



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Naming of Proposed Private Lane at 2, 4, 6 Basswood Road, 61, 65, 69 and 71 Churchill Avenue

Date:	May 6, 2011
To:	North York Community Council
From:	City Surveyor
Wards:	Ward 23
Reference Number:	P:\2011\Cluster B\TEC\NY11025

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which the community council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This report recommends that the proposed private lane at the residential development at 2, 4, 6 Basswood Road, 61, 65, 69 and 71 Churchill Avenue be named “Johnson Farm Lane”. Naming the lane will facilitate the identification of the units fronting thereon.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Surveyor recommends that:

1. the proposed private lane at 2, 4, 6 Basswood Road, 61, 65, 69 and 71 Churchill Avenue be named “Johnson Farm Lane”;
2. Somerset Lane Estates Inc. pays the costs, estimated to be in the amount of \$600.00, for the fabrication and installation of street name signs;
3. the owners of the proposed private lane or their successors shall maintain, at their own risk, the signage installed under Recommendation (2) of this staff report; and
4. the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto, including the introduction of a naming by-law.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report. The estimated cost of \$600.00 for the street name signs is to be paid by the applicant.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In 2007, a request from The Hallstone Group of Companies was made to name the lane at the residential development at 2, 4, 6 Basswood Road, 61, 65, 69 and 71 Churchill Avenue, as shown on Attachment No. 1. Naming the lane will facilitate the identification of the units fronting thereon. The developer of the site is now Somerset Lane Estates Inc. (Suite 214 – 1 Yorkdale Road, Toronto, ON M6A 3A1).

City Council at its meeting of August 25, 26 and 27, 2010, had before it Item NY25.1 - Draft By-law - Naming of the proposed private lane at 2, 4, 6 Basswood Road and 61, 65, 69 and 71 Churchill Avenue as "OMB Folly", and adopted the following:

1. City Council strike out the name "OMB Folly".
2. City Council refer this Item back to the North York Community Council to select a name following consultation with the purchasers of the new townhouses.

Additional information on this matter can be found in the following reports:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ny/bgrd/backgroundfile-15696.pdf>

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2010/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-33270.pdf>

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2010/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-33271.pdf>

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2010/cc/minutes/2010-08-25-cc52-mn.htm>

COMMENTS

The name "Johnson Farm Lane" was recommended by the North York Preservation Panel to honour one of the early settler families in the area. The name conforms to the criteria for name selection, as set out in City Council's street naming policy – "to commemorate local history, places, events or culture" approved by City Council at its meeting held on August 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2000 (Clause 9, Report 15 of the Works Committee). Additional information about the Johnson Farm is outlined in Attachment No. 2.

Barry Waltman, President, Somerset Lane Estates Inc. has notified the purchasers of the 30 units fronting the proposed private road, advising them that City of Toronto staff have recommended that this road be named Johnson Farm Lane and that Somerset supports this proposed name. Somerset invited comment from each of the purchasers so notified. Each purchaser was provided with the historical background behind the selection of the proposed name. Of the 30 purchasers notified of the proposed name, 24 have responded in writing; 22 indicated their support for the proposed name Johnson Farm Lane; and 2 did not support the use of this name. There was no response from the remaining 6 purchasers.

The proposed name "Johnson Farm Lane" has also been circulated for comment and is acceptable to Somerset Lane Estates Inc., a majority of the home purchasers, Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services.

Notices to name the lane, under the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, will be given in accordance with the notice requirement set out in Chapter 162-3A of the City of Toronto Municipal Code.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

