

Planned Moffat subdivision blocked by neighbours

Land developers and landowners argued among themselves over the changing face of the sleepy little hamlet called Moffat Monday night at municipal council.

For more than a decade Michael Rigo has been struggling to build on 63 acres he owns just south of the hamlet. Finally, council approved a zoning amendment Monday night, which means Mr. Rigo has cleared a big hurdle. However, a bigger one looms. It is a hearing before the Ontario Municipal Board.

James Pesando, an adjacent landowner, and Brian Ambler, himself a Moffat developer, both object to Mr. Rigo's proposal for a 15-lot rural estate subdivision. Mr. Ambler's agent, Patrick Sweet, said he has "yet to hear a planning rationale" for sup-

porting Mr. Rigo's subdivision.

The proposal is "piecemeal and premature," he added, especially when one considers there "will still be undeveloped land" in Moffat already zoned for construction.

"To say this is premature is absolutely ridiculous," countered councillor Art Melanson. The Rigo proposal has been in the works "for 10 or 12 years."

"It's a local family trying to provide needed homes out there," Mr. Melanson said.

"Planning staff do not feel this is being done in a piecemeal fashion," said Milton staff planner Robin Kitchen.

Stan Makuch, a lawyer representing James Pesando, a nearby landowner, said the application had

not really been delayed for more than a decade. For most of that time Mr. Rigo had not fulfilled conditions imposed by the town for building, he argued. Mr. Makuch said his client wants the matter deferred while the "impacts" of such a development are studied.

"I don't know anything that

guarantees you the right not to have neighbours," councillor Les Laughren said.

"This has gone on for 12 years," councillor Bill Johnson said. "These people have tried to do everything right. You can't put red tape around Nassagaweya or anywhere else. I wholeheartedly support this one."

Mr. Rigo was granted approval with a special hamlet designation, which will limit the density of building on his land and also keep the area divorced, at least legally, from the hamlet of Moffat proper across the road.

The issue is expected to go before the OMB in about six months.

Student job hunters can win Blue Jays tickets

This week provides maximum opportunity for students to find a summer job and a chance to win tickets to see the Blue Jays at the SkyDome.

As part of Hire A Student Week, which began Monday and continues until Friday, the local Canada Employment Centre for Students (CECS) is highlighting job opportunities by holding theme days.

Landscaping, construction and labour positions are featured today (Wednesday). Tomorrow, painting jobs

will be available and Friday will feature recreational jobs as well as the draw for Blue Jay tickets at 3 p.m.

Students who register at the centre will receive one ballot for the draw. Those who have already registered can qualify by having a friend register, and students who wear appropriate theme day attire will receive an additional ballot.

The CECS, located at 85 Main St. E., is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information, call 875-2622.

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