

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Public Hearing

Meeting

BARRETT BROTHERS - DAYTON, OHIO

Form 6101

Monday, December 13, 2021

Held

Videos and minutes of council meetings are available to the public to view online at www.cityofvermilion.com under 'meetings' tab (City Meeting Minutes or Videos).

Vermilion City Council: Steve Herron, Council President; Monica Stark, Council At Large; Emily Skahen, Ward One; Frank Loucka, Ward Two; Steve Holovacs, Ward Three; Barb Brady, Ward Four; Brian Holmes, Ward Five

Administrative Staff: Jim Forthofer, Mayor; Amy Hendricks, Finance Director; Chris Howard, City Engineer; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Susan Anderson, Law Director

CALL TO ORDER:

Steve Herron, President of Council called the Monday, December 13, 2021, Vermilion City Council Public Hearing to order.

He advised everyone that they understand there are high emotions on both sides of this issue and asked everyone to remain civil. If anyone is speaking and someone likes or dislikes what they are saying, please do not interrupt the speaker as they are infringing on their right to be heard whether you support it or not. He said they are not allowing applause during the hearing. He advised the residents they have three minutes to speak due to the large number of people who have signed up to be heard.

Ordinance 2021-81: AN ORDINANCE ENACTED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 1266 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF VERMILION, REZONING LAND IN VERMILION, OHIO, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 119.60 ACRES HAS A PORTION ZONED B-3 "HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT" (PPN 01-00-022-104-029 and 01-00-022-104-040) WHICH HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO BE REZONED I-1 "LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT" (PPN 01-00-021-000-032 and 01-00-022-104-045) LAND USE CLASSIFICATION AS FAVORABLY RECOMMENDED BY THE VERMILION MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION; AUTHORIZING THE CITY ENGINEER TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF VERMILION TO CONFORM HERewith AS SAID MAP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 1268.02 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF VERMILION UPON THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

Ordinance 2021-82: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1270.15 (2) (d) ENTITLED "I-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT" OF CHAPTER 1270 ENTITLED "DISTRICT REGULATIONS" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION.

Steve Herron said City Council has received letters of support and opposition that were sent by members of the community. All letters will be incorporated herein as part of the official record of proceedings. He read the names of individuals who submitted letters of opposition and support into the record as attached hereto and incorporated herein as part of the official record of proceedings. There were 30 letters of opposition and 70 letters of support.

John Gabriel of Yorktown Place thanked Steve Holovacs, Emily Skahen, and Frank Loucka for their time serving on Council. He said growing up in Vermilion there were streets in Valley View that were being added every week and Valley View School was open, and the high school was there. There were two schools in Valley View and Sailorway School was built just for his class. They also were over on South Street and the Middle School, the Catholic School, and VOL had a school. There were kids everywhere in this town and businesses as well. It was not just kids, families, and young families with opportunities with businesses. The Ford plant led this as there was a job factory on Baumhart Road and with this opportunity that stands before Council now, this is really what he wants them to give consideration to. He said they do not necessarily know all the economic benefits this would provide, and they can't say with any certainty anyways, but they can say with certainty that if it doesn't come what will happen, because it is already happening. The infrastructure will continue to deteriorate at a fast rate than you can repair it — roads, the road levy is not nearly enough, and you're going negative with that. You have a treatment plant that needs to be replaced and a water plant before long will need replaced. All these things the city does not have the resources for, and he does not think anyone is coming to help Vermilion with these problems. He said young people in town need opportunity, and he does not see a lot of things coming our way like this. He did not think in his lifetime that they have had something this big come since the Ford Plant left, so he asked Council to give this every consideration, and he said he appreciates their time and for listening.

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Mike Haines of 250 Erie Road thanked Council for this opportunity and said he is here to voice his 100% support of the passage of the rezoning ordinances, and he is confident Council will do so. Ladies and Gentlemen – this is the proverbial brass ring that the city has to grab to move this community forward, and its infrastructure. Let us not miss it. Let's do something about this. He addressed a comment that was posted on social media regarding this issue to the facility being a health risk hazard to the residents from the pollution it will cause. His response is that what they have to remember is there are many facets in the process to address before this is brought to fruition. One most certainly will be an environmental assessment or study, and the EPA will have zero tolerance on anything that is not conforming to current clean air or environmental standards. This is a fact, and it is undisputed.

