

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Thursday, April 22, 2021 Special Meeting
Virtual - Zoom Meeting

These Minutes are not approved until our next meeting.

Chairman Little called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: Matt Little (Freedom Township), Dan Schaible (Freedom Township), Mike Bossory (Freedom Township), Susan Ochs (Freedom Township), and Karen Flahie (Freedom Township). Engineer Marcus McNamara and Planner Rodney Nanney were also present, and Mr. Nanney served as the acting recording secretary for the meeting.

Flahie made a motion with support from Schaible to put New Business in front of Old Business. The motion passed.

Ochs made a motion to accept and dispense with the reading of the minutes with support from Bossory. The motion passed.

Reports: Chairman Little reported on a March 18, 2021 virtual meeting he attended with Stoneco and the Township's consultants to discuss Pleasant Hills Pit 9 extraction permit plan revisions. Mr. Nanney reported on potential legislative initiatives in Lansing. Plans for Consumers Energy to install an emergency siren on their facility with interconnection into the county alert system were noted, along with a potential public open house meeting and safety workshop with all seven pipeline companies at the Township Hall later this year.

Audience participation: None. Opened at 7:42 p.m.; closed at 7:43 p.m.

New Business:

1) American Aggregates/Levy 2020 Report: Dale Sawyer reported that the company is putting a new compact footprint modular wash plant in the middle of the extraction site. They have the required soil erosion control permit, will be renewing the haul route and county pollution prevention plan approvals with the county, and plan to begin producing material later this Spring. Discussion of light trespass issues, and questions about the mining plan and water testing under the consent judgement. Dale confirmed that the light fixture will be corrected.

Old Business:

1) Stoneco-Burmeister Extraction Permit Renewal Application: Chairman Little opened the floor to Planning Commission discussion and presentations from the applicant and consultants. The Planner and Engineer provided summaries of their reports on the application. The applicant's representative, Austin Fisher, provided additional information on the timing of berm construction and screening installations, and asked about a conditional approval prior to action

on their requested variances by the Board of Trustees. Engineer McNamara discussed the proposed setback encroachments, slope stabilization, and the need for additional inspections.

Chairman Little made a motion with support from Ochs to refer the requested variances to the Township Board for a public hearing, consideration, and action, and to recommend that approval of the 50-foot reduced setback variance for the north slope abutting the Gingras parcel at 6653 Schneider Road be contingent upon a requirement for up to three inspections per year by the Township Engineer. A roll call vote was taken. Bossory-yes, Flahie-yes, Schaible-yes, Little-yes and Ochs-yes. The motion passed.

2) Stoneco-Pleasant Hills Pit 9 Extraction Permit Renewal Application: Chairman Little opened the floor to Planning Commission discussion and presentations from the applicant and consultants. Austin Fisher from Stoneco confirmed that updated plans are in process. Engineer McNamara discussed setback encroachments, provided an update about state PFAS/PFOS testing criteria, and recommended consideration of baseline water testing before the company remobilizes equipment on the site. No action taken.

3) Alternative Energy Zoning Amendments: Discussed and no action taken.

Communications: MTA – Legislative updates. Chairman Little noted MTA weekly updates. Supervisor Lindemann reported on broadband initiatives.

Audience Participation: none

Items on Next Month Agenda: Alternative Energy Amendments and the Vershum - Jedele Land Division Application.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Little declared the meeting adjourned at 9:11pm.