

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:
 - 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.*
- Blasting/noise:
 - level of blasting is too strong/big; request that the level is lowered
 - *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

Resln 2018-188

Carl MacKenzie

Mike Jones

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**