Cliff German of 12903 West Lake Road read his letter into the record as follows:

Good Evening Everyone and thank you ALL for your service to our wonderful community and for allowing me a few moments to relay that I am 100% in support of the rezoning and the moving forward as quickly as possible the plans to allow for a 1 million square foot FACILITY..... that brings with it the potential of 1000 well paying —family supporting wages for Vermilion and surrounding communities—Not only will this be a huge, exciting project breathe new life into and of itself for Vermilion, BUT—the satellite businesses to support this huge endeavor that will be initiated and planned for, will add additional employment opportunities for our children and their children. WE NEED THIS ECONOMIC BASE.

Ladies and Gentlemen—opportunities like this for a community do not come along very often—we saw and enjoyed the benefits of when the Ford plant was here and conversely —we have seen and now struggle with Ford not being a part of our great community....We struggle with roads, and safety issues along with sanitation and primary need issues due to a lack of funds...Many areas of concern have been placed on the "back burner" as YOU WELL KNOW, for way too long due to a lack of funds. This is a huge wonderful critically needed project for Vermilion and surrounding areas along with our schools. This allows for future planning and positive future growth for this great community on a Great Lake. Mr. Mayor and Vermilion City Council.... Our community needs your vision, your strength and your continued commitment to move our community forward ...No looking in the mirror... and a business that asks to build a 1 million square foot building and asks to bring in the potential of 1000 jobs not counting hundreds of construction jobs, maintenance and systems positions is something we all should be extremely excited about...AND, THIS SHOULD give us all great cause to work with, and to negotiate for the benefit of our entire community.... I ask you...I implore you to please let this company know, that Vermilion is very anxious to work with you.... that we are businesses friendly, and we are a community that you will want your business to be in and, to grow in.... Thank you Everyone

Marilyn Brill of Cooper Foster Park Road personally thanked Gwen Fisher for all that she has done with all the emails and the updates regarding the reason they are here tonight. She read into the record a prepared letter as follows: Behind me are several of our team players who have stepped up to speak to others in our community about the impact that we will suffer if you decide tonight to let these big developers into our farmlands. A few days ago, this team gathered at a location on Claus Road to voice our concerns and share our ways to address this council tonight. On that same Sunday, I met a family of seven people who live on our street. Their five children are the reason for my writing as I want you to know more about this family. They chose this part of the country to live and raise their children. They have three acres of land where these five little ones could grow and enjoy the adventures around the Brownhelm Station area. These five children are homeschooled and enjoy lessons outside all year long to learn about nature, how plants grow, and doing farm chores. This is far better for some children than the typical classroom – wearing the mask and only allowed outside for recess. These well-behaved children all sat quietly and listened to the older adults speak about the big trucks and the added traffic, and the noise, and the lights that might happen around their house. Lots of idling trucks will no doubt add to the pollution and the necessary lights will be disturbing as they try to sleep at night. Would you want this to happen around your homes? Some day these children are going to grow up; maybe still living in this Brownhelm area, maybe ready to serve on council, or even become the next mayor of this fine city. Raising a family of five children is quite a job today. My parents had five children and Ed and I have five grown children, so I was quite concerned about these youngsters – just as you should be. Will they or any others who live around this development have additional health problems due to the toxic pollution from these big rigs. Imagine a simple field trip around their back yard learning about the air we breathe. This could become an hour of exposure to these huge semis. S. Herron advised her that her three minutes were up. M. Brill drew attention to the next name on the list, which was Ed Brill. She noted that he sat in the dentist office today getting dental work done, so this is why she would like to finish. S.

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Herron granted her permission. M. Brill said as these trucks unload and load up and get back on the highways, would you want this to happen to anyone in our neighborhood? Toxic fumes can be very harmful. Last of all, on that Sunday, December 6 while we were gathered at that historic church, someone noticed that our mayor drove down the road, but he did not stop in to join us or to listen to just us. In fact, several invitations have been mentioned and we extend it to all of you to come out, but as of yesterday the 12th, she believes none of you have been out there. Maybe you would like to come out and actually see where the 200-foot setbacks are going to measure up. Don't vote to allow something to happen when you don't even know what the follow up is. Do you even care about the history out there? Those residents have been there long before this was a city. They were part of the Village. Tonight, you will all go home to your quiet neighborhoods and watch the sunset out over the lake while we who chose to live out there will wonder why this had to happen. Remember that family of five with the new baby expected next year. They along with the others here cannot afford to pack up and move and find another place. We cannot afford to move just because you decide to change 120 acres right near the place we call home. Thank you very much.

Anne Palmer of 1680 Cooper Foster Park Road thanked council for the opportunity to speak. She thought council heard her say several times that she is opposed to this particular development and asked for council's support to vote no. She objected because she believes it is really difficult to support this when you do not know who is going to be there. We can all guess because if you look up the developers – most of what they do is Amazon and she does not know how many know about Amazon as an employer, but they're not the best out there. There are a lot of articles out there and she spent the afternoon reading and it is amazing to her the working conditions that these people are forced to endure, and she thinks they ought to think twice about that. She asked council if they knew there was 90 decibels for a diesel tractor trailer truck as it takes up times how many tractor trailer trucks are they going to have all day long. She does not know how they can say there is not going to be any noise pollution – pollution from the diesel. It is going to impact their area and most of the people that support this do not live where they are, and they are not going to experience it. She isn't against development but is against this particular project. She did not think it was right for their area and she thinks a million plus square feet is too much. A 65-foot-tall building is too much for this property and it will expose the residents to hazardous pollutants from all these semi-tractor trucks. This is going to be a facility that is 24/7, 365 days a year. There is going to be a lot of idling on roads and the water will have all kinds of issues. She knows there will be studies, but they do not even know for sure because they are not being told what is going in there. You have to approve it first and then they will tell you what they are going to plan to put in there. It does not make sense and she does not understand how they can do this. In conclusion, she asked for council's support to vote no.

Francisco Boneta of 2255 Claus Road said he stands against this project from a safety standpoint of view. Right now, currently for those that live in the Claus Road area that use Cooper Foster to get on to Baumhart – and it has a sign saying, "Dangerous Intersection". This intersection is going to get a whole lot more and dangerous. The noise alone that they hear is going to get worse. Even though he is not against full developmental businesses for the City of Vermilion, but for the neighbors in Vermilion that were used to the quietness will all get disrupted. Like what the other members said – you guys live further away from this, and you will not be impacted by this, but they will. He is only a quarter of a mile away and he can hear the trains come by. He can hear all the trucks driving up and down Baumhart. Last week they mentioned what else is going to be put into this road. Are they going to put a truck stop to fuel these tanks and to supply all the other people? Those are other businesses that are also going to impact them in this area.

Linda Sexstella of 1975 Cooper Foster Park Road said she is opposed to this because she is going to look at it every day. One of the concerns she has especially about the water and no sewers, and the rest of the infrastructure they talked about. One of the things she would ask if this does go through is that the mayor and the developers meet with the surrounding residents. If you looked up what happened in Canada – once they announced that it was an Amazon facility, the mayor and developers met with the surrounding residents to come up with plans that addressed lighting, noise, water, and they addressed all these issues. She said hopefully this is professional enough that the city can do this.

Sharon Strong of 2145 Cooper Foster Park Road agreed with the rest of them as she is opposed to this. Unfortunately, she will see it when it's built up as she is across the street. She has concerns of water issues as she does have a ditch in her front yard, and right now there are problems with it that haven't

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been corrected. The water all flows to her yard – to the ditch. So, she has concerns with this, and also with the noise and lighting. She moved here for the quietness 26 years ago and she prefers the quietness. She said hopefully she can stay here and retire here, but these are her concerns, and she agrees with Linda that if this does go through, then she wants to be involved

Dan Kaighin of 1450 Claus Road read his letter into the record with documentation as attached hereto and incorporated herein as part of the official record of proceedings.

