

Minutes
Grass Lake Charter Township Planning Commission Meeting
January 19, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Hinkle called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Jere Hinkle, John Lesinski, Todd Raehtz, Jim Warbritton, Lacey O'Quinn and Roger Memmer. Members absent: Ken Elliott

Jim Warbritton was recognized and welcomed as a new member of the Planning Commission.

ALSO PRESENT: Jim Stormont, Township Supervisor and Doug Lammers, Township Zoning Administrator

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Hinkle and supported by Lesinski to approve the agenda with one modification, i.e. move item 6.c (election of officers and adoption of meeting calendar), to the first order of new business. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Lesinski and supported by Hinkle to approve the December 15, 2016 meeting minutes. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Election of officers and adoption of meeting calendar.

Lesinski moved and Memmer supported the nomination of Jere Hinkle for Chairperson. No other nominations were entered. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried. Jere Hinkle elected as 2017 Chairperson. All ayes. One absent.

Lesinski moved and Hinkle supported the nomination of Ken Elliott for Vice Chairperson. No other nominations were entered. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried. Ken Elliott elected as 2017 Vice Chairperson. All ayes. One absent.

Lesