

DRAFT

APPROVED

Charter Township of Portage

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

August 24, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Houghton High School

Multi-purpose room

1603 Gundlach Rd

Houghton, MI 49931

Purpose of the meeting was to receive public comments on the quarry operation and to consider attorney's recommendations. All Board members were present. Meeting was called to Order at 7:00p.m.

There were approximately forty one people in attendance. Thirteen of those present made comments to the Board. Comments included:

1. Steve Pence-strongest action as soon as possible
2. Pat VanDusen-noise has increased from last fall, concerned for wet land injury
3. Connie Sherry- Quarry affecting quality of life with its noise, board should support people in township and shut down quarry.
4. Tom Rozich- have clean ordinance enforce it and follow attorney's advice
5. Matt Solka- lives near quarry and has no problem with noise and truck traffic, REA has more noise of operation. Moyle contributes to business in community and Board should support community development.
6. Mike Wilmers- didn't hear noise when visiting area, trucks are operating legally on roadways and suggests change zoning-shut down would keep other businesses away
7. Bernie Carr- "grandfathered in"?
8. Jack Laux- suggests make adjustments to get along
9. Jodi Santeford-more noise here than in Chicago, blasting scares, worried about drinking water being harmed, wants to work together but not at cost of living peacefully
10. Donna Laux- live on 70 acres near VVQ and quarry doesn't bother them
11. Linda Ruilson- wants businesses to operate legally concerned others will not go thru process
12. Ted Grezelak- owns land by quarry and has been coming to meetings about the quarry for one and a half years, quarry is in violation
13. Rosemary Grier- asks if quarry ceases to exist, when clean-up would be addressed.

7:36p.m. board moved to special meeting session. Recommendations from attorney and all public comments were taken into consideration.

Motion was made by Little supported by Ollila to move that the gravel extraction operation is in violation of the zoning ordinance, as the district is zoned rural residential and gravel extraction is not an allowable use in the district, and that the Township Attorney is directed to commence proceedings to correct the violating use as authorized by the zoning ordinance. Motion passed with six YES votes with Supervisor abstaining. Quarry will be given ten days to stop operations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18p.m. on a Motion by Anderson supported by Zerbst

Public in attendance:

See attached list



Supervisor, Bruce Petersen



Clerk, Sandra Luoma