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Date: October 28, 2014

Revised: December 10, 2014

January 30, 2015

March 20, 2015

**Site Plan Review
For
Northfield Township, Michigan**

Applicant: Damrath Group, LLC – John Damrath

Project Name: Nowatzke Truck + Trailer, Inc. Fuel Center

Plan Date: October 10, 2014

Revised Plan Date: March 6, 2015

Location: 6900 Whitmore Lake Road (B-02-20-300-036)

Zoning: GC, General Commercial

Action Requested: Site Plan Approval.

Required Information: Deficiencies are noted in the sections below.

PROJECT AND SITE DESCRIPTION

The applicant proposes to construct a new 2,285 square foot convenience store (as a renovation within the existing building), four (4) gasoline dispensers with canopy and three (3) diesel fuel dispensers with canopy.

Automotive service station, including minor repair services is listed as a conditional use in the GC, General Commercial zoning district. The applicant received a recommendation of Planning Commission approval for the conditional use request, and conditional use approval by the Township Board on September 23, 2014 with the following conditions of approval:

1. The traffic impact study be reviewed and approved by the County Road Commission as a part of the detailed site plan review process. (WCRC approved the Traffic Study – see letter from WCRC dated January 7, 2015.)
2. The applicant apply for full (detailed) site plan review.
3. Items 1 through 7 listed in the Engineer’s August 13, 2014 letter be addressed as a part of the detailed site plan review process and noted as such by Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment. (See Engineer’s review.)
4. Any non-conformities on the existing site be remediated according to the zoning ordinance. (Applicant is working through non-conformities with the building inspector.)

Figure 1. - Aerial Photograph



AREA, WIDTH, HEIGHT, SETBACKS

The dimensional requirements of the GC, General Commercial district are noted on the following page;

	<u>Required</u>	<u>Provided</u>	<u>Compliant</u>
Lot Area	10,000 sq.ft.(with sanitary sewer)	7.28 acres	Complies
Lot Width	80 feet (with sanitary sewer)	approx. 455 feet	Complies
<u>Setbacks</u>			
Front	35 feet	80 feet to proposed canopy	Complies
Side	20 feet	45 feet to existing building (south) 123 feet to proposed canopy (north)	Complies
Rear	20 feet	110 feet to existing building	Complies
Lot Coverage	25%	41.28% - existing	Existing non-conformity
Building Height	45 feet	18 feet – canopy Convenience store height existing condition (renovation to existing structure)	Complies

Building setbacks were scale measured as distance to buildings and other site features have not been dimensioned. Scaled elevation drawings of the proposed convenience store have been included in the plan set.

Items to be Addressed: None.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The proposed site is currently built and contains a paved surface in the locations where the proposed convenience store and gasoline/diesel pumps and canopies will be constructed. No natural resources will be compromised in the construction of the proposed uses.

Further, the underground storage tank location is noted north of the proposed gasoline canopy area. An Underground Storage Tank Plan Review Report conducted by MDEQ has been included in the applicant's latest submittal indicating no major deficiencies have been noted. Tank detail sheets (T-300 and T-301) have been provided as requested. Permits will be required prior to Final Zoning Compliance and Certificate of Occupancy.

Items to be Addressed: *Underground storage tank permits will be required prior to Final Zoning Compliance and Certificate of Occupancy.*

BUILDING LOCATION AND SITE ARRANGEMENT

As noted above, the proposed building location is acceptable and meets ordinance standards. The proposed location of the fuel canopies appears logical in relation to the rest of the site. In our previous review, we questioned whether the distance between the diesel pump canopy and the adjacent parking spaces allows adequate maneuverability for vehicles. The applicant

has demonstrated truck maneuverability north of the convenience store, and demonstrated an 18-foot aisle width as required.

Further trailer storage and display is not depicted on the eastern portion of the property adjacent to US-23, and should not be allowed within or adjacent to the detention basin area. Note B-6 on Sheet C-100 indicates vehicles within the detention area will be relocated to appropriate parking areas. We had recommended previously that the detention basin be planted with native wetland plantings. The applicant's cover letter indicates a note has been added to Sheet L-100 describing native wetland plantings in the detention pond, which provides for a native seed mixture to be applied.

Items to be addressed: None.

