THE AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 13-002 AND RECOMMENDS:

1. Bill C-322 An Act to amend the Health of Animals Act and the Meat Inspection Act (slaughter of horses for human consumption) (Item 5.9)

That Bill C-322 An Act to amend the Health of Animals Act and the Meat Inspection Act (slaughter of horses for human consumption), not be supported.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF COMMITTEE:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)

1. ADDED DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.11 Farmers Market Policy in the Urban Area

The agenda was approved, as amended.
(b) APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Item 3)

(i) March 25, 2013 (Item 3.1)

The minutes of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee of March 25, 2013, was approved as presented.

(ii) May 13, 2013

The minutes of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee of May 13, 2013, was approved as presented.

(c) DELEGATION REQUESTS/PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS

(i) Delegation by Mike Wilson representing the Hamilton All Terrain Vehicles Riders, to address the issues of trespassing and property destruction in rural Hamilton (Item 4.1)

Mr. Wilson spoke to the Committee and indicated that the Hamilton All Terrain Vehicles Riders are under the Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicles. He indicated that the organization works with land owners and holds insurance for riders on these trails.

The delegation by Mike Wilson representing the Hamilton All Terrain Vehicles Riders, to address the issues of trespassing and property destruction in rural Hamilton, was received.

(d) DISCUSSION (Item 5)

(i) New Urban Woodland Conservation By-law (no copy) (Item 5.1)

Catherine Plosz, Natural Heritage Planner gave a brief overview of the New Urban Woodland Conservation By-law, she indicated that this By-law should not affect the rural area, but was interested in any comments that the Committee had.

The discussion respecting the New Urban Woodland Conservation By-law, was received.
(ii) A Food Charter for Hamilton (Item 5.2)

The item respecting A Food Charter for Hamilton was deferred to the next Committee meeting.

(iii) Road Salt Usage in the Rural Area (no copy) (Item 5.3)

The item respecting Road Salt Usage in the Rural Area was deferred to the next Committee meeting.

(iv) Culverts and Rural Road Drainage (no copy) (Item 5.4)

The item respecting Culverts and Rural Road Drainage was deferred to the next Committee meeting.

(v) Proposed Amendment to the Rural Hamilton Official Plan (Item 5.5)

Joanne Hickey-Evans, Manager, Planning Policy and Zoning By-Law Reform, provided the Committee with a brief overview of the proposed amendments to the Rural Hamilton Official Plan. The Committee discuss the amendments and provided feedback.

The item respecting the Proposed Amendment to the Rural Hamilton Official Plan, was received.

(vi) Rural Grass Cutting By-law (no copy) (Item 5.6)

Councillor Johnson indicated that she has been working with staff on a By-law to require the cutting of grass both near any house on a rural property and on areas abutting property lines. The proposed By-law would be exempt to farmer though.

The item respecting the Rural Grass Cutting By-law, was received.

(vii) Ministry of Agriculture and Food – Rural Connections Broadband Program (Item 5.7)

Councillor Pasuta spoke to the Rural Connections Broadband Program offered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and indicated that there
may be an opportunity for the City to explore funding options for internet access in the rural area.

Staff were directed to investigate and report back on funding opportunities available from both the Federal and Provincial governments with respect to rural internet connection programs.

(viii) Correspondence from the Municipality of Kincardine, respecting Off Road Vehicles on Highways (referred from Council on May 8, 2013) (Item 5.8)

The Correspondence from the Municipality of Kincardine, respecting Off Road Vehicles on Highways, was received.

(ix) Amendments to Site Plan Control By-law (Item 5.10)

The update respecting the Amendments to the Site Plan control By-law was received.

(x) Farmers Market Policy in the Urban Area (Item 5.11)

The item respecting a Farmers Market Policy in the Urban Area, was received.

(e) ADJOURNMENT (Item 6)

The Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee adjourned at 9:25 p.m.