

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon held a Special Council meeting on the 26th day of March, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to review the Decision from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing with respect to an Official Plan, Subsection 17(34) of the Planning Act (Township of Melancthon Official Plan). Mayor D. White (arrived at 5:30 p.m.), Deputy Mayor J. Elliott, Councillor D. Besley, Councillor W. Hannon (left meeting at 5:50 p.m. to attend an outside Board meeting that had been previously scheduled) and Councillor J. Webster were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk, Wendy Atkinson, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk and Jerry Jorden, Township Planner were also present. In the absence of Mayor White, Deputy Elliott presided and called the meeting to order. Deputy Mayor Elliott turned the meeting over to Jerry Jorden, Township Planner.

Discussion ensued regarding the various modifications by the Ministry to the Township Official Plan. Mr. Jorden provided the background information on the preparation of the draft new Official Plan to the new Council members. The main areas of concern are the removal of the Township's vulnerability mapping and the removal of the policy pertaining to below the water table aggregate extraction. Mr. Jorden laid out Councils options: 1. accept it and try and work out our concerns for the 5-year review; 2. appeal it and try working it out with the Ministry before going to an OMB Hearing. If the Township appeals the modifications, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Aggregate Industry will be at the OMB with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Mr. Jorden advised that he could speak to the Ministry to see if they would welcome a friendly appeal or clarification appeal and we could try and get the vulnerability mapping back in. The Ministry took the Township's mapping out and used the mapping in the County of Dufferin's new Official Plan because the Township has to conform to the County plan. The County obtained their mapping from the two assessment reports for the two source water protection plans and they incorporated that mapping into their Plan.

Mr. Jorden is inclined not to appeal but to immediately start an open dialogue with the Ministry. The Township could do an Official Plan Amendment in the near future, that would bring some of the items removed back into the Plan and fine tune things. Council felt that at the moment, this would be the way to go. Mr. Jorden will speak to the Ministry on the two issues of concern – vulnerability mapping and the below the water table reference. He will try and get the mapping in or try to get a non-decision on the mapping. A non-decision means the mapping would still be in the Plan but is not approved. A non-decision gives the municipality more flexibility.

If the municipality decides to go ahead with an appeal after Mr. Jorden speaks to the Ministry, the deadline is April 2nd and a resolution authorizing the appeal must be passed. The sections not appealed by the Township will be approved as of April 3rd, 2015. If the Township is to appeal, the earliest might be 3 to 4 months for a hearing.

Adjournment

6:45 p.m. Moved by Besley, Seconded by Elliott that we adjourn this Special Meeting of Council. Carried.

MAYOR

CLERK