PARKING, LOADING

Section 61.04 outlines off-street parking requirements for various uses. The most similar use to the existing trailer repair facility listed in the parking requirements is "automobile service stations". In addition to the parking required for the existing trailer repair facility, the proposed convenience store parking requirement is noted under "general retail sales establishments, not elsewhere classified". The following table demonstrates both the proposed and required parking for the uses on the site:

	Required	Total Parking Provided
Retail (1 per 200 s.f. – 2,285 s.f. / 200 = 12 spaces)	59	46
Auto Service Station (1 per 800 s.f. + 1 per 4 employees + 5 per each service bay = (21,288.7 s.f./800)=27 + 2 +30 =		
Barrier Free	2	2

Based upon the required parking calculations, the uses on site require 59 parking spaces, thirty-eight (38) automobile spaces are provided, and an additional 41 truck stalls. Section 61.03 G. allows for a reduction in parking when a parking lot serves two (2) or more uses where the operating hours of the uses do not overlap.

The applicant has provided the hours of operation for the convenience store will be 24 hours and the trailer repair business will operate from 8AM to 8PM. The applicant indicates further while the two (2) uses will be utilized on the same property, they will not interact with one another or have the need to "share" parking spaces.

Two (2) barrier-free parking spaces have been provided as required.

Items to be addressed: None.

SITE ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

As provided in the conditional use review information, the site plan demonstrates a left turn lane at the north driveway as recommended in the traffic impact assessment study produced by Fleis + Vandenbrink. Review and approval of the traffic impact assessment and the associated improvements to Whitmore Lake Road has been approved by the WCRC (approved at their March 3, 2015 meeting).

The Sheet C-200 provides the boundary survey of the site, and calls out the various easements within the subject parcel. It notes the location of the recorded easement agreement for the ingress, egress, utilities, signs and drainage at the Washtenaw County Registrar of Deeds. A copy of the easement document has been provided for review.

Sheet C-202 demonstrates truck turning radii throughout the site. We note the circulation path demonstrates trucks will be traversing upon existing paved surfaces within the site.

Items to be addressed: None.

LANDSCAPING

A separate landscape plan is required to demonstrate that the existing landscape material meets current standards. A signed and sealed landscape plan has been provided as part of the submitted plan set.

One (1) tree per each 8 parking spaces is required. Thirteen (13) parking spaces are proposed adjacent to the convenience store, in addition twenty-five (25) parking spaces currently exist adjacent to the south driveway, and 41 trailer parking spaces are demonstrated along the northern property line. Based on the parking demonstrated on the plan, six (6) parking lot trees are required.

In addition to existing landscaping, two (2) new Red Maple trees and six (6) Colorado Spruce trees are proposed in the northwest corner of the site. Additional Juniper shrubs are also proposed at both sides of the driveway from Whitmore Lake Road (northern drive). We had previously suggested additional plantings south of the driveway along Whitmore Lake Road. In response, five (5) additional Armstrong Maple trees have been added along the Whitmore Lake Road ROW as suggested.

We had also previously suggested that additional landscaping adjacent to Whitmore Lake Road, particularly screening the propane tank would greatly enhance the site's aesthetics. Additional screening of the propane tank has been provided.

Further, landscaping adjacent to US-23 would enhance the aesthetics of the area and further screen the site from view. The applicant has provided groupings of shrubbery along the periphery of the detention basin. We suggest in addition to the shrubbery, the applicant

provide a row of spruce trees along the eastern perimeter of the detention area to provide screening of the site from US 23.

Items to be addressed: Consider addition of a row of spruce trees along the eastern perimeter of the detention area to provide screening from US 23.

LIGHTING

A lighting plan has been provided demonstrating photometrics and fixture details. Section 60.31 requires all fixtures be downward directed; all proposed fixtures appear to be downward directed.

In addition, all lighting fixtures shall not exceed 16 feet in height. All proposed fixtures are shown with a height of 14 or 15 feet. Four (4) fixtures are shown at 24 and 25 feet in height; these are noted as existing non-conforming light poles to remain.

Further, lighting illumination levels at property lines meet the standards of Section 60.31 E.1. However, the maximum lighting levels cannot exceed 25 foot-candles directly beneath a fixture, and shall not exceed 3 foot-candles directly between two (2) light fixtures. The lighting levels beneath and adjacent to the fuel canopies have been modified from the previous submittal to meet the required illumination levels.

Items to be addressed: None.

SIGNS

Two (2) existing freestanding signs are depicted along Whitmore Lake Road to be removed, as well as detail for a new freestanding ID/Price Sign (Sheet AG-100) which will be located north of the driveway.

