November.

Responding to tenant complaints, standing in for staff that are away, building maintenance, sourcing, and picking up supplies and equipment. Recreation and Parks responsibilities are heavy in the months between May and October with weekly waste removal and site inspection of the interpretive sites and two beaches all year round. Major work at Welkum Park this year required considerable time commitment. Fire Extinguisher and Emergency Light inspections are done monthly at all properties operated by the Municipality. And anything Managers and other Staff require.