Dorothy Kaighin of 1450 Claus Road said she lives directly across from the 119 acres where developers want to build a 30 acre, 65-foot-high ecommerce distribution center, which will be operated 24/7. It will have many semis in and out 24/7. It will have the area flooded with light all night. This will also create a lot of pollution and noise for all of them located within 300 feet of the proposed project. She noticed that no one that is for this project lives within 300 feet of these 119 acres. She and her husband attended a council meeting on November 8 where the developers were asked many questions by council members. One was concerned about the neighbors being so close to this proposed project. The developers were surprised that there were homes nearby and that the residents were upset about what the developers want to do with this property. Mr. Stovich's quote, "Shame on us for not taking note there were neighbors around us...we are better than that". She said this quote was taken from the November 11, 2021 article of the Photojournal. As one of the neighbors was upset to put it mildly, she wholeheartedly opposes the changing of the ordinance and to not have this project built on this property. They need to keep the first gateway to the small town on a Great Lake scenic and beautiful as the scene is now when you come off Route 2 to exit from the eastbound Baumhart Road. When you see the cornstalks waving in the breeze and you see a bald eagle or a flock of seagulls flying over them or in the winter when the field is white with snow, and you see the historic church museum and the big white barn south of it with a blue sky overhead – it is quite a picturesque scene to start walking into Vermilion. Please do not ruin this historic area. She noted that you go past this and go under the railroad track and you continue down Baumhart Road you have the old Ford plant and all kinds of things, and when you turn on Lake Road and you start up the first thing you see by the beautiful sign that welcomes you into Vermilion – "The Small Town on a Great Lake" you see a big junk yard and as you continue down to Liberty all the way past Sunnyside, this is exactly what you see. To her to take this beautiful 119 acres before the railroad track and keep it beautiful so that when the people can go by they see Vermilion in a beautiful light and not what they would see with this giant thing.

Milo J. Hildebrandt of 2480 Brownhelm Station Road said everyone in attendance needs to understand that anybody that lives out in this area is against this – I'm against it. We are not against development – we're just against this development. You're talking a hundred thousand trucks out there – lights, pollution. You can look it up online – diesel fumes have been linked to cause cancer. This is known by any lawyer that does business with that type of stuff. I brought something in today just for a demonstration and all this is, is a backup beeper. This is an OSHA approved backup beeper, and this will be on every yard dog in that yard – who knows how many they'll have. Every truck that comes in there – if it is Amazon – as required by that company – not just the semis – every vehicle has to have an OSHA approved beeper on it. The reason he knows this is because he works for the railroad and he owns equipment, and this is what he gets to listen to 16 hours a day – that's just one beeper. You can't stand that for 30 seconds – this city built how much infrastructure up here – millions of dollars because uptown Vermilion could not stand the train noise, but yet you did not think enough to consider it bring it out to the ends of Vermilion – why did it not go all the way out? Why didn't it come out to Vermilion Road? Why didn't it come out to Sunnyside? Why didn't it get to the ends of Vermilion? If you can't stand the train noise, but yet you're going to expect the residents to live in this area to put up with this stuff, and this is what they're upset about.

Donna Kelly of 1820 Claus Road voiced that she is deathly against this. She will be looking at it and will not be able to walk out in her yard without looking at that site. Those bright lights all night and the noise all night, and the pollution. She doesn't think it is fair that this is put on them and she thinks anybody that is for this project ought to be looking in their neighborhoods to put it there – not their neighborhood!

Marsha Funk of 256 Ballast Court said she is 100% in favor of this project, but she probably wouldn't be very happy if it was going in her back yard, but if this project goes down she thinks it will be one of the worse things for the city. They talk about traffic, but they had Ford for how many years and how many years to those big, huge trucks come down Baumhart just to get on Route 2 to go to Avon. It was

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continually happening. The financial benefit to the city is astronomical and this is like the city winning a huge lottery. Who here would like to double their property tax to make up for this? I mean you go to cities in Cuyahoga County on the west side of Cleveland and they pay double or triple of what they pay in property taxes because some of them have no businesses, and everything around here people complain about the streets – complain about the bridge that is nobody's fault here, and it's just everything they complain about – the drainage – this is going to be such a benefit and these companies that come in, whichever one it is and she has seen several of their distribution centers – they are well maintained and there will probably be the best drainage from Route 2 north to the lake once this company comes in. They talk about the traffic lights into their developments, and she knows people that work there and a guy that just got a big management job on a new center down in Florida and he loves it. The people that are working there – they work four 10-hour days, but they work different shifts. To me it is a no-brainer, but like she said the last time at the Planning Commission meeting – any development is going to affect somebody. I don't care if they put a housing development in – it's going to affect somebody. But this will give such a return to this city and if you're not doing it for the people today – we are doing it for the future generations that will benefit from this.