The proposed freestanding meets the requirements outlined in Section 62.06. In addition to the freestanding sign, one (1) wall sign is proposed on the south elevation of the gasoline fuel canopy. Section 62.08 allows the permitted signs set forth in Section 62.06 A.1. To be attached either to a wall of the building or to the canopy of a fuel pump island. Section 62.06 A.1. allows for one wall sign.

Items to be Addressed: None.

FLOOR PLAN AND ELEVATIONS

Floor plans have been provided and appear acceptable. Elevations of the canopy and fuel dispensers have been provided on Sheets A-201 and A-202. Elevations demonstrating the new convenience store have been included in the plan set.

Items to be Addressed: None.

VARIANCES


None requested or required.

Items to be Addressed: None.


RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend the following items be addressed prior to site plan approval:

1. Items 1 through 7 listed in the Engineer's August 13, 2014 letter be addressed as a part of the detailed site plan review process and noted as such by Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment.
2. Any non-conformities on the existing site be remediated according to the Zoning Ordinance.
3. Underground storage tank permits will be required prior to Final Zoning Compliance and Certificate of Occupancy.
4. Consider addition of a row of spruce trees along the eastern perimeter of the detention area to provide screening from US 23.



CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.
Douglas J. Lewan, PCP, AICP
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John Damrath via jd@damrath.com



ARCHITECTS. ENGINEERS. PLANNERS.

March 20, 2015

Northfield Township
Building & Zoning Department
8350 Main Street, Suite A
Whitmore Lake, Michigan 48189

Regarding: **Nowatzke Fuel Station**
Site Plan Review No. 4
OHM Job No. 0151-14-1021

We have reviewed the site plan material, dated March 6, 2015 and received by this office on March 13, 2015, for proposed site improvements to the Nowatzke Truck & Trailer, Inc. property located at 6900 Whitmore Lake Road. Plans were reviewed according to Township guidelines and engineering standards. A brief description of the project, followed by our comments, is provided below.

The applicant is requesting site plan approval for gasoline and diesel dispensers with fueling pads and canopies of 2,592 square feet and 1,440 square feet, respectively. Two underground storage tanks of 20,000 gallons and 30,000 gallons are also proposed. A convenience store is proposed to occupy 2,285 square feet of the existing building on-site.

Site Drainage

1. A drainage area map for the overall system, including any runoff from neighboring properties and County ROW contributing to the drainage area, shall be included. It appears that the drainage area on the southwest side of Whitmore Lake Road drains through an 18 inch storm sewer under Whitmore Lake Road towards the existing detention basin, and has not been included in the on-site stormwater system. We are aware that the existing pond was designed and constructed to include some amount of offsite flow from the Whitmore Lake Road ROW and surrounding properties, and this must be accounted for in the volume calculations.
2. The proposed expansion to the existing detention basin appears to be insufficient to store the as-calculated 100-year storm volume.
3. An emergency spillway shall be provided for the existing detention basin.
4. The Applicant shall provide the impervious cover post-development 100-year storm volume, and the total 100-year storm volume in the runoff summary.

Permits and Other Agency Approvals

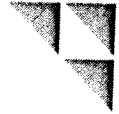
Copies of all permits and/or letters of waiver, obtained to date, shall be forwarded to this office. The current status of all necessary permits should be included on the cover sheet. Before construction plan approval can be issued, the applicant must submit all necessary permits/approvals, including but not limited to the following agencies:

- Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) for the work within the Whitmore Lake Road right-of-way and approval of the traffic impact assessment.
- Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office (WCWRC) for drainage, soil erosion and sedimentation control.
- Northfield Township Building Department.
- Northfield Township Fire Department approval for fire code compliance.

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Conclusion and Recommendations

As submitted, the site plan appears to be in substantial compliance with The Charter Township of Northfield requirements. We take no exception to the proposed site plan and recommend the Planning Commission consider approval of the site plan conditional upon the above mentioned comments being addressed administratively.

Please feel free to contact Jacob Rushlow at (734) 466-4517 or jacob.rushlow@ohm-advisors.com if you have any questions or concerns regarding this review.

Sincerely,

OHM ADVISORS

Jacob Rushlow, P.E.
Township Engineer

cc: Howard Fink, Township Manager (via e-mail)
 William Wagner, Public Safety Director (via e-mail)
 Pam Boegler, Northfield Township (via e-mail)
 Kurt Weiland, Building/Zoning Official (via e-mail)
 Marlene Chockley, Planning Commission Chair (via e-mail)
 Doug Lewan, Carlisle/Wortman Associates (via e-mail)
 John Damrath, Damrath Group, LLC, (via e-mail)
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