



MINUTES
Newaygo City Planning Commission
December 8, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at City Hall located at 28 N. State Road, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Roll Call: Present: Chambers, DeVries, Faulkner, Fedell, Williams, Wight
Absent: Francis
Also Present: Jon Schneider: City Manager, Kim Goodin: Recording Secretary

Motion by Fedell, second by Faulkner to excuse absent members. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Williams to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Fedell, second by Wight to approve 11/10/2022 meeting minutes. AIF/MC

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Fedell, second by Williams at 6:33 pm to open public hearing to discuss and take comments on special land use request by Team Thompson, DBA as American Classic, for the processing of plastics and creation of flammable products located at 313 W. State Rd. on parcel number: 62-18-24-260-008. Lola Harmon Ramsey, Sam Flannery, Leon Thompson, and others from American Classic were present at the meeting. Harmon-Ramsey stated that American Classic is in the process of purchasing the building at 313 W. State Rd (old Sandmold building). She presented a slide show and discussed:

- Proposed use of building for Material Recovery Facility (MRF), Logistics Hub and Storage Facility, and Advanced Recycling Center for plastics
- Opportunity existing to increase MRF throughput
- Sorting Equipment Possibilities
- Construction and Demolition Recycling Logistics and Storage
- Plant Specifications
- Benefits for Community & Local Partners-plan to hire 5 new people to get started and could progress to 30-60 additional jobs in the future

The following questions were asked by the Board and Public and answered by a member of American Classic:

- Will everything be indoors? (Yes, no plans to store anything outside and trucks will back right into the building)
- What will the noise level be? (There will be noise from the trucks in and out, but no other noise outside)
- Any odors? (No odors)
- Anything run off in the river? (No run off in the river)
- Can individuals drop off recycling? (No, not at this time. Individuals are encouraged to continue to utilize the current recycling drop off centers in the county)
- Any waste in ground water? (No. Everything that comes out is captured)
- Is there enough natural gas and electrical in the area? (Yes)

Schneider stated that he has encouraged American Classic to route trucks back and forth from the south as much as possible and not directly thru the downtown. Harmon-Ramsey stated that they would route traffic to the north as little as possible and the recycling trucks will continue to be stored in Bailey as Newaygo will be just a drop-off location. Schneider stated that a performance agreement was required between the City and American

Classic and that had already been signed. Chris Galazzi, with Clean-Seas, discussed Pyrolysis system that will eventually be installed at American Classic Material Recovery Facility (MRF). He said that the Pyrolysis system is “the conversion of organic or inorganic material, under pressure and heat, in the absence of oxygen.” Dale Twing, Newaygo County Drain Commissioner, was present and said that enhancing recycling in Newaygo County has been discussed for years and this is a great opportunity for Newaygo County. Julie Burrell, Economic Development Director, Newaygo County through the Right Place, was present and stated that Clean Seas had been looking nationally for a partner to locate the Pyrolysis system and this is a huge talent attraction to Newaygo County. Motion by Williams, second by Fedell at 7:15 pm to close the public hearing. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Faulkner to recommend to City Council the approval for a special land use request by Team Thompson, DBA as American Classic, for the processing of plastics and creation of flammable products located at 313 W. State Rd. AIF/MC

Schneider gave updates on: water/sewer projects, M82 lift station repairs, repairs being done on the Water Booster Station located on M82 towards Fremont, new businesses coming to the City, Businesses expanding in the City and the TIFA Façade Program. He stated that the City received “Essential Status” for Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Schneider said that the City has not been able to play Christmas Music this season due to a few light poles that had been hit and damaged that had speakers on them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A public member inquired about the status of the Town Square Project that had been discussed in the past. Schneider stated that the City is still working with property owner on the potential to purchase the building located at 8 W. State Rd.

BOARD COMMENTS

Motion by Fedell, second by Williams to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 pm. AIF/MC

Secretary-Sandy Williams