

Report to COW – Departmental Update

Re: Noise By-law and Dogs Building Department-2025-10

From: Don Helleman Date: June 18, 2025

On April 16, 2025 the Committee passed Resolution 0024-2025 which directed Staff to review the Township's Noise By-law in relation to barking dogs and research how similar issues are addressed in other municipalities.

Staff have reviewed numerous by-laws related to barking dogs/noise within other Municipalities with the County. Staff offer the following information:

- Other Townships do not differentiate between urban and rural areas while addressing/enforcing Noise By-law complaints pertaining to barking/howling dogs
- Furthermore, unlike Douro-Dummer, Noise By-laws from other Townships in the County do not differentiate between pet dogs and livestock guardian dogs
- Noise By-law from the Township of Asphodel-Norwood categorizes persistent barking/howling by dogs as "unnecessary prohibited noise", irrespective of time of day
- Noise By-laws from the Townships of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen, Cavan-Monaghan and Selwyn state that the sound originating from animal/bird that disturbs the peace/repose of a person in another dwelling unit is considered to be prohibited or disturbing noises.

Municipalities within the County all seem to enforce against the persistent barking of dogs as a nuisance and do not offer relief from their by-laws for such issues.

Staff are not recommending any changes to the current By-law or enforcement procedures.



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Report Approval Details

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This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Martina Chait-Hartwig

Todd Davis