

Planning commission
Regular Meeting
September 20, 2018

Members Present: Mark Batkie, Al Stoutenburg, Dale Schoen, Nathan Campbell, and Sheila Coats, also present Zoning Administrator, Richard Honaman.

Members Absent: William Dixon

Guests: None

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Al Stoutenburg, all present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: Additions or corrections to Agenda, Planning Commission By Laws.

Minutes: Any additions or corrections from April 5, 2018 minutes, none stated, motion to approve minutes by Dale Schoen, second by Nathan Campbell, minutes approved.

Old Business: Bobbitt, Rich went and spoke with Sanilac Transportation and the school system and asked them to no blow horns, for now the issue seems to be resolved.

There were issues regarding the Master Plan:

1. MTA, Al went to meeting on June 19th in Frankenmuth. Many from other Sanilac County townships were present. They had a slide presentation. A couple of things of importance were on Page 2, All decisions made at a public meeting, they stressed Open Meetings. On Page 3, right to attend meeting has the right to broadcast. Also, you can tell people where to stand, note must have rules posted on the wall. Don't have to sign in, but can still talk. Adopt rules of procedure before meeting. Limit speaking to 3 minutes. Can't give your 3 minutes to someone else. Page 4, Notice of the meeting can be on Township website, or in the paper. Page 5, Can file an Open meeting violation if you don't provide within 8 days. Public comment must be part of every meeting. Can have on 2 times. Page 6, Print up and give to Board the rules, add no texting during the meeting. Page 7, If you close public hearing - Keep it closed. Motion, Close and Vote - Can't keep on discussing. Don't let Public comment to discuss. Page 8, Publish not less than 15 days before date of the hearing (16 days) and 300 ft by mail. Second half of meeting was "Right to Farm Act" Page 10, Guy owned 10 acres and had horses, tried to stop spreading manure, was located in residential area. As long as he follows Right to Farm Act rules, he can do what is allowed. Medical Marijuana is not protected by RTFA. Page 11 and 12, Covers what is and is not protected. Wedding barns are an issue - 1 on Marlette Rd, increases to traffic. Page 14, Driveway issue in a subdivision, property was landlocked. Page 16, Limiting the number of livestock, limit manure to certain fields, this is against the GAMP rules. Advised all to read the rest of them. Then Al handed out the GAMP rules and meet each year and discuss these rules. Al Stated it was a very interesting meeting. Management practices for Farm Markets.

Rich stated 5 – 15 days prior to meetings in our ordinances. We should ask attorney if that is the law. All owners and occupants @ 1500 ft, should be 300 ft. Notice should be posted once in local paper. Open Meetings Act – Page 8, Zoning notice provisions.

Discussed internet survey – survey results most comments – expensive and goes in and out all of the time.

Medical marijuana questions, Board has resident who wants to have a medical marijuana farm in the Township. Board previously chose to do nothing which allowed us to opt out. Now resident wants to petition to put on the ballot. States he owns a piece of property and says he has an investor who wants to invest in the marijuana farm. Rich will discuss with attorney our situation. Resident wants to go on to the agenda. Thinks we have allow him on our agenda, got an e-mail, 80% township are not allowing. Need 10% of last election which was 280 voters. If get 15% would have Special Election.

Discussion and Review of Ordinances. Al sked how commission would like to address the ordinances. Rich stated Ordinances need to match Master Plan. Parking spots are one item needs to be addressed. Dog Kennels are also an issue. Tree boundaries, fences and Section 14.04 needs clarification. Everyone needs to review the zoning ordinances, Windmill Ordinance and Solar Ordinance. Also, look over Planning Commission By Laws prior to December Meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Sheila Coats at 8:40 PM, seconded by Mark Batkie, motion approved. Meeting adjourned 8:40PM.

Respectfully submitted: *Sheila Coats*, **Watertown Township Planning Commission**