

RESPONSE FROM PATRICIA CLARK, MULMUR COUNCILLOR CANDIDATE

MONO MULMUR CITIZENS' COALITION SEPT. 16, 2018 QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL CANDIDATES

1. Why are you running for office? What vision for our community drives your participation in municipal politics? What do you think you can contribute to our municipality?

PC - I am running for the office of Councillor in Mulmur, because I think Mulmur is a magnificent place to live and raise a family, and I want to see it kept that way. With the present nominations for the Mulmur Council, it opened the opportunity for three new individuals to be elected as Councillors. I believe that with my business experience and my 19 years of living in Mulmur, I could make a positive contribution to the Council and to Mulmur. My vision is to maintain the magnificence of Mulmur by: only allowing commercial industry on the already designated commercial land on Hwy #89; preventing further gravel pit development; safe guarding our water supply and our land fill sites. I can bring to the Mulmur Council 34 years of business experience, planning, project management, financial budgeting, and respect for residents of Mulmur.

2. Do you subscribe to the theory that increased residential development will reduce the tax burden on residents, and if so what would you do to encourage such development in our community? What about other types of development: industrial, commercial, etc.?

PC – In Mulmur, there is designated land for commercial businesses and yes I would encourage suitable businesses to set up shop on that designated land. Increased residential development in Mulmur would increase the tax base, but serious consideration would have to be given to the impact on the community, the infrastructure and our resources before I would approve increased residential development.

3. What would be your approach to maintaining municipal services while keeping taxes stable?

PC – I believe that the current Mulmur Council has done an excellent job of maintaining our services with minimal tax increases.

4. Aggregate mining is a major industry in Dufferin County, including in our communities. How would you propose to limit the expansion of aggregate mining?

PC – I am not in support of expanding the aggregate mining in Mulmur or Mono. We already experience significant truck traffic on the highway, noise and dust from the current pits. However, even if our local municipal governments reject bids to open or expand a

gravel pit, the OMB has overriding authority. Therefore, we must ensure that we build a strong case against any proposal, and build a strong relationship with the OMB so that they are well informed of the devastation to the environment and our quality of life that is associated with expansive gravel pits.

5. We live in “Headwaters” communities and ground water is our most important resource. What steps do you feel the council should take to ensure the protection of our water?

PC – The water issue is a grave concern with the deep gravel pit proposals and this is an issue that must be forefront in any opposition to these developments.

6. What are your plans to manage the ongoing problem of noise pollution in our community?

PC - I understand that in Mulmur, the noise concerns relate to excessive speeding. The Mulmur Council is currently working on reducing the speeding on several of the roads in the township and we will have to continue to monitor those roads to determine if these measures are successful and determine if other interventions are required.

7. The dumping of contaminated landfill is an increasingly serious problem for our area. What will be your approach to addressing the fill dumping issue?

PC – I understand that Mono and Mulmur have worked together to successfully address the current concern of contaminated land fill, and I would believe that a joint partnership would be advisable for future concerns. By laws have been updated, and testing has been completed to ensure the fill is not harmful to our environment.

8. How do you propose to increase citizen engagement and participation in council business? How can the council improve transparency? Will you support continuing with regularly scheduled town hall meetings? Do you support the creation of and full support for effective council committees (eg: clear mandates, regular reports to and interaction with council, etc.)? What other forums for transparency and citizen involvement do you foresee?

PC – I do believe that to increase engagement, citizens must be informed and educated on the issues. Although there is information on local municipal websites, people are not always checking local websites. All residents receive a local paper and current issues, concerns and issues could be noted in a regular column in the paper. Town Hall meetings are another format for the discussion of issues; however, I feel that increased promotion may be required to encourage greater participation. All information from meetings are available and I personally have always found the staff in the Mulmur Town Office to be helpful and supportive of any inquiries I may have had over the years.

9. Our communities have Codes of Conduct which aim to ensure dignity and respect for participants in the municipal government process. What do you feel could be done to improve the current Code of Conduct?

PC- After reading through the Code of Conduct for Mulmur Officials, I do not believe that it warrants any improvement. It is a well written and addresses all issues that may or could arise for an elected official.

10. For Mayor and Deputy Mayor candidates: you will be our representative on County Council. Will your actions on County Council be directed by the instructions of your local council? What will you do when county needs and priorities conflict with your municipality?

PC – not applicable, as I am running for the position of Councillor