

Township Council states quarry position

ROCKWOOD, Ontario, October 7, 2015: Guelph/Eramosa Township's Council has voted unanimously to advise the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) that Council opposes the approval of the application for the "Hidden Quarry," as appealed to the OMB. Council continues to have serious concerns with the unresolved issues and impacts arising from the proposed quarry and is requesting that the OMB not approve the proposed quarry unless these outstanding concerns are addressed to the satisfaction of the Township.

The application is now before the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) for a final decision on the zoning by-law and extraction license referral following an appeal being filed by the applicant, James Dick Construction Ltd. The OMB is an administrative tribunal that conducts hearings and makes decisions that have been appealed under certain provincial legislation.

"In its current form, the application does not clearly establish how this aggregate operation will guarantee the safety, health and local economy of our community," says Mayor Chris White. "There has been very little demonstrated benefit to our Township."

The Ontario Municipal Board has scheduled a pre-hearing conference for November 9, 2015. The Township's solicitors will attend the pre-hearing and advise the Board of the Township's position. The purpose of the pre-hearing conference is for the Board to understand the parties and participants interested in taking part in the hearing, and to set dates for a hearing and the exchange of issues and evidence. The Board will not be hearing evidence at the pre-hearing conference.

"Our residents have expressed a number of concerns related to the proposed quarry," says the Mayor. "While some were addressed in technical assessments, a number still remain unresolved in our opinion, or have not been resolved to our satisfaction. In light of this, we are requesting that the Ontario Municipal Board not approve the application in its current state."

Residents and other concerned parties wishing to take part in the OMB hearing or ask questions about the hearing should contact OMB at www.omb.gov.on.ca or call 1-866-448-2248.

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For additional information:

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