

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 2012**

**FENTON TOWNSHIP CIVIC COMMUNITY CENTER  
12060 MANTAWAUKA DRIVE, FENTON, MICHIGAN**

Chairperson Carlson called meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.  
Present: Carlson, Franz, Hemeyer, McGuirk, Richard, Tucker  
Recording Secretary: McDonald  
Absent: Warren  
Also present Zoning Administrator, Piggott

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda  
Motion by: Carlson  
Seconded by: Franz  
Ayes: Carlson, Franz, Hemeyer, McGuirk, Richard, Tucker  
Nays: None  
Absent: Warren  
Motion carried

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Review of the Special Use Permit for 2111 Thompson Rd. for Light Fabrication – parcel 06-02-400-005.

Chairperson Carlson explained this meeting is to review this permit. There will be no action taken at this meeting. Carlson explained the Commission is interested in hearing from the public in this review and explained the procedure for the meeting starting with hearing from TMI the business operating at 2111 Thompson Rd. Greg Freitas, Plant Manager for TMI explained that equipment has been brought in to test one of the 4 large units they have assembled. These units are unique in that they are the first of their kind and very large size. The company has leased 3 generators, a boiler and a transformer to facilitate the testing that must be done. He stated due to cost, weather and other unforeseen circumstances the units can not be moved to an alternative site. Thus TMI is leasing the generators, boiler and transformer. Freitas said it is unknown how loud this equipment will be when all the generators are running under full load. Decibel test taken with the generators running have all been under the permitted dB of the special use permit. Carlson asked if they will be testing just this one time or if this will be necessary for future testing. Freitas said this is a one time event. Carlson asked how often the equipment will be running. Freitas explained it will be intermittent. They have to start the equipment, let it run, perform the tests, make adjustments as needed then start again and continue until the unit is operating as required. Tucker asked when they plan to begin the tests and the duration of the use of the generators. Freitas said they planned to start at 7:00 am tomorrow, Friday January 13<sup>th</sup> and they planned to be done within a week. Franz asked and Freitas confirmed that the generators were diesel powered. Zoning Administrator Piggott explained the dB report that he had prepared at the request of the Planning Commission that resulted in a finding that there has been no violation of special use permit issued in August of 2011. Tucker stated that in August TMI had said they thought they would be leasing the building for 6 months and asked if they intend to extend that time frame. Freitas said at this point they are about 1 month behind in production and they had leased the building for 1 year with an option to extend. Freitas said that at this point there is no plan to extend the lease. Franz asked why they did not mention bringing in this equipment for this test when they originally appeared before the Commission. Freitas said the original plan was to do this testing in another location. Chairperson Carlson called for audience comments. Rebel Molina, 11410

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Audubon, stated concerns about an odors coming from the facility. She said that in November she had an episode where her lungs filled with fluid. She was taken to the U of M hospital were they asked if she worked in a factory because they had ruled out a bacterial or viral cause for the event. She said it may not be related to the operation however she had very serious concerns about odors and added there have been periodic loud noises so as to shake the windows in her home. Chris Schram, 11404 Audubon, agreed that there was an odor and the loud slamming noises are random. Jeff Crim, 11394 Audubon, stated concerns about the sound generated from the loading and unloading. He said in the spring and summer these sounds will be more audible and this SUP will stay with the property even if this business vacates the building. He alleged that big business has more clout than the few residents that have adversely impacted by the issuance of this SUP. Piggott stated that during the testing there were sounds of grinding and an occasionally the sound of metal dropping but the dB reading did not exceed 53 dB. He said at no time that he or the Ordinance Enforcement Officer had been there had they witnessed any unusual odor. Franz asked if they use any chemicals. Freitas said absolutely no hazardous chemicals are used. He said they brush on paint from time to time and some of the smaller units are spray foam insulated. Franz asked if they use paint booths for the application of the foam or paint. Freitas said they do not. Piggott confirmed they had taken readings from the area Crim was referring to and those readings during the loading and unloading did not exceed 60 dB. Tucker asked if the residents thought some sort of sound barrier would help to mitigate the negative impacts. They said if it were high enough it could possibly help with sound and visual impacts but not the odor. Tucker asked that the MSDS (material data safety sheets) be furnished to the Township. Freitas said they would provide that information. Franz stated concerns about MOSHA requirements. Carlson stated she would be in favor of a barrier being constructed if this becomes a more permanent operation. Tucker concurred. Freitas said TMI has tried to be a good neighbor and has followed every requirement placed upon them by the Township. He noted that they have been under the allowable dB and they hope to be able to leave the facility by mid April. Chairperson Carlson concluded the review.

**PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNICATION CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

5 Minute Limit – There were none

**MINUTES:** November 8, 2011 stand approved as submitted  
December 13, 2011 stand approved as submitted

**ADJOURN: 8:39 pm**

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Sandra Carlson, Chairperson  
Minutes Posted 01/16/12

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Jim McGuirk, Secretary