

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

SPECIAL COUNCIL ADDENDUM

Wednesday, June 17, 2015
9:00 AM

16. COMMUNICATIONS

16.2 Disposition/Proclamations

16.2.10 Toronto Sun article entitled 'Hamilton Loses Super Mailboxes Fight with Canada Post', dated June 11, 2015

21. CLOSED SESSION

21.1 Motion to move into closed session of Council

II) **PERSONAL MATTER ABOUT AN IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUAL, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL OR LOCAL BOARD EMPLOYEES - SECTION 239 (2) (b), MA**

- Confidential comments regarding employee personnel matter

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Hamilton loses super mailboxes fight with Canada Post

BY SHAWN JEFFORDS, TORONTO SUN

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A Canada Post community mailbox. (Ian Kucerak/Postmedia Network files)

Canada Post's authority to place its controversial community mailboxes free of regulation by the City of Hamilton was upheld by a court ruling Thursday afternoon.

The decision comes in response to Hamilton's attempt to control placement of the new "super mailboxes" being installed as the Crown corporation attempts to cut costs by removing door-to-door delivery.

Hamilton Councillor Terry Whitehead said he was "very disappointed" and would like to see an appeal of the ruling.

Whitehead said the decision by Superior Court Justice Alan Whitten leaves the city at the mercy of Canada Post when it comes to placement of the so-called super mailboxes.

"We are basically relying on the benevolence of Canada Post to not remove trees or place these mailboxes in the middle of driveways," Whitehead said.

Communities across the country are watching the case and have already reached out to offer encouragement, he said.

"Our legal team will assess the decision and offer thoughts on our options ... certainly (an appeal) is one of them."

Whitehead said it will be up to his council colleagues to make that call.

Hamilton's bylaw would have forced Canada Post to apply for a permit to place a community mailbox, pay a \$200 fee per box and be subject to a number of approvals from city bureaucrats.

Canada Post said in a statement it was pleased with the decision to uphold its "legal authority to install community mailboxes on municipally owned property."

"This is a long-standing authority, but not one we take for granted," Canada Post said following the ruling. "Our approach in every community is to work collaboratively with the municipality and the homeowners to find suitable locations."

Canada Post said installation of the new mailboxes will be completed soon and 36,000 households will be converted from door-to-door service this summer.

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