

MINUTES
WOODLOT COMMITTEE

April 7, 2009

A meeting was held at the County Building at 9:00 a.m. on the above date.

Present

Chair Wm. Bilton, Warden Jim Burns. Members: B. MacDougall and G. Perry. Also present were Deputy-Secretary-Treasurer T. Dewsbury, Woodlot Inspector C. Nauta.

Absent

None.

Application W-001/09

E & B Johnson Ltd.
5687 Oil Heritage Road
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

The location of the trees that are the subject of this application is Part Lot 15, Con 4, Town of Plympton-Wyoming, municipally known as 5687 Oil Heritage Road. The owners have applied for an exemption from the provisions of By-law 45 of 2003 and By-law 1 of 2008 of the County of Lambton, being "A by-law to prohibit or regulate the destruction or injuring of trees" in respect to a woodlot which is located on the property noted above.

E & B Johnson Ltd., owner of this property, has requested this exemption in order to facilitate the possible removal of sand and gravel. The applicant is requesting the removal of approx. 1.01 ha of trees and is proposing to replant an area of .81 ha.

Attending the meeting were John Moraal a/f the applicant and neighbours Lynn Pillon and Brendan Bain.

J. Moraal outlined the application and stated that the intent is to extract aggregate from this property and this application is the first step in the process. B. Bain inquired into the length of this process and J. Moraal replied that they intend to only open up one acre at a time as this farm is certified organic and due to that reason the extraction will be very sensitive. He estimates the entire time of the process to be approximately five to six years. L. Pillon asked how the aggregate will be used and J. Moraal indicated that it will be for his company's use only, which is Cope Construction, and will not be sold to other parties.

B. Bain asked where the placement of the access was going to be because he has concerns about the noise and dust. J. Moraal stated that it hasn't been determined yet but believes they will probably utilize the existing access. L. Pillon asked about the impact on

wildlife living in the woodlot as she enjoys watching the wildlife from her property and also expressed concern about the loss of the windrow.

C. Nauta stated that the entire woodlot is not going to be affected but only portions at the top and bottom of the woodlot and that the wildlife will migrate to those areas unaffected. She referred to a section in her report that recommends the replanting include a corridor to the woodlot to the south. She feels that this would allow the wildlife to move between woodlots and also help strengthen the windrow. She distributed a copy of her report to L. Pillon and B. Bain. She also stated that this was only the first step in the process of the extraction of aggregate and that before a license would be issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources, an Environmental Impact Assessment would be required. This report will address the concerns of traffic, noise, dust, etc.

Chief Building Official C. Nauta briefly outlined her report and reiterated the conditions required.

Deputy-Secretary-Treasurer T. Dewsbury read the correspondence received from M. Deleersnyder stating his objection to the application. Chair Bilton stated that contrary to what M. Deleersnyder stated, this area is not designated as a Sensitive Natural Area as defined in the County of Lambton Woodlands Conservation By-law 45 of 2003 and By-law 1 of 2008.

B. MacDougall asked the neighbours to show her on the diagram where their driveway is located. She also asked if the Environmental Impact Assessment would cover the neighbours concerns. C. Nauta stated that if the Ministry of Natural Resources refuses to grant an aggregate license, the extraction process would not proceed. If approval is granted to remove the trees committee can ensure that the trees will be replanted even if the process doesn't advance any further.

B. MacDougall stated that she was pleased to hear that the aggregate would be extracted for the applicant's own use and that they are acting in good faith to restore the woodlot. She feels this is good planning on their part.

#1: Burns/Perry: That Land Division Committee make recommendation to County Council that Woodlot Application W-001/09 be approved with the conditions stated in the Woodlot Officer's report dated and that the applicant enter into an agreement with the County of Lambton with the following conditions:

1. A replanting plan be submitted for approval at a 1:1 replant ratio, including indication of size of trees, the location and comments from SCRCA for purposes of re-establishing a corridor to adjacent woodlots.

2. All approved trees permitted to be removed are to be logged, utilized for firewood, chipped and only the remainder be destroyed that cannot be utilized otherwise.
3. Proper permits must be obtained if burning the 'waste' is to occur onsite.
4. Notification must be received by this office 2 working days prior to the commencement of woodlot removal.
5. That the final rehabilitation plan be submitted upon approval to ensure consistencies in replanting are maintained, if applicable.

Carried.

Adjournment

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Time: 9:50 a.m.

Wm Bilton
Chair

Terrie Dewsbury
Deputy-Secretary-Treasurer