



Watertown Township

2630 South Sandusky Road, Sandusky, Michigan
48471

Watertown Township Planning Commission

Approved Minutes: Thursday May 16th, 2024 - 6:00 P.M. Meeting

CALL TO ORDER WITH PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE @ 6:04 PM by Chairman Jim Hacker

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

ABSENT: Jason Radloff

GUESTS: Jim Cambridge, Dick Henderson, Scott Kenny, 2 reps from Spicer Group, and Diane Ferguson

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 amended by: Becky Cambridge, Support By: Jim Franzel, motion passed unanimously

1. Add Solar Update under Continuing Business #2

CORRESPONDENCE: Spicer Group

PUBLIC OFFICIALS: none

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

PUBLIC HEARING: Opened @ 6:09PM

Presentation by the Spicer Group. The 60-day review has been out and no comments back. Additions to be made are the Map showing future commercial down M-46 and the cover image to be the front of the township hall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Marc Kaszubski talked about rural preservation in the master plan. Stated that over 1700 farms have been lost to solar in 2021-2022. Over 500,000 acres of farm ground. He pointed out that in the master plan placing solar along existing power lines is a problem. He quoted survey results from the master plan survey that most people do not want wind or solar in the township.

Motion to adopt the Master Plan with changes as discussed with the Spicer Group by: Becky, Support by Jim Franzel, Roll Call vote: Becky-yes, Nathan-yes, Mark-yes, Jim H.-yes, Jim F.,-yes, and Al-yes.

Cindy from Spicer will email a final pdf.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED @ 6:24PM

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of setting times & dates for residents to come and review the Solar Application
2. Need to have the engineering firm and Foster & Swift present for the public hearing.
3. The public hearing is June 20th for the solar application, Notices will be mailed in time.
4. The pc needs to look into setbacks for movable sheds and differences in residential and ag-residential zoning districts.

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. Al & Jason have been compiling what they have.
2. Solar update packet on ordinance definitions. Application should be complete.

Motion to add above & below ground transmission line in the latest Red Line Solar Ordinance with Jim Hackers description by: Becky, Support By: Nathan, motion passes unanimously.

Motion to send solar amendments to Clear Ideas to finish typesetting by: Al, Support by: Jim Franzel, motion passes unanimously.

3. Look over Genie's hand out of frequently asked solar questions.

ADJOURN: *Motion By: Jim Franzel @ 7:09 PM Support By: Mark Batkie, motion passed unanimously*

Next Planning Board Meeting Thursday, June 20th, 2024 at 6:00 pm.