Joint Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2018
BETWEEN
THE TOWNSHIP OF PLUMMER ADDITIONAL
AND THE TOWN OF BRUCE MINES
At THE BRUCE MINES COMMUNITY HALL

Present:
Township: Mayor Beth West, Councillors Mike Jones, Carl MacKenzie,
Staff: Clerk~ Vicky Goertzen-Cooke Absent: Boris Koehler, Tasha Strum
Town: Mayor Lory Patteri, Councillors: Richard O’Hara, Mariella Morin, Jody Orto
Staff: Clerk~ Donna Brunke Absent: Howie Bowes
Presenter: Craig Bellinger (Ontario Trap Rock)
Legal: Tim Harmer (Wishart Law Firm)
Observers: per sign in sheet

1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.
Mayor L. Patteri opened the meeting, noted that we are in the preliminary stages; collecting information/gathering public input; she turned the floor over to Craig Bellinger for his presentation
2. Delegation:
   Craig Bellinger, Ontario Trap Rock (OTR); regarding the proposed closure of Trunk Road from the Bruce Mines Cemetery to Jeffery Road; approximately 2.6 km in length.
   - OTR owns property on the north and south side of Trunk Road; looking to expand operations at some point in the future to the north side of Trunk Road; will not be doing it for a while; north side is not licensed yet (an application to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) for licensing would be required as well as further studies/testing).
   - Right now OTR has to stay within a 30 metre setback from the roadway (both sides); their license is to go to the depth of a 50 metre floor.
   - Proposing to close Trunk Road from the Bruce Mines Cemetery to Jeffery Rd; incorporate this into the extraction plan; would extend the life of the quarry by approximately 35 years.
   - The Ontario Aggregate Resources Corporation (TORAC) fees are around 19 cents and going up to 24 cents per tonne; this gets paid to the Government who in turn pays a portion of that fee to the Municipalities to help cover road usage costs.
   - Studies are required to see if this is suitable for extraction
   - Municipalities will benefit; continued employment for local staff; see a cost saving in Road Maintenance (if closing this portion of Trunk Road).

Mayor L. Patteri opened the meeting to the floor for public input questions/concerns
   - Public noted the following concerns:
     o Expressed concern that no notice was sent out about this meeting to Plummer Twsp Ratepayers; why was it not mailed out directly to the ratepayers?
       Clerk: the notice was emailed out to people on the Twsp Contact list, and we put it in the Sentinel two times.
       A notice will be sent out by mail with an opportunity for people to comment or note their concerns.
     o Blasting/noise:
       - level of blasting is too strong/big; request that the level is lowered
         o a determined amount of holes are drilled in a pattern; the energy in the blast is to break the rock into small pieces; when the blast is not done properly it breaks into big chunks; the blast starts on the outside wall and it goes further back by rows; you will get the vibration when it’s perpendicular to the blast; the sound is from the pressure during the blast;
         OTR has had discussions with their Blasting Company regarding the complaints; they have a two year contract with OTR; it is understood to be complete this year; OTR may be re-tendering it out.
     - house vibrations, things fall off the walls; window seals breaking during blasting
       OTR can send a specialist to your house for an inspection
• Ratepayer indicated that he has done blasting but never worked with a seismograph before; noted his concerns about OTR potentially manipulating the data provided by the blasting monitors; i.e. “you are getting a different reading by placing it in gravel vs. rock;”
  • It was noted by C. Bellinger, that if you are not an expert you shouldn’t say so; Blasting has to be compliant; designed by Engineers; the MOE regulates the pressure and velocity of blasts; any complaints received go to the MOE with the blasting records; noted that when it’s cloudy the vibration is greater as it doesn’t dissipates as much.

• back up beepers going all night; crusher noises too loud, loss of sleep affecting health
  • Ratepayers advised to contact the local OTR Operations Manager to complain about the beeping; they may have alternatives.

• Who owns the road? Would like to see a map of who owns what? Are you selling it or giving it away?
  • Legal is checking into ownership, surface and subsurface rights.
  • Negotiations for disposal have not been decided upon; Town/Twsp/OTR are at the preliminary stages of gathering input/information.

• Closing Trunk Road cuts off an emergency exit out of the Twsp (i.e. Cloudslee road - during the flood of 2013); why would you close this road; it won’t gain us anything?
  • Cloudslee to Jeffery to Trunk to Hwy 17 to remain open.
  • The portion being closed is from Jeffery to the Bruce Mines Cemetery; no houses on this portion; OTR owns both sides of the road.
  • The rainstorm/flooding of 2013 was considered a 100 year flood.
  • Low volume use road; less than 10 vehicles a day.
  • Road needs gravel, ditching, brushing, grading, snow removal; if this section was closed would save the ratepayers some money.
  • No one lives on this portion; OTR owns both sides of the road in the area proposed to be closed.

  • If/when OTR extracts from the North side of Trunk Road the Twsp will benefit financially; Town of Bruce Mines cited $50,000 - $70,000 in revenues from Aggregate Resources.

• Ratepayer cited that he previously lived in Timmins; never heard them blasting;
  • C. Bellinger noted that is a different mining process.

• If that section of Trunk Rd is closed; what road are the trucks hauling on (to get to the boats)?
  • Suggested Hwy 17 – it is undetermined at this point.

• If this section closes what are the cost savings to the ratepayers?
  • Preliminary discussions; no amounts factored in yet

• There was a Hwy 17 4-lane by-pass proposed years ago by MTO in the Trunk Road area; what will happen to that?
  • MTO will have to deal with the owner of the property (as they would with any project) if that time ever comes.

Mayor L. Patteri invited the public to submit any additional questions/comments/concerns to their respective municipalities on Sept. 21st, 2018.

3. Adjourn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourns the Joint Meeting at 8:16 pm to meet again on September 19th for the regular Council meeting in the Twsp Council Chambers, or at the call of the Mayor. CARRIED