

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2020

DRAFT

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CALL TO ORDER:

A meeting of the Freedom Township Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Lindemann at 7:30pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Little, Lindemann, Flahie, Schaible and Ochs
Absence: None
Also, in Attendance: Planner Rodney Nanney, Project Manager Marcus McNamara, and Township residents.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A **MOTION** was made by Little supported by Ochs to approve the agenda as amended to add MTA webinars under new business. **MOTION passed.**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

A **MOTION** made by Little supported by Ochs to dispense with the reading of the approval of the regular meeting minutes of August 10, 2020 with corrections. **MOTION passed.**

A **MOTION** made by Schaible supported by Flahie to dispense with the reading of the approval of the Public hearing meeting minutes of August 10, 2020. **MOTION passed.**

COMMUNICATIONS: Consumers Energy construction update, they are testing new compressors and still running both new and old compressors, working on punch lists, no weekend work scheduled. MTA focus magazine discusses how COVID is impacting township revenues. Lodi Planning Commission is proposing updates to their master plan, this was supplied to the Freedom Township Planning Commission. An oil spill on Pleasant Lake road was reported from Consumer Energy pumping station, the Township is asking for a letter from Consumer Energy regarding the spill.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Township resident ask if the communication between the Township and Consumers Energy could be more forthright.

OLD BUSINESS:

Stoneco amendment (renewal) Pleasant Hills pit 9 – tabled until further information.

Stoneco Burmeister pit renewal application – tabled until conditional use permit public hearing at 7:30 on September 10, 2020.

Jim Clark 7855 Ernst Road – they hired an architect to develop the site plan, Mr. Clark will supply that at the next planning commission in October. The gutter system and rain barrels will meet the requirement. The plan will have it look more like a residential residence.

Alternate energy zoning amendments Currently alternate wind energy is Township wide. Discussion if alternate energy should be opened to the whole Township or just certain zones. Chairperson Lindemann suggested that if the land was farmable before it needed to be maintained to be farmed after. Planner Nanney suggested developing a list of location characteristics to include in the ordinance. Rick Wilson from

Invenegy showed an example slide show of other locations with solar farms. The planner will update the draft and bring it back for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Set gravel pit tour for fall – removing from agenda, due to COVID.

Stoneco and Levy updated Project Manager Marcus McNamara with information from their drones, he will supply the planning commission with the reports at the next meeting.

MTA webinars – Chairperson Lindemann ask the Township Board if Township staff could attend the webinars, if the Township updates the membership with MTA it would be cheaper for all Township staff to attend this way.

REPORTS: Township board approved the change in zoning that is now Lake District and R2. Updated overlay map is on the Township website. Karen Flahie reported a shipping container on Pleasant Lake Rd, east of Steinbach the Township is looking into it. Karen Flahie also reported several homes on Pleasant Lake not pulling the correct building permits for roofs.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATON: None

PROPOSED BUSINESS ON NEXT AGENDA: Stoneco Pleasant Hills renewal. Discussion on Stoneco conditional use permit, Jim Clark site plan, and updated alternate solar energy.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Jennifer Alexa
Recording Secretary