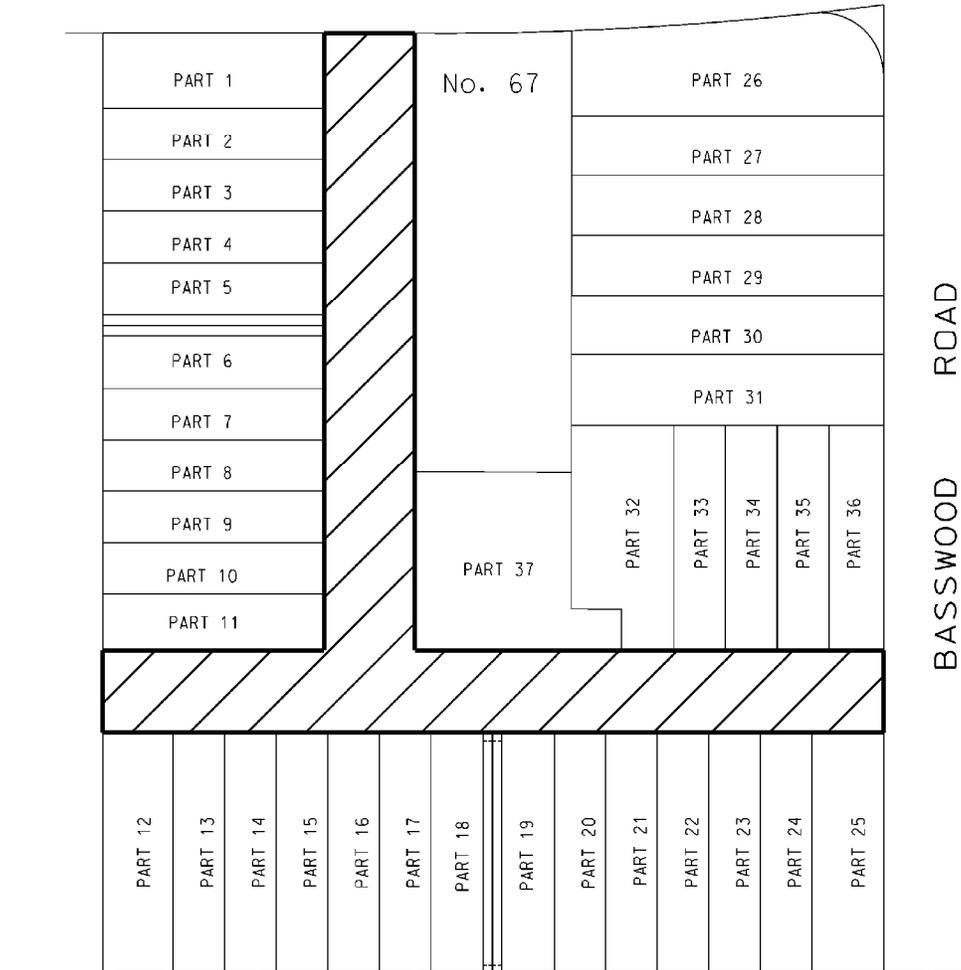
W. Kowalenko, City Surveyor

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 – Map

Attachment No. 2 – Johnson History

CHURCHILL AVENUE



BASSWOOD ROAD



PROPOSED PRIVATE LANE TO BE NAMED JOHNSON FARM LANE



CITY OF TORONTO
SURVEY AND MAPPING SERVICES
WARD 23 MARCH 30, 2011
MAP: 50P-23 JOHNSON.DGN
FILE: 1902.22.23 DRAWN: B. HALL

Attachment No. 2

Lawrence Johnson and his four sons, Abraham, Joseph, Nicholas and Thomas, settled in Willow Dale in 1797, just north of the Cummer family, on land on both the east and west sides of Yonge Street. Through the generations, the family was very active in the community. In 1834, the family donated a half-acre of Lawrence Johnson's former land for a cemetery, adjoining the half-acre of land that Jacob Cummer had donated for a Methodist Meeting House. Part of that cemetery still remains.

Abraham I was Overseer of Highways and Fence Inspector. His son, Abraham II was secretary of the Temperance Society, collector, assessor, and Justice of the Peace. The first school in the area was built on land purchased from the Johnson family. The brick home built to replace the original log cabin was expanded and in 1920, the Canadian Red Cross opened it as a shelter for children. In subsequent years it was used by the York County Children's Aid Society, and then by the Children's Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto, before being demolished in 1993.