

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting  
October 3, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lindemann at 7:30p.m.

Members Present: DeLoof, Horning, Huehl, Lindemann, Miller, Ochs and Tschiltz.

A motion was made by DeLoof with a second from Tschiltz to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed. The minutes were accepted.

Communications: Lodi Township letter, Panhandle letter from Tim Walters, Huron River Report, Notice on work session "protecting your land", MTA news, Letter from Uckele regarding Barrett Lake project and Community Foundation Regulating Greenways Vision Workshop.

Audience Participation: Dave Davis expressed his concern over the height of the water in Pleasant Lake. He has been conducting some studies on it and said it has not risen even though we have had above normal rainfall for this time of year.

Old Business:

1) Washtenaw County Parks application. Don will get the report to John Etter or Mark Reading. Planning Commission members will look over prior to the next meeting.

2) Nothing has come from Mark Reading on the final draft of the Extraction Ordinance. Larry will contact him.

3) An update on Barrett Lake application with the State DEQ office was given.

4) A review of Mary Lights request was given by Don Pennington. The Boones are OK with everything. A letter was received from the Township Fire Authority which classifies this as a Home Operation. A motion was made by Miller to accept the Planners recommendation that the Mary Light operation be classified as a Home Operation based on the material submitted by the applicant. Second by DeLoof. Motion passed.

New Business:

1) Engineering firm interviews and discussion. OHM and Stantec were the firms that came to the interview. Stantec was formerly Lewis, Norris and Ayres. We were not totally happy with their work a few years ago. OHM would have Marcus McNamara doing the bulk of the work for us, he is very young. Costs are reasonable with no hidden costs like mileage or telephone. Strictly a straight approach on rates. No hesitation of any work assignment we would give them. It was noted it was nice to have the Engineers come and then stay for the regular meeting. There was some concern that Marcus McNamara did not have the experience as some of the others. It was noted that the cost estimate of OHM was less than Stantec. A motion was made by DeLoof with a second from Tschiltz to recommend to the Township Board the engagement of OHM to act as

Engineer Services for the Township beginning this season. Motion passed but there was one abstaining. If the Township approves we would then look at the calendar to see when to have them get started. We still have an outstanding invoice with Hubbell, Roth and Clark. We will hold off paying this invoice until all records have been returned to the Township. Larry will write a termination letter to Hubbell, Roth and Clark.

2) Michigan Zoning Enabling Act. We will need to revise our Zoning Ordinance to meet the new standards. Don Pennington would take care of the Publication time line and advertising. He has wording all ready to go into the Ordinance. All changes have to be done in a Public Hearing. We would only be making amendments to the ordinance not rewriting the whole ordinance. All Planning Commission members would need to review the Zoning Ordinance and be ready for the discussion. Don Pennington was instructed by the Planning Commission members to have his recommendations to us by our November meeting.

Our November meeting will be on November 9, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. due to the Election on Tuesday November 7, 2006.

A motion was made by Lindemann with a second from Huehl to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Huehl, Secretary