Susan Dupay of 2335 Cooper Foster Park Road said this distribution center will be less than a mile from her home. I already hear the trains at night – whistles blowing – you can even hear the wheels clacking on the tracks. Okay, a distribution center with all those trucks coming in and out, in and out – that is going to destroy the peace and quiet that I came here for. I moved here 15 years ago, and I drive 60 miles each day round trip back and forth to work because I enjoy the peace and quiet. I already lived in the big city. I lived in the suburbs of Cleveland, and I came out here to escape all that. A distribution center is going to destroy all that – not to mention displace a lot of the people whose back yards this is going to be in. All I can say is – put it in your back yard. How would you feel?

Thomas Palmer of 1680 Cooper Foster Park Road said, I think you all know how I feel about this project, and it is going to be in my back yard – I'm going to look at it. I don't use the infrastructure you want to use this money for. I don't have sewers. The water I get is from Rural Water and that's what will be supplying them, so you're going to put all this money downtown like you always do – with the railroad money too. I just wish all of you would vote no on this. I'm asking you to do that and if you don't do it, we're going to look at a referendum, so I'm just letting you know.

Bob Leimbach of 1425 Claus Road said this monstrosity will be in his back yard and he is a little bit concerned about it. He wanted to say that nobody who favors this has to live with it. I support progress, education, and industry. I do not support this project. This is a very big project with a negative affect on the environment, traffic, air quality, and it will destroy their neighborhood. My family has been there for five generations, and I really don't want to leave. I don't know how anybody can stand it – you already heard the beeper that Milo brought in. Can you imagine living with that in your back yard all day long – every day. I believe there is a more appropriate project that could be found in the city.

Kurt Kauk of 2289 Arndt Road sensed this motion will pass anyway despite the obvious opposition, but it makes me wonder – how long have these thoughts been going on – a year, two years. All of that time and our involvement has been reduced to two open forums. I wonder why there weren't so many letters of support at the first meeting you invited us to. I wonder how many of their homes will be affected. It must be nice to have all your friends write letters of support in their quiet homes. I only have a handful of unappreciated neighbors – all of whom feel unheard and taken advantage of. I wonder when we're going to be given the same amount of thought as the rest of this city and its residents. I wonder when I'm going to see a real leadership.

Pat Latto of 8055 Claus Road, Amherst said she came here tonight not expecting to speak. She came in support of the people who are going to be affected by this. I did write a letter early on in opposition, which she did not hear her name, but she had written a letter. The way I look at it two ways is I'm opposed to it for the reasons that have already been presented and I have to be honest with you – my heart just breaks for the people who are going to live around this, and I understand the money is a big thing, and it's very easy for people to say, let's do this when it's not in their back yard. Stop and think about where you live and how you would like that in your back yard, so I'm opposed. S. Herron asked if she wrote a letter or emailed it. P. Latto said she wrote a letter early on. G. Fisher said it might have been read earlier into the record because each time they get them we read them at that point. *(Upon review of past minutes by the clerk, please note her letter was entered into the record on October 25, 2021)*

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Todd VanThoor of 2010 Cooper Foster Park Road said, "You guys probably already have your minds made up. There is probably nothing we can say or do, but we already hear the gun range – that's been shot down and nobody is helping with that – nobody is helping to try knock the noise down. Now, you're going to add the trucks to this, so trucks are going to drown probably over that – they're never going to stop, so either way you look at it – it's going to be noisy every day. I'm a fabricator mechanic and I don't know if anybody has even thought about this part – what do diesel trucks do – leak – lots of oil – where is that going to go – right into the drains – from the drains where is that going to go – right in the water. So, there is more pollution. Not just the smoke that is in the air, but the oil – the diesel fuel that is leaking out of the tanks. I mean like I said, you guys probably have your minds made up. I'm opposed to it, and I hope you guys put that into consideration.

