

**SCIOTA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, February 21, 2012**  
**7:00pm**

**Call to Order @ 7pm**

**Members Present:**

Duane Ness  
Linda Hardy  
Jill Trescott  
Shannon Olson

**Members Absent:**

**Others Present:**

Paul Zumbusch (Castle Rock Materials)  
Gary Johnson (Castle Rock Materials)  
Dean Taylor

**Business:**

- Paul Zumbusch and Gary Johnson with Castle Rock Materials were present to talk about pumping water out of the pit into a swale. Trescott filled Linda Hardy in on all the details of what Zumbusch had presented to the board at the February Board meeting. Basically they are proposing to create an infiltration basin. They would pump the water out and then the water would filter back down into the soil. It would temporarily dry out the area that they are working in, but it would not create the adverse affects of de-watering. Zumbusch further explained their proposed idea. Trescott inquired about whether they would need a water extraction permit from the DNR. Zumbusch stated that he would contact someone from the DNR. If permit is needed Zumbusch will send info into township. Ness read the definition of dewatering from the zoning definitions and asked for interpretations of this. The definition stated: **DEWATERING:** Mine Dewatering is the process of removing water from a workable area (whether underground or above ground) and putting it in a non-workable area or drainage system. A non-workable area is open to interpretation. Ness stated we need to define if the area that the water will be put, is a non-workable or workable area. Trescott stated the area that is currently laid out is the aggregate mining area, she wanted to know if they would move into that swale to take out materials. Zumbusch stated that if there was a big sand job that would be the ideal area to take it from. Trescott stated that based on what they are saying, that they are eventually planning to move up into the northern part of the property with their mining you could make the argument that the swale is a workable area. Ness stated that we have to know what we are calling a non-workable area. He gave an example of pumping the water out, and making a lake in a different location. In this particular case we are not talking about permanent displacement from the water table. Trescott stated that it seems like a creative idea, that would not impact the surrounding area or the water. Trescott inquired about whether they would be running the pumps 24 hours a day or if they will shut down for awhile. Johnson stated that they have a pit in Janesville that they did something similar.

He stated that once they got it pumped down, they were then able to shut the pump down. He stated that initially it may take awhile, but then he foresees that after awhile they may be able to turn it on and off as needed. He figures they pump for a month and then take a month or two off. Linda inquired about whether there would not be any standing water that would create an area for mosquito's. Trescott stated that the swale is approximately 4 acres and is sandy, so theoretically there shouldn't be a lot of pooling of water. Ness inquired about whether these would be electric or diesel pumps...Johnson stated they would probably be electric and they would possibly use diesel, but the diesel pumps would be used during normal hours. Ness commented that if using electric there shouldn't be a lot of noise if they ran all day and night.

Trescott made a motion to move that we define a non workable area in the context of de-watering as an area offsite or an impermeable area on site, and she would like to recommend to the board that they approve this permit for 2012 to be reviewed and renewed on an annual basis, also with the Condition that if using a diesel pump it should be used during working hours only and electric pumps can run as Castle Rock Materials sees fit. Also, any standing water would be managed for mosquito control in an environmentally sensible manner and that any necessary permits from the MN Dept of Natural Resources will be obtained and maintained. Ness seconds. All in favor. Zumbusch will be present at the March board meeting.

- Dean Taylor was present to obtain an application for a livestock building on his 80 acres. He measured down to the river and positioned them to meet all setbacks. 30' from Property line and 110' setback from center of the road. Trescott inquired about the height restrictions. Taylor responded that the building will not exceed this restriction. Taylor talked to shore land and they stated that the buildings should be 300' from the river's edge. He will use an existing driveway, however a culvert will need to be installed for drainage. Sciota Trail is a township road so they would need to talk to the board about putting in a culvert. Ness makes motion that we approve the request for agricultural buildings and recommend to the board to consider an access driveway with culvert as discussed. Hardy seconds. All in favor. Taylor will attend the March Board meeting.
- The Planning Commission members reviewed letters drafted by the clerk for septic non-pump residents and Jim Gleason with Gleason & Sons.

Adjourn @ 8:35pm