

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
October 2, 2007
(unapproved minutes)

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

Members present: Huehl, Horning, Lindemann and Ochs. Absent: DeLoof Also present were planners Pennington and DeGroot.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read. A motion was made by Horning with support from Ochs to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed.

Communications: Michigan Extension Green Infrastructure, Monroe County Workshop, Huron River Report, MTA News, SEMCOG transit plan, Michigan Dept. of Transit CD.

Audience Participation: An article was presented about Townships be gone? There is some concern that Townships might loose their control and be governed by the State. Beth Heuser spoke about the hydrogeology in our area being so unique.. “Something is happening to our water in this area and this is why we want safeguards.” She had a water filter from Lorna Brown that showed what it looked like new and then a used one. Apparently a lot worse then before. They wonder what’s causing this and feel the MDEQ needs to see these filters.

Old Business:

1) Private Waste Water Ordinance. It was felt that the ordinance was pretty straight forward. Attorney Mark Reading said we the Township had the right to do what we have done. Our ordinance is very similar to Lodi Township’s Ordinance. After further discussion is was decided that the Commission Members needed to have a clean electronic copy. Bill will update it and send it to all the Commission Members.

2) Ordinance updates- Wireless Communications. It seems the County is still looking for money to fund this project. They want to be able to come across the whole county when they do this not just in sections. They are not sure where the funding will be coming from.

3) Update on Barrett Lake with the State DEQ. The Township is waiting on communications from different parties to come back. Don’t know where we stand right now. Our Township attorney wants all information by October 16, 2007.

4) Growth Management Plan Updates. The planners are having trouble getting pictures into document format. The conversions are taking time.

5) Natural Features Ordinance. This was tabled until our next meeting as one of the Commission members did not get the information and another member was absent.

New Business:

1) Extraction Ordinance amendment. Ordinance number 32A. The new ordinance was set in a Commercial district and we do not classify it that way. Ag use with a conditional use permit. Larry will give our recommendations to the Township Board for the change on the Extraction Ordinance #32A section 6.08 A. Horning made a motion to have Larry give this information to the Township Board. Second by Ochs. Motion passed.

2) County Parks Conditional Use permit amendment. It was mentioned that we needed to check if the fencing had been done where they promised to do it. We will have Alvin Ernst check about the fencing. The new conditional use permit was read by Huehl. A motion was made by Lindemann with support from Horning to accept this permit. A roll call vote was done and it passed unanimously.

3) Rezoning application request for Jennifer Wells and David Bucholtz. Jennifer was asked to give us an overview of the request. She said there would be three total employees and no overnight boarding or grooming. Hours of operation would most likely be M-F 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This is for household pets for example cats and dogs. The Commission went over the procedures for the zoning request and referred the application to Planner Pennington to review for completeness.

4) Site Plan review for Greene Manufacturing. They are asking for a proposed expansion. Our Planner and OHM Engineer have been asked to review the site plan. Bruce Greene wants to attend the site plan review. The Commission needs to get information back from the Planner and OHM by October 12, 2007 about the completeness of the site plan. Permission was given to the Planners and OHM to contact Bruce Greene if they had any questions about the preliminary site plan.

5) SWWCOG – Regional Planning Commission Agreement amendment. The next meeting is October 10, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bridgewater Township Hall. They have to do another agreement as Sharon Township does not want to be a part of the Regional Plan.

A motion was made by Horning with support from Huehl to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Huehl, secretary