

FREEMAN TOWNSHIP PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Minutes For November 2, 2016

Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Planning Commission Members Present: Stevens, Wells, Phillips, Pohoda and Maas

Absent: None.

A quorum was present.

Others Present: Roger Bogenschutz, Al Housler

Public Comments: None.

Minutes: Chairman Stevens asked for a motion "To accept the October 6, 2016 meeting minutes as written." Motion: Phillips, 2nd Pohoda: Motion Carried.

Agenda: Chairman Stevens asked for a motion "To accept the November 2, 2016 Planning Meeting Agenda as written with the addition of the 2017 Planning Commission meeting dates to New Business":

Motion: Pohoda, 2nd Phillips: Motion Carried.

Meeting Business Activities:

A. Chairman's Comments:

1. Chairman Stevens asked Mr. Housler if there was any further movement on the re-zoning the property(s) at Garfield and Twin Lakes. Mr. Housler said that he had called the main person involved several times with no result; however, he was able to talk to a woman who knows the gentlemen and she stated that he has been very busy.

B. Education – General: None.

C. Zoning Administrator/Blight Officer Report:

1. Mr. Logan stated that he had three (3) zoning permits last month and has five (5) blight issues that will probably be going to court.
2. Mr. Logan further stated that he never issued any kind of permit for a port-a-potty. The gentlemen in question in Lake Tahoe had asked him if he needed a permit and according to the Freeman Township Zoning Ordinance he does not; however, if he wants to put in a flush toilet type system he will then have to meet all applicable code requirements.
3. Mr. Logan was asked if port-a-potties have any set-back requirements to which he said there were none that they are not a "fixed" structure.
4. Mr. Bogenschutz asked which set of standards are adhered to, Freeman Township, Clare County or the State of Michigan? Mr. Logan stated that the more strict regulation is the one used per our own Zoning Ordinance.
5. Mr. Logan was asked about the small structure on Mannsiding that appeared for a while as if someone was living there. Mr. Logan stated that he had told the gentleman that the structure was not a legal structure for living and added that Consumers was asked by him to hook up power, but Consumers will not hook up power to it without township approval.

D. Current Business:

1. Long Term Agenda:
 - a. It was agreed by all Planning Commission members that per the preceding discussion the item of port-a-potties will not be put on the Long term Agenda.

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Minutes For November 2, 2016 (continued)

2. **Ordinance Concerning Marijuana Dispensaries in Freeman Township:**
 - a. Mr. Housler stated that the Freeman Township Board had indeed received the letter of recommendation from the Freeman township Planning Commission. Mr. Housler further stated that he shared the letter with the township attorney and she said that the recommendation was the correct course of action.
3. **Continuous Garage Sales Ordinance:**
 - a. It was agreed by all Planning Commission members to keep this item on the agenda for further future discussion.
4. **Master Plan:**
 - a. Chairman Stevens stated that he had called around to other townships in Clare County and only a handful have Master Plans. Chairman Stevens further stated that he had talked to Rod Williams of Surrey Township and that they had used a "grant" to pay for their Master Plan.
 - b. It was agreed by all Planning Commission members to keep this item on the agenda and possibly look into grants.

E. New Business:

1. **The 2017 Planning Commission Officers Election:**
 - a. Mr. Wells made a motion, Mr. Phillips 2nd, that Mr. Stevens remain Chairman, Mr. Phillips remain Vice-Chairman and Mr. Maas remain Secretary for 2017. Mr. Stevens, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Maas stated they would accept the nomination. The motion was carried.
2. **2017 Panning Commission meeting dates:**
 - a. The 2017 Planning commission meeting dates were reviewed and set as follows:
March 2, 2017
April 6, 2017
May 4, 2017
June 1, 2017
July 7, 2017
August 3, 2017
September 7, 2017
October 5, 2017
November 2, 2017

F. Adjournment: Motion: Wells, 2nd Phillips "To adjourn". Motion Carried. Time 7:40 PM.

Gary Maas, Secretary

