

These are the minutes of the February 12, 2009 Planning Commission meeting.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Shields.

Present: Boyles, Myers, Heasley, Shields, Oosterink, Blakeslee, Berens,
Mark Sisson and Bob Jones were also present.

Absent: none

Old Business:

Top Grade Aggregate – sand mine permit approved at the February 5, 2009 meeting.
Ross Veltema was present at the meeting tonight. One of the requirements of the SUP was to provide an agreement between the applicant and Hogquest LLC, the owner of the 60 acre parcel on which the permit was granted. He stated they have not come to an agreement yet; there are still issues to be resolved. He will not enter into a purchase agreement until he obtains the SUP and he cannot obtain the permit until he reaches an agreement with Hogquest LLC. He is hopeful they can work things out and reach an agreement.

Ross questioned the PC if they would allow him to mine on the 40 acres temporarily until the agreement is reached? Or if the PC would not allow that, could he come back with a request and reclamation plan for the 40 acres only? Ross has a job starting within a few weeks in which he needs 4,000 yds. of sand and would like to get working out of this pit ASAP.

Dar VanderArk representing the Salem Development Group was present at the meeting. The SUP of this Group expired 2/12/09. He presented a Letter of Credit to PCI and the PC, which renews for another 30 days. They are agreeing to renew the letter month by month if needed until an agreement can be reached. That was acceptable with both PCI and the PC.

Mark stated the reclamation plan for 40 acres vs. 100 acres is totally different. The PC cannot speculate on how it would work. To issue a temporary SUP without knowing the outcome is not a good way to go.

Discussion on Salem Development Group renewing their SUP for a short period of time to allow Top Grade to remove the sand for upcoming job. If an agreement cannot be reached, this is an option.
Applicant and Salem Development Group will update PCI as to which way they want to go.

Work session:

Mark Sisson presented handouts to the PC:
Michigan Planning Enabling Act
Salem Twp. Planning Comm. By-laws

Discussion and review of each. Any changes/revisions to be discussed at the next meeting.

Berens made a motion to adjourn, Oosterink seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by,
Cris Heasley

Salem Twp. Planning Commission