

## FREEMAN TOWNSHIP PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**Minutes For September 7, 2017**

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

**Planning Commission Members Present: Stevens, Phillips and Maas**

**Absent: Wells, Pohoda.**

**A quorum was present.**

**Others Present: Bob Eckardt, Harold Logan.**

**Public Comments: None.**

**Minutes: Chairman Stevens asked for a motion "To accept the August 3, 2017 meeting minutes as written." Motion: Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maas: Motion Carried.**

**Agenda: Chairman Stevens asked for a motion "To accept the September 7, 2017 Planning Meeting Agenda as written": Motion: Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maas: Motion Carried.**

### **Meeting Business Activities:**

#### **A. Chairman's Comments:**

- 1. Chairman Stevens stated that Mr. Wells had passed away a week ago and that he will be missed.**
- 2. Chairman Stevens introduced Mr. Bob Eckardt who may be interested in being on the Planning Commission due to the vacancy created by Mr. Wells' passing.**
- 3. Chairman Stevens also stated that he had brought up at the last Freeman Township Board meeting that it would be appreciated that all training requests be answered by the Freeman Township Board in writing no matter if approved or disapproved.**

#### **B. Education – General: None.**

#### **C. Zoning Administrator/Blight Officer Report:**

- 1. Mr. Logan stated that he had five Zoning permits issued last month with two more in the works. Mr. Logan also stated that he is currently monitoring seven blight issues.**
- 2. Mr. Logan further stated that Suzanne Bitzer would not accept any citations from him so he had to have a Clare County Sheriff serve the citation. Also, he has not been able to contact the property owner at Ashcroft and Lindhaven.**

#### **D. Current Business:**

- 1. Long Term Agenda: None.**
- 2. Master Plan:**
  - a. All Planning Commission members present agreed to put this item in abeyance until the next meeting.**
- 3. Eliminate 144 square foot, or less, not needing a Zoning Permit requirement from the Zoning Ordinance:**
  - a. Chairman Stevens stated that he had discussed this issue with Al Housler and Mr. Housler's opinion is that a note in the tax mailing would be adequate to inform people that all sheds 144 (one hundred forty four) square feet in area, or less, still need to meet all zoning set-back requirements.**
  - b. It was agreed by all Planning Commission members present to close this issue.**

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Minutes For September 7, 2017 (continued)

4. **Garage Sale Regulation and/or Ordinance:**
  - a. Chairman Stevens stated that this issue was brought up at the last Freeman Township Board meeting and it was deemed to be not necessary.
  - b. It was agreed by all Planning Commission members present to close this issue.
5. **Mobile Home Construction – Adding Pitched Roof & Lap Siding to Zoning Ordinance:**
  - a. Chairman Stevens distributed an excerpt from Lincoln Township's Zoning Ordinance that deals with Mobile Home construction.
  - b. After some discussion it was agreed by all Planning Commission members present to add the first two sentences from Lincoln's Zoning Ordinance Section 1519.j. to the end of Freeman Township's Zoning Ordinance Section 8.02.B.
  - c. Mr. Maas stated that the amended Freeman Township Zoning Ordinance Section 8.02.B will be ready for review at the next Planning Commission meeting.

**E. New Business:**

1. Chairman Stevens stated that he had a note from Al Housler to have the Planning Commission review an MTA resolution for townships to use that would disallow marijuana facilities in the township.
2. This was discussed and deemed redundant since the current Michigan law states that all townships have to do, to not allow marijuana facilities to be established, is to do nothing. It was agreed by all Planning Commission members present that the resolution could not hinder anything if the Freeman Township Board wanted to adopt the resolution.

**F. Adjournment: Motion: Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maas "To adjourn". Motion Carried. Time 7:46 PM.**



Gary Maas, Secretary