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## Guarantees sought for Riverdale Tilcon license renewal

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RIVERDALE - Talks continued between the Borough Council and Tilcon on Aug. 26 with the quarry company seeking to renew its six-year license to operate in the municipality. Quarry representatives heard from several residents, none of whom were happy with their industrial neighbor.

"I don't want the license renewed," said one Mathews Avenue resident. "I don't want the blasting. I've gone through 28 years of it and my house is falling apart. I just sunk \$45,000 into it and I have cracks. It's not fair."

John Morley, who lives at The Grande at Riverdale, a nearby condominium complex off Route 23, said there is destruction to his property too.

"There is damage in the shower and we shouldn't have that," said Morley.

At the meeting, Morley asked Tilcon to set up a central location, such as a website, where residents can file complaints and find information.

Residents of The Grande also requested that a photographic survey of all the buildings in their development be completed, and that Tilcon provide a property repairment guarantee in case their homes sustain blasting damage. Tilcon has not committed to the guarantee.

At the meeting, Mayor William Budesheim said he is looking for Tilcon to pay an extraction fee. This money would be used to cover damages associated with the blasting, he said.

The mayor said he is considering a fee of 50 cents a ton, but the borough is not looking for any retroactive charges.

Resident Mauricio Montoya said that he is worried about the quality of air as his gutters get clogged with dust from the site.

Morris Avenue resident Allen Lewis backed Montoya, and confirmed that there is a lot of dust in that neighborhood. Lewis said he works in the area as well.

"Greenwich (Street) is worse," he said. "You almost have to wear a mask when you are working over there."

Over the years, Tilcon has addressed the dust concerns by keeping the quarried materials wet and watering down the trucks exiting the site.

At the meeting Tilcon officials said the company would look into all the requests discussed that evening.

Tilcon's operational license expired January 2015. Borough officials said they want to have the license renewed by the end of the year.

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