

Last night, the Sharon Township Planning Commission (PC) completed a preliminary step in the review of *Stoneco Application for Special Land Use Approval for Extraction of Natural Resources - Demonstration of No Very Serious Consequences*. The PC determined that Stoneco's application is complete. This means that the Planning Commission can begin formal review of the information in the application.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The PC set a PUBLIC HEARING for:

Wednesday February 15, 7pm

Fellowship Hall, Sharon United Methodist Church

19980 Pleasant Lake Rd

Some background:

- This is the second phase of Stoneco's application for a permit and license to operate a 400-acre gravel mine. In this phase, Stoneco must demonstrate that the proposed mining operation will NOT create any very serious consequences. (Very serious consequences are defined in Michigan State Law.)
- Stoneco's application was approximately 850 pages, with many reports and pages and pages of data. Based on the data, Stoneco concludes its mine will NOT create any very serious consequences. This is not a surprise.
- Sharon Preservation Society believes Stoneco cannot make this claim based on the data in the application. We will be submitting our findings to the PC on or before the public hearing.

Some important things to note about the public hearing:

- The public hearing is an opportunity for the PC to hear the concerns and input from the public. All public comments will be included in the PC's record.
- **The public's interest does matter! YOUR PRESENCE AND YOUR VOICE IS CRUCIAL AT THIS MEETING!** It is important to show up. In upcoming communications, Sharon Preservation Society will be providing some ideas for residents on the most effective ways to submit or voice their concerns at the hearing.

Look for more information from Sharon Preservation Society in the coming weeks on:

- Key points from Stoneco's application
- Effective ways for residents can voice their concerns to the PC

What you can do now:

- [Contact us](#) if you can help with preparing a mailing, or if you might be available for other tasks, tbd.
- [Donate](#) to help defray our costs. We estimate that we will send two mailings in the months ahead - one shortly.
- Plan to attend the public hearing.
- Tell your neighbors about the public hearing and the issues at stake - forward this email and encourage them to sign up for future email communications.