



— TOWNSHIP OF —
ASHFIELD-COLBORNE-WAWANOSH

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Council Report

STAFF: Florence Witherspoon, Clerk

DATE: April 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Aggregates in ACW

Recommendation

For your information purposes.

Background

As a follow-up from the previous meeting of Council, staff was requested to provide a report on the three requests submitted by Gina McDonnell during the delegation. As a reference, staff has provided the original presentation material attached to this report. In summary, the requests are as follows:

1. Adopt the WHO standards for ambient air and consider making our Official Plan more robust around water resources, data sharing and transparency.
2. Join 20 other municipalities and sign RGMC's DAMN Campaign.
3. Become a member of TAPMO.

Council further requested an update on the invitation for the Ministry of Natural Resources to attend a Council meeting to make an educational presentation on aggregate management in the province.

Comment

With reference to the above noted requests, staff make the following comments:

1. The World Health Organization's (WHO) global air quality guidelines is a comprehensive document, the link for which is embedded in the presentation document provided by Ms. McDonnell. Staff have provided the Executive Summary as an attachment to this report. Should Council wish to pursue this further, staff could reach out to the Huron County Planning Department to provide comment on the request for how adoption of the WHO guidelines would be implemented from a policy perspective, and what could further be included in the Township's Official Plan to make it more robust around water resources, data sharing and transparency.

2. According to the website, the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition (RGMC) is a group that “represents grassroots community groups engaged in David and Goliath struggles against the corporations, often multinationals, that put profits over people and the environment.” The DAMN Campaign (Demand A Moratorium Now) is an initiative to place a temporary prohibition on new approvals for gravel mining in Ontario. While considering the opportunity to sign, Council should be mindful that the Township is currently working towards an extraction application with the Ministry of Natural Resources for a parcel of land owned by the municipality.

3. The Top Aggregate Producing Municipalities of Ontario (TAPMO) is a group who work with the Ontario Government, municipalities and the aggregate industry “to achieve a collaborative process in terms of the approval and/or expansion of licensed sites, and, in the continued safe, community respectful and environmentally sustainable operation of aggregate production.” Membership fee for ACW is based on a 1.5% of the aggregate levy, which according to Don MacLeod, Executive Director of TAPMO would be \$3,461.27 for a 2025 membership. Meetings are held in person at AMO and ROMA, and other meetings are held quarterly virtually. One member of Council would represent the Township. Should Council be interested, a Council presentation can be requested of TAPMO for a future meeting.

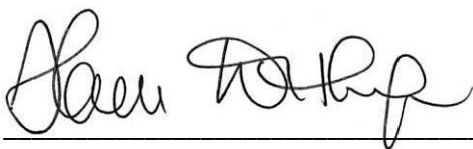
Regarding the request for the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to attend a Council meeting to gain a better understanding of aggregate management in the province, correspondence between staff and the Ministry in December determined that an educational presentation in Closed Session be postponed until the ongoing OLT hearing concerning the appealed extraction Zoning By-Law Amendment has concluded. This recommendation was made to avoid any perceived conflicts.

Others Consulted

Mark Becker, CAO

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:



Florence Witherspoon
Clerk



Mark Becker
Chief Administrative Officer