



Watertown Township

2630 South Sandusky Road, Sandusky, Michigan

48471

Watertown Township Planning Commission

Approved Minutes: Thursday April 18th, 2024 - 6:00 P.M. Meeting

CALL TO ORDER WITH PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE @ 6:00 PM by Chairman Jim Hacker

PRESENT: Becky Cambridge, Nathan Campbell, Mark Batkie, Jim Hacker, Al Stoutenburg, Jim Franzel, and Jason Radloff

ABSENT: none

GUESTS: Soyoung Park, Colin Daning, Dick Henderson, Mike & Christine Papp, Jim & Holli Boyles, Don & Diane Ferguson, Clint Stoutenburg, Scott Kenny, Rick Pangborn, Ray Welker, Mike Smith, Lyne' Stauffer, Bill Parrish, Jim Cambridge, Jon Arnold, Ken Landsburg, Daphine Durand, and others.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST BOARD MEETING:

Motion to accept the minutes as presented by: Becky Cambridge, Support By: Al Stoutenburg, motion passed unanimously

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:

Motion to accept the agenda as presented by: Becky Cambridge, Support By: Jim Franzel, motion passed unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE: none

PUBLIC OFFICIALS: none

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Rick Pangborn a 50yr resident of Watertown Township has been involved with this solar fiasco since the start and has decided to sell his house. He has had 2 buyers with offers that exceeded the asking price and because of solar the buyers backed out. He can't sell because of the possibility of solar and it's a misconception that solar is adding value.
2. Mike Smith a Watertown resident for 38 years thanks the Planning Commission and talked about Jason Hayes from the Mackinaw Center for Public Policy giving a presentation to We The County. The conclusion is that wind and solar as a primary source of electricity is not going to maintain our electric needs. He talked about Public Act 233 and that once solar is on high quality farm land the odds are unlikely that the land will ever be farmed again. He also talked about the 4,000-acre solar complex in Texas that got pummeled by hail and the toxic heavy metals that are leaking into the ground. He also gave some figures from Jason Hayes that if we reach "Net Carbon Zero" for carbon output by year 2100 the thermometer will only move by .0015 degrees Celsius.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of the Watertown Solar Public Hearing being postponed. Notification of the public hearing was not mailed out to the correct residents therefore it could not take place. Discussion of when to have it next and with the Master Plan already on the agenda for May the following motion was made.

Motion to reschedule Watertown Solar's Public Hearing for June 20th's regular scheduled Planning Commission meeting by: Jason Radloff, Support by: Al Stoutenburg. Roll Call Vote: All vote yes except Jim Hacker

2. Discussion of the Solar Ordinance redline review amendment from Foster & Swift started last year. The PC discussed and Becky is going to email Foster & Swift for them to put a final draft together.

Motion to approve the redline solar ordinance review by Foster & Swift with the Planning Commissions Amendments by: Al Stoutenburg, Support by: Jim Franzel, motion passed unanimously.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. The PC discussed Twp. ordinances and would like to get together a list of all the ordinances and move forward with updating the ordinance book.
2. The Master Plan public hearing is scheduled for May and the Spicer Group is handling the postings. They are supposed to have bound copies for the Planning Commission.

ADJOURN: *Motion By: Jim Franzel @ 6:45 PM Support By: Nathan Campbell, motion passed unanimously*

Next Planning Board Meeting Thursday, May 16th, 2024 at 6:00 pm.