

## **News Release**

As of April 26<sup>th</sup>, all appeals on the Tavistock Municipal Drain 2006 that were submitted to the Ontario Drainage Tribunal have been withdrawn.

Mayor Don McKay said, "I am very pleased that all of the appeals have been withdrawn. While it was disappointing to get appeals on this project, it is part of the process that Council was prepared for. Rather than look back at the time that was lost, we as a community need to look ahead and put our energy into completing this project as quickly and efficiently as possible."

It is anticipated Council will give third and final reading of the by-law to proceed with the drainage project at its meeting on May 2, 2007 and instruct staff to call for tenders. Due to the size and complexity of the drain, contractors will require several weeks to prepare tenders and bid on the project. It is anticipated tenders will close the end of May and Council will be in a position to award a tender at its June 6 meeting. It is hoped construction can start shortly after accepting a tender. CAO Jeff Carswell commented, "Hopefully construction will start in the summer; however, it depends on how busy drainage contractors are and how many jobs are ahead of this one. Due to the appeals and procedures under the Drainage Act, the Township was not in a position tender this project any earlier."

The proposed Tavistock Municipal Drain 2006 is approximately 2.2 km in length and is estimated to cost \$869,100. Of that amount \$442,799 would be assessed to the Township and County roads and lands, with the balance being assessed to property owners.

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