



FoTTSA Deputation to Tiny Council

February 4, 2019 by Andrew Chomentowski

Speed Limit Marker Buoys

An application for speed restrictions was made by the Tiny Township's Personal Watercraft Committee in 1999. The application failed.

A new committee was created by Council in 2001. It was named The Small Watercraft Committee. The Committee looked at launch ramps at the major waterfront parks and work began again on an application for speed restrictions. I was on that Committee.

The application was complicated. It took almost three years for the committee to complete the document that was finally approved. The process included advertisements in newspapers, Open House meetings with Residents, meetings with Associations and Clubs, notices and letters to boaters plus consultation with the local OPP. The initiative was supported by a majority of those that participated. The Committee Minutes refer to letters of support from the OPP, the local MP and MPP.

Initially, the Committee had considered applying for a 200 M restriction. That distance was changed after a site visit by Greg Meeker of the Coast Guard who toured the shoreline. He recommended applying for a 300 M restriction.

At the end of May, 2004, the last meeting that I have a record for, the Committee was told that it may take years for the application to be processed.

It was a surprising revelation to discover in April of 2018 that the application had been approved back in 2003. Because of my involvement in the process, I reached out to Councillor Hinton. He informed me that it was too late for the Township to act in 2018. As promised a report was prepared for the 2019 budget. I did not see any background information presented to Council that indicated the "why" behind the need for restrictions.

I very much appreciate Council's concern to keep our tax increase down and do not envy your task. My request is for Council to have a discussion about this topic after receiving the staff recommendation which will be presented today.

To assist your deliberations, I have some current information. A survey was conducted by FoTTSA over this weekend. The results indicate that residents have concerns regarding their

safety while in the water near shore. **331 individuals responded to the survey that was sent to 1165 residents within three days.** 200 individuals provided comments.

A preliminary analysis, early this morning, indicates that there is significant support for investing in speed marker buoys.

Question:

*It has been suggested that **buoys be installed** each year so that boaters, swimmers and the OPP can easily see the 300 m limit. This would come out of Tiny's budget. How satisfied would you be if Tiny Township proceeded with this suggestion?*

Satisfied 53%

Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 24%

Dissatisfied 22%

I will deliver the rest of the results as soon as they are organized.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

Respectfully,

Andrew Chomentowski