

Jack's Recap

Meeting November 30, 2015: Passion

CHRISTIE Marinig of the TEDC presented the item referring to the construction of the base for the Spur line at our new rail park which we have applied for a grant to cover the \$344k cost. It seems we have to rush this decision because Calabrian would like the base laid down ASAP making this project time sensitive, so that they are not trudging through muddy terrain next spring. I would expect that council would quickly approve this after all there are 20 jobs at stake here. Here we go again are we performing our due diligence with this project? why must we always hurry to accommodate? Does anyone out there recall Lake Welin? If there was ever a time when outside expertise was required to help us with this project it certainly is here. I must editorialize on this a bit, when councillor Campbell asked Ms. Marinig if all the environmental studies have been completed she replied that all the usual protocols were being followed. Councillor Campbell stated that he was familiar with sulphur dioxide and it's negative effects. Ms. Marinig responded stating that SO₂ gas produced as a by product is not the same as SO₂ gas produced in this plant and that all EPA and safety. standards will be met. She went on to state that Calabrian as a company has an excellent safety record. As councillor Campbell eluded to so must I, SO₂ gas was a by product of smelting copper concentrate. Very stringent emission standards were set for the Kidd operation, and they spent millions erecting tall stacks yet in the early 1990's a massive emission occurred causing tons of SO₂ gas to be vented to the outside of the Smelter complex. In the matter of hours orange work trucks were transformed to a bright yellow. After a full evacuation of the complex, full face respirators were mandated to all who worked that night whether inside or out. The Kidd operations openly disclosed this accidental massive emission and was never the less levied a huge fine by the EPA a fine if my memory serves in the amount of well over six figures. So councillor Campbell is perfectly right to be concerned about this new plant and it is disingenuous for someone unqualified to tell us that SO₂ as a by product is worse than SO₂ produced solely for that purpose. Should there be a line or valve failure the surrounding areas and homes would surely feel it's negative impact. No one is against new industry setting up in Timmins and the TEDC should be commended for it's efforts in convincing the Calabrian Corporation that Timmins was the ideal location in setting up their business within this community. We hope that the safety record as represented by Ms. Marinig is valid and we welcome Calabrian corporation to our friendly town.

Food for tickets initiative.

Councillor Bamford gave one of his most passionate pleas over this item. He feels that most taxpayers (I being one of these) are misinformed about how the city helps the poor in this city. Throughout social media there were cries that we should help the poor and disadvantaged in our city before we reach out across the world and help a Syrian refugee family. What is not known and Bamford states emphatically and we should make this perfectly clear that through our taxes the city donates \$6.5million annually to help the poor in this city we donate to social housing , paramedic service ,the Good Samaritan Inn and the local food banks to name but a few. What really struck me to the core was his passion which I truly agree with. A rich country such as Canada should be ashamed of itself for even having homeless and disadvantaged people living amongst us. He goes on to say that we should make our voices heard by any means possible to tell our provincial and federal governments that this is totally unacceptable and that one of the richest and best countries of the world should not accept poverty and homelessness as the new normal. I happen to agree with him. Nevertheless the resolution passed to permit for the next two weeks of this month to be known as food for tickets. Just for

information purposes you cannot donate a box of cereal to get out of paying your parking ticket. You must pay the ticket and then that money will be divided amongst the food banks of Timmins so they can restock their shelves.

That's a rap on this week's recap!