

COUNCIL IN BRIEF

Thursday, January 10, 2013

UPDATE ON REQUEST FOR EASEMENT ALONG FORMER RAIL CORRIDOR

Council received an update from the Chief Administrative Officer on the request by Dufferin Wind Power to install a 230 kV transmission line along the County-owned former rail corridor.

The proposed project and transmission line would run from Melancthon through a private easement, along the rail corridor in Shelburne, and Amaranth to an existing transformer station in Orangeville.

Highlights of the update are as follows:

- The Ministry of the Environment deemed the application by Dufferin Wind Power for Renewable Energy Approval (REA) to be complete on December 27.
- The deadline for comments to the MOE is February 10, 2013. Staff will continue working with the MMM consultants over the next month to identify concerns as they pertain to the rail corridor and potential future uses as well as to identify comments raised from residents that may need further clarification.
- A final report regarding outstanding issues and concerns will be distributed to Council prior to submitting comments to the MOE.
- In addition to the REA process, DWPI submitted a leave to construct application for the transmission line to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). The County of Dufferin received notice of this application on October 23, 2012. A request for intervenor status was filed on October 26 to ensure participation in the process. Staff in consultation with MMM consultants and the County's legal counsel submitted several questions regarding the application by the January 4, 2013 deadline. The questions focused on the form of the agreement proposed by DWPI, liability and risk issues. The OEB's jurisdiction is very limited by the OEB Act to matters of "price, reliability and quality of service" so some of the issues that are relevant to the County and the community will not be of any real concern to the Board. These matters are to be considered as part of the REA process.
- Staff is continuing to work with the County solicitor to finalize the draft agreement to grant an easement.

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- Council will review the matter on February 7, 2013.

There will be a Public Information session on the request for an easement along the former rail corridor by Dufferin Wind Power Inc. on Thursday, January 31, 2013 at Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex, Shelburne at 7 pm.

FINANCIAL BY-LAWS ENACTED

A number of financial-related by-laws were enacted including the 2013 Budget:

- *Borrowing By-law*
- *Setting of Tax Ratios and Tax Rate Reductions for prescribed property sub-classes*
- *Project Management Agreement with Wellington, Dufferin Guelph Health Unit*
- *Social Housing Management Program*
- *Funding Agreements for the former Shelburne Hospital Housing Project and Museum*

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Community Development Committee – Tuesday, January 22, 7:00 p.m.- 55 Zina Street, Sutton Room, Orangeville

Public Works Committee – Wednesday, January 23, 9:00 a.m., Primrose Operations Yard, Hwy 10

Community Services/Dufferin Oaks Committee-Wednesday, January 24 – 4:00 p.m.- Mel Lloyd Centre, Shelburne

General Government Services – Monday, January 28, 4:45pm, 55 Zina Street, Sutton Room, Orangeville

Public Information session on the request for an easement along the former rail corridor by Dufferin Wind Power Inc. - Thursday January 31, 2013 at Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex, Shelburne at 7:00 pm.

February Council meeting is rescheduled to the 1st Thursday, February 7.

CONTACT

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