

Northeast Town supports proposed sewer line easement

By Robin Burridge on September 10, 2014 Local News

Project moves forward without planning board consent

LITTLE CURRENT—The Northeast Town council carried a motion last week stating that it has “no concern with the proposed easement applied (to the Manitoulin Planning Board (MPB)) for by the Kilganan Group Ltd,” for the purpose of a sewer line to service the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) owned Channelview Apartments in Little Current.

“The current system has Channelview pumping up the hill to the sewage line,” explained DSB CAO Fern Dominelli. “The building is having continuous problems and we have employees literally cleaning out the pumping system (in the apartment building) daily. The grinding pumps are not working properly. It (sewage) hasn’t backed up into the apartments yet, but it’s a real possibility if we don’t do something. The new system will be gravity fed and there will be a new grinder going south.”

“We’ve made a deal with a property owner for an easement and tendered the project in the spring,” continued Mr. Dominelli. “C2S Engineering from Sudbury was awarded the tender with the best quote (of \$147,000 plus HST).”

The Northeast Town received a notice of application for consent from the MPB for their consideration on August 18 and reviewed the request at its meeting last Tuesday.

After town CAO Dave Williamson reviewed the application and project with council, Councillor Marcel Gauthier inquired why construction on the project had begun prior to council or the MPB’s consent.

“DSB has assumed the risk if the planning board doesn’t grant easement,” explained Mr. Williamson.

Mr. Williamson also made council aware that the project included a ‘T’ pipe, which would allow for other hookups on the line and recommended that council request a condition be made that no additional hookups on the property would be allowed without council’s consent.

Councillor Michael Erskine asked what effect the new line would have on the lift station by Low Island Park.

Mr. Williamson replied that an engineer had reviewed the request and had no issues or concerns with the station’s ability to handle the additional sewage.

The Northeast Town council carried a motion that was forwarded to the MPB stating that, “The Council of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands has no concern with the proposed easement applied for by Kilganan Group Ltd. on condition that the sewer line be solely used for the purpose of servicing 66 Robinson Street and that the DSB and the landowner enter in to an

agreement with the Town stating that no additional lots are to be serviced with this line without the express written consent of the municipality.”

Mr. Dominelli said that the project is to be completed by the end of September, however the next MPB meeting isn't scheduled until Tuesday, September 30.

“We have received a motion from the Northeast Town council regarding the application for consent,” MPB Secretary-Treasurer Elva Carter told The Expositor on Monday. “They requested a condition that no additional lots are to be serviced with the line without the consent of the municipality. It will most likely be a condition of consent, as the board will normally add the requested condition from the municipality if it seems reasonable.”

As for the construction on the project already commencing, Ms. Carter replied, “the application for consent (for the easement) will be reviewed at the next MPB meeting, but if construction has begun it's all at their own risk as they don't have legal easement.”