

# Albion quarry gets final approval

By Stu Bloom  
Reporter staff

Madison—The Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee on Tuesday of last week gave the go-ahead for the development of a mineral extraction and aggregate manufacturing site in Albion Township.

Albion Town Chairman Bob Venske and Supervisor Thad Andrews attended the hearing and were prepared to testify in support of the application by Hoffman Construction to develop the site, but their testimony was not needed, because no one appeared to oppose the project. The Albion Town Board had on April 11 unanimously voted to approve the permit, with 32 conditions attached.

After they were informed that the town had approved the permit, the Dane County committee gave its assent unanimously, with very little discussion. The committee's action is the final step in the approval process, and Hoffman can now begin work to develop the site.

Hoffman will use the site, located adjacent to Interstate 90/39 at Lake Drive Road, to mine gravel and sand and to manufacture concrete and asphalt for use on the ongoing interstate reconstruction project. It will remain in operation until either the interstate project is finished, the available material is exhausted, 600,000 cubic yards of material have been mined, or until Nov. 30, 2022, whichever of those four events occurs first. The contractor must then reclaim the site and return it to use as farmland.

After the Dane County hearing, Shawn Hoffman of Hoffman Construction said the next step will be for the firm to comply with several of the conditions that must be satisfied before work can begin.

Those pre-conditions include a wetlands delineation study to make sure that the mining operation does not disturb any wetlands, and testing of two nearby private wells to establish a baseline for future measurements of potential affects on the water supply. The company must also obtain a number of permits and provide copies of them to the Town of Albion before the site goes into operation.

Once those steps are completed, the next step will be clearing topsoil from the site, work that might be able to begin later this month, Hoffman said.

Then the mining operation and the construction of portable concrete and asphalt plants will begin. Hoffman said he expects the facility to be in full operation and ready to begin producing concrete by the time it is needed for the project, sometime in July.

During the Town of Albion meetings, several residents who live near the construction site

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said they had been reassured by Shawn Hoffman's promises to minimize the impact of the project on their homes, and he

said after the county hearing that he planned to follow through on those promises.

"We want to start off on the

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right foot," he said. "We're going to do everything the way we said we were going to do it."



Last week, the Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee (above) gave the go-ahead for the development of a mineral extraction and aggregate manufacturing site in Albion Township.  
Edgerton Reporter photo/Stu Bloom