Mark Musial of 5243 Portage Drive said he and his wife are very much in support of this change. We're relatively new to Vermilion, but I've been a westside of Clevelander all my life and watched many communities grow from a size of 6,000 or 7,000 to 30,000. I grew up in North Olmsted and raised our family in Avon Lake. The economics of Vermilion expansion is going to come. The fact that you do it while you can control it and manage it is what's more important. Industrial tax base – you cannot generate more revenue for the city then an industrial tax base – certainly better than farming, homes, even commercial. At this point, we are not looking at rezoning most of the acreage – it's the frontage and yes it is being done to bring in a large project, but the way it is zoned right now you can have similar kinds of projects with similar kinds of traffic, with similar kinds of trucks and diesel and smoke. It is how you manage it for us and that is what we're expecting of you. So, I urge you to change the zoning so maybe this project can go forward. Your role and large part are to make sure that whatever growth we do have, it is done in a safe, efficient, and thoughtful way for all of us. There is no way to avoid growth and expansion – it will come and when you can control it, it's the best that we can ask for. Sooner or later, it is going to come, and we can't please everybody all the time.

Chris Lugli of 2615 Liberty Avenue spoke in support of the project. If you look it is already commercial zoning and light industrial zoning. This property was designed for something similar to this – it's just the zoning changes that would be needed. Certain configurations with the building so you wouldn't have to be here today. If you look at the possibilities of what could go in there it probably would have a lot of traffic and noise, and everything else. Much like you already have on Route 2 and the train track that is there, and you have four lanes on Baumhart Road. He said this would be a good thing for the city with the property tax increase for the property and payroll taxes that would come from the facility, as well as the other businesses that would go in the area to support this facility. He is in support of this.

Adjournment:

S. Herron adjourned the Vermilion City Council Public Hearing upon no further discussion.

Transcribed by: Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk

BAUMHART ROAD REZONING
LETTERS OF SUPPORT

1. Tamara Brigadier
2. Jared Stump
3. Mary Stump
4. Jim Chapple
5. Crystal Kuhn
6. Brad Schwab
7. Melanie McAllister
8. John Waggoner
9. Paul Habermehl
10. Kenny Greer
11. Chris Chase
12. Dino Gonzales
13. Cliff German
14. Danielle Engle
15. Dick Backus
16. Susan Backus
17. Terry Kane
18. Beverly Stipe
19. Adam Garcia
20. Lori Barauskas
21. Terri Barthel
22. Denver Schaffer
23. Mark Benson
24. Terry Brown
25. Faith Brewer
26. Candy Goff
27. Greg Goff
28. Donna Givens
29. Shari Beckwith
30. Christa Turnbull
31. Michael Cremean
32. Janine Jacobs
33. Robert Green
34. Elaine Reisdorf
35. Lisa Fiedler
36. Josh Frederick (Amherst)
37. Miki Kopocs (Lorain)
38. Betsy Wakefield

39. Lewie Kuhn
40. Richard Hardesty
41. Bill Pearce
42. Rusty Pearce
43. Rick Barck
44. Monika Shaffer
45. Kathleen Morrison
46. Bob Funk
47. Marsha Funk
48. Steve Reust
49. Debbie Reust
50. Pam Davidson
51. Steve Allor
52. Tina Allor
53. Marcus Gross
54. Cary Grocott
55. Richard Hartman
56. Kristie Hartman
57. Kenneth Cassell
58. Janet Cassell
59. Robert Risdon
60. Mary Pavlick
61. Beth Young
62. David Karasevic
63. Mike Kopocs
64. Jack Young
65. Carol Lothridge
66. Kerri Smith
67. Hope Csongedi
68. Jerry Schrenk
69. Homer Taft (partially support)
70. Cathy Clouse

BAUMHART ROAD REZONING
LETTERS OF OPPOSITION

1. Bob Leimbach
2. Vicki Leimbach
3. Ed Brill
4. Marilyn Brill
5. Megan Zander
6. Kathleen Queen (Amherst)
7. Jason Kuhnle (Amherst)
8. Jeff Kromer
9. Jean Kromer
10. Todd McCann (Amherst)
11. Dani McCann (Amherst)
12. Andrew Haenisch
13. Kathy Whitmore (Amherst)
14. William Davis
15. Toni Davis
16. Todd Ott
17. Carrie Ott
18. Cathyrn Ott
19. Daniel Ott
20. Linda Sexstella
21. Nick Demos
22. Sharon Demos
23. Katie Baker
24. Anne Palmer
25. Thomas Palmer
26. Rebecca Dombrowski
27. Bob Dombrowski
28. Tammy Perry (Henrietta Township)
29. John Lasko
30. Bill Davis

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To: Vermilion City Council

My name is Dan Kaighin. I live at 1450 Claus Road in Vermilion. I'm here to speak to you about the request to amend Section 1270.15 entitled "District Regulations" and its adoption. But first a little background.

I'm holding an ADVISORY entitled "CITY OF VERMILION DEVELOPS A POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN – MERCURY REDUCTION. I received this on or about October 20, 2021. It expresses concern for the health and wellbeing of the city's human and wildlife residents relative to the polluting of the city's waste water. I wholeheartedly applaud the city's deep concern for the health and welfare of us humans and other residents of Vermilion; I eagerly look forward to that same concern when it comes to other pollutants, such as clouds of black, diesel smoke spewing into the lower atmosphere in and around our front yards near the area proposed for development. Please VOTE NO to the proposed amendment to Section 1270.15 and keep Vermilion's concern for our health and welfare consistent.



Race Track AZ - stock photo

Truck emitting black smoke from dual exhaust pipes on highway

DETAILS

Credit:	Seth Joel
Creative #:	82301949
License type:	Royalty-free
Collection:	Photographer's Choice RF
Location:	Prescott, Arizona, United States
Release info:	No release required

ADVISORY

CITY OF VERMILION DEVELOPS A POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN – MERCURY REDUCTION

The new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requires the City of Vermilion to reduce mercury levels in our wastewater system. Mercury can be harmful to the environment as well as the health of humans and wildlife. It also makes sense financially. If we don't reduce the amount of mercury that we put into the sewer, there could be very expensive consequences, such as, mandated requirements that we install costly equipment at the wastewater treatment facility to remove mercury from the wastewater system.

To avoid harming the health of humans and wildlife, and keep sewer rates as low as possible, we need to make a conscious effort to properly dispose of mercury and mercury containing items. In order to reduce mercury levels and work to meet the requirements of the wastewater treatment operating permit, the City will be working with area businesses that may use mercury containing items and eventually phase them out as it is feasible. However, past studies and experiences indicate that much of the mercury introduced into the wastewater system may come from household use.

To reduce mercury in homes the city needs your help.

Mercury (Hg): Mercury is an extremely toxic, non-degrading substance in the environment. As an environmental contaminant, mercury travels far and wide in air and water. Mercury poisoning has been linked to the nervous system, kidney, liver, and childhood development impairments.

What can you do to reduce mercury in your wastewater?

Remove mercury at the source by bringing your mercury to an authorized mercury collection site. Mercury can be found in electrical switches, thermostats, fluorescent lights, blood pressure gauges, chemical reagents, and cleaners. Do not pour mercury down the drain and do not place it in the trash. Please call the Erie County Solid Waste Management District, they can be contacted at 1 (888) 399 – 6065 or visit their website at eriecounty.oh.gov for further instructions.

ALTERNATIVES TO MERCURY CONTAINING DEVICES

COMPONENT OR PRODUCT	NONMERCURY ALTERNATIVES
THERMOMETER	ALCOHOL OR MINERAL SPIRIT-FILLED GLASS BULB, DIGITAL
BATTERIES	LITHIUM MINIATURE BATTERIES
PAINT	DO NOT USE EXTERIOR PAINTS INDOORS
SWITCHES AND RELAYS	MECHANICAL OR SOLID STATE SWITCHES
FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS	LIGHT EMITTING DIODES (LED'S)
FLAME SENSOR	ELECTRONIC IGNITION SYSTEMS