

**FREEMAN TOWNSHIP PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Minutes For May 6, 2015**

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

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

**Absent: Pohoda.**

**A quorum was present.**

**Others Present: Harold Logan**

**Public Comments: None.**

**Minutes for April 7, 2015: Chairman Stevens asked for a motion “To accept the April 7, 2015 minutes as written.” Motion: Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wells: Motion Carried.**

**Chairman Stevens asked for a motion “To accept the May 6, 2015 Planning Meeting Agenda with the addition of “New Golf Cart Law” to New Business.” Motion: Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wells: Motion Carried.**

**Meeting Business Activities:**

**A. Chairman’s Comments:**

- 1. Chairman Stevens stated that there is a new excerpt to the Michigan Vehicle Code involving golf carts on roads with speed limits of thirty miles per hour and over. Chairman Stevens stated that he will discuss this further in New Business.**

**B. Education – General: None.**

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

- 1. Mr. Logan stated that he had four zoning permits this month.**
- 2. Mr. Logan also stated that he has had no luck in getting a hold of the owner of the trailer on M-115 with the “Bud Lite” sign on the side of it but will keep trying.**
- 3. Mr. Logan further stated he had talked with the owner of the property at the corner of M-115 and Lake Station Avenue concerning the car lot there as being not “neat and orderly” as outlined in the Zoning Ordinance Section 10.02.L. for commercial properties. The owner stated to Mr. Logan that he will begin to neaten up and may put up a fence if necessary.**
- 4. Mr. Logan stated that he has been in contact with the owner of the dilapidated trailer at the corner of Lindhaven Drive and Windermere Drive to remove the entire trailer and will keep the Planning Commission Posted on updates.**

**D. Current Business:**

- 1. Long Term Agenda: None.**
- 2. Begin on “Conditional Rezoning” Ordinance:**
  - a. Chairman Stevens stated that this should be put into abeyance as Mr. Pohoda was absent and he was the most versed in this item. All Planning Commission members in attendance agreed.**
- 3. Zoning Ordinance Review for ORV Parks:**
  - a. It was discussed by all Planning Commission members present to remove this item from the regular agenda as not being applicable to Freeman Township. The only zoned commercial areas within the township are not large enough for such an enterprise, and any other large enough land tract would require a “spot” rezoning which would be illegal. This will be discussed further at the next Planning meeting.**

**FREEMAN TOWNSHIP PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Minutes For May 6, 2015 (continued)**

**E. New Business:**

- 1. Chairman Stevens distributed copies of the new excerpt from the Michigan Vehicle Code that deals with new on-road restrictions for golf carts that state that golf carts can not be driven on roads with a speed limit of thirty miles per hour and over unless the Village, City or Township allows it.**
- 2. Chairman Stevens stated further that there are numerous golf carts being used within Lake of the Pines and a lot of people use them to get to the Club House and facilities. Many areas of Lake of the Pines can not get to the Club House and facilities within the grounds and must go onto Ashard and/or Hemlock Roads.**
- 3. Chairman Stevens distributed a letter he would like the Planning Commission to recommend to the Freeman Township Board requesting they pass a resolution to allow the use of golf carts on:
  - a. All roads in any platted residential subdivision.**
  - b. Ashard Road from Grass Lake Road to Hemlock Road.**
  - c. Hemlock Road from Ashard Road to Browns Road.****
- 4. Mr. Phillips made a motion,; “That the Planning Commission recommend to the Freeman Township Board to pass a resolution to allow the use of golf carts on the listed roads per the letter by Chairman Stevens.” Second, Mr, Wells. The motion carried by all Freeman Township Planning Commission members present.**
- 5. Mr. Maas stated that he would take the letter to the clerk.**

**F. Adjournment: Motion: Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wells “To adjourn”. Motion Carried. Time 7:55 PM.**

**Gary Maas, Secretary**