

**New Carlisle Town Council**  
**Meeting at 201 E. Michigan Street, New Carlisle, Indiana**  
**Special Meeting, February 5, 2011, 1:00 PM**

President Higgins opened the Special Meeting with Vice President Colpitts, Council Member Groves, Council Member Gelow, Council Member Vojtko and Clerk-Treasurer Sue Moffitt present. Also in attendance were St. Joseph Council Members Rafael Morton, Dan Herbster and Cory Knowland, County Commissioner Dave Thomas, State Senator Jim Arnold, Olive Township Trustee John Michalski, Health Department Rep. Mark Nelson, Area Plan Director John Byorni, Mike Danch, Steven Studer, Doug Glon, Gene VanLue, Edd VanLue, Randy Schlipp, Gale Schlipp, Mary Ann Swope, Nancy Geist, Mary Countryman, Tammie Pohl, Pat Cummings, Michael Danch, Gary DeYoung, Vickie Miller, Jack Mell, Augie Mauer, Mike Tierney, Nancy Bond, Virginia Smith, Greg Smith, Tom Baker, Chris Baker, Joe Kafka, Mona Kafka, Sue Baker, Thomas Baker, Jane E., Thomas S., Pam Zeese, Marcy Kauffman, Susan Jones, Susan Widup, Rebecca Widup, Robert Widup, Rich Kopkowski, Bill Gerecke, Jessica Bundy, Jack Daly, Tracy Grimm, Kim Vanslager, Tim Vanslager, Roger Romig, Lynn Spriggs, Lucille Morehouse, Dean Morehouse, J. Morehouse, Casey Noland, Oleta Kaminski, Gray Langhofer, Mike Tuszynski, Jason Bundy, Ty Bancroft, Terry A, Carl Kessler, Tom Swaney.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Higgins turned the meeting over to Roger Nawrot.

Roger introduced members of the Town Council and St. Joseph County Council in attendance.

The panel was introduced and included Randy Schlipp, project developer; his attorney Steven Studer; Project Engineer Mike Danch; Mark Nelson of the St. Joseph County Health Department; and Area Plan Director John Byorni.

Steven Studer, attorney for Randy Schlipp gave a brief synopsis of plans for the proposed "shredder plant" which will include: no additional trains, only additional cars on 110-125 trans per day; 20-30 trucks per day in addition to the estimated 750 already traveling US 20: 80 decibels of noise with no noise expected at the nearest house ½ mile away. He stated that they have agreed with all comments and suggestions of the Health Department. This has been determined to be a "high priority" site. This project will comply with the county groundwater ordinance.

Area Plan Director John Byorni stated that the APC has jurisdiction over most of St. Joseph County. This site has been zoned for heavy manufacturing for many years but a site plan is required. The Area Plan Commission, a 15 member board containing a cross section of people, did give a favorable recommendation to the St. Joseph County Council as it meets requirements of the zoning ordinance.

Mark Nelson of the St. Joseph County Health Department stated that he was familiar with the proposed plant as it was the same as had been proposed for Gertrude Street in South Bend. There are three very strong groundwater ordinances currently in effect with strong regulatory authority. Review of Wellhead Protection has taken place while evaluating the proposal and some restrictions have been added. He reports that no impact on groundwater is expected as they have plans in place to prevent ground and surface water contaminations.

Moderator Roger Nawrot called a five minute intermission to allow those in attendance to sign up to ask questions. He stated that questions only would be allowed and not simply statements of opinion. There will be a two minute time limit.

Speaker 1 – Nancy Geist

Mrs. Geist stated that she has lived here her entire life and has many concerns. She asked why this project is being brought here when full authorization was given for it in South Bend.

Response: (Mr. Schlipp) Rail service available to the area will cut down on truck traffic. According to MACOG there are approximately 5000 vehicles per day with 755 of those estimated to be trucks.

Speaker 2 – Jack Mell

Mr. Mell asked about renting a bus to take some New Carlisle residents to view a similar plant in Ohio like they did for residents of Rum Village.

Response: (Mr. Studer) There are only 90 days from the APC review until the County Council vote and that would not allow enough time. He stated that South Bend residents did go and had no problem with the site in Ohio that is similar to the proposed site.

Speaker 3 – Carl Kessler

It was stated that the Health Department would inspect two times per year but would like to know if it could be inspected three times per year by the Health Department.

Response: Mr. Nelson stated that if there were to be a problem found they would be inspected four times per year. Otherwise, there is a legal issue with treating one business differently than another without reason.

Speaker 4 – Mike Tierney

Mr. Tierney stated that the sound enclosure must be impressive to keep the noise at 80 decibels. He expressed concern about the concrete wall proposed to surround the site echoing the sound back to the north where he lives.

Response: (Mr. Schlipp) 80 decibels is at the machine which also has a quiet side. Testing will be done to determine the placement of the equipment to allow for the best sound protection.

Speaker 5 – Tom Swaney

Asked if the Health Department interfaces with IDEM as crushing of a car could affect air quality, storm water runoff, etc. and would an IDEM permit be required.

Response: They do work with IDEM. As soon as vehicles are brought to the site, all work will be done on a concrete pad which is slanted to a lined pond. All water that enters the pond runs through a filter to catch petrol chemicals. A storm water plan will be required as well. Air quality is governed by IDEM and they do not know if an air quality permit will be required but they have a meeting scheduled with IDEM this week to make that determination.

Speaker 6 – Susan Jones

Stated that there are 25 acres at the proposed site and asked what the plans are for the remainder of the property not included in the plant.

Response: (Mr. Schlipp) A large portion will be an enclosure for hand sorting.

Speaker 7 – Marcy Kauffman

Asked what percentage of the 25 acres would be used for the project.

Response: (Mr. Danch) 15% would be for buildings and the remaining 85% would be open. Mr. Schlipp stated that no cars would be on open ground as that would not be allowable.

Speaker 8 – Jack Daly

Stated that there are many unanswered questions and he was under the impression that all questions would be answered not just one per person. He recently spoke with Miss Williams of IDEM and was told that an air quality permit would be required but Mr. Schlipp previously stated that one was not needed.

He voiced concern about concrete pads being used and the cracking that will occur. That should that happen immediately following an inspection it would continue for six months before a re-inspection.

Response: Mr. Nelson stated that although they are not expecting any spills, any large spill would be reported to both IDEM and the Health Department.

Mr. Daly expressed concern about solids and mercury switches.

Speaker 9 – Tracy Grimm

Asked what exactly happens in the shredder process and does it include high heat? What about materials left over?

Mr. Schlipp responded that the cars come in; fluids are drained; mercury switches are pulled; the cars travel down a belt and fall down a grate; tin comes out one end and fluff (plastic, non-metal materials) is hauled to the landfill.

Tracy questioned plans for use of high heat.

Mr. Schlipp replied that the water used in the process does get very hot .

Tracy questioned plans for burning off the fluff.

Response: This question was not answered.

Speaker 10 – Roger Romig

Roger asked why this was being placed on virgin soil instead of being located near Omni Source.

Response: Mr. Schlipp replied that Omni Source is a direct competitor.

Speaker 11 - Mary Countryman

Mary stated that they have had a hard time hearing some of the answers given by the panel. Roger reminded her that there is a two minute limit.

Mary stated that there are 243 existing brownfields in St. Joseph County. Are any of these near a railway that could be used for this project instead of contaminating good farmland?

Response: Mr. Studer replied that this land was rezoned over 15 years ago as manufacturing designated for industrial growth. It is not being rezoned from agriculture or they would understand the disapproval. They are not aware of any other brownfields except ignition park. If anyone is aware of 25 acres at this price they would look at it.

Speaker 12 – Troy Picton

Lives near the site and asked whether smoking would be allowed on the property. Five Star Sheets, located next to the proposed site, does not allow smoking on site and truck drivers park along the road to smoke.

Response: Mr. Schlipp stated that his trucks will not be allowed to park on the road. Design of the property will keep trucks off the road.

Roger Nawrot asked if Sen. Arnold or any County Officials had questions.

County Commissioner Dave Thomas stated that he received questions during the recess regarding the size and scope of the retention ponds and also if the 60-80 decibels estimated were at the machine or the wall.

Mike Danch responded that this is a preliminary site plan. The retention plan will meet county requirements for a 6" rain in 24 hours. There are currently large retention areas at existing industry.

Mr. Schlipp stated that he will be using a lined pond.

Mr. Studer stated that the noise level at the nearest home will be no louder than an average refrigerator. Operational hours will be primarily during the day.

County Councilman Dan Herbster asked regarding drainage how snow removal from the concrete pad will be accomplished and will it be put into the lined pond. Mr. Schlipp stated that most shredder companies push it into the shredder to cool the machinery and then it would run off into the lined pond.

Mr. Herbster asked that any burning involved be explained. Mr. Schlipp responded that there will be only heat from the shredder and no fire.

Mr. Herbster asked if they would give a firm commitment for the hours of operation. Mr. Schlipp stated that the hours of 7 – 5 are tentative only.

Mr. Herbster asked if there was any commitment in use of remaining acreage. Mike Danch stated that the site plan was done to help out the plan commission and county but it is only preliminary. A final site plan is sent to APC, County Engineer and the Building Department following approval of the project.

Roger asked for questions from the Town Council.

Dana Groves asked if anything other than vehicles would be recycled at the proposed site and if vehicles will be visible above the ten foot fence. Mr. Schlipp responded that he hopes to keep everything at ground level daily unless they experience a major breakdown. They have chosen companies close by for parts. He reports that loose tin – appliances, etc. will also be shredded at this site.

Dana questioned the fence. Mr. Schlipp replied that it is an extra step he has chosen to take but it is not required.

Carolyn Higgins asked about truck traffic as she has noticed trucks lined up early outside Tek and asked if there will be regulations. Mr. Schlipp responded that they could do that. They plan to have 24 hour security and could make arrangements to let trucks into the site.

Steve Vojtko asked how car prep is done prior to arrival at the shredder. Mr. Schlipp replied that he designed a machine that is now used around the country to drain the fluids, then mercury switches are removed and placed in a containment bucket which is regulated in Indiana.

John Gelow expressed concern about aquatic rodents and how the lining of the pond will be protected from damage by them. Mr. Schlipp stated that they will use 1 ½ inch impermeable rubber for the lining and a net would be placed over the top to keep animals out.

In conclusion, Roger stated that members of the panel as well as elected officials would remain following the meeting answer questions.

President Higgins thanked VP Colpitts and Council Member Groves for putting together this special meeting.

Vice President Colpitts moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Vojtko and the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 PM.

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Carolyn Higgins, Council President

Attest:

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Susan I. Moffitt, Clerk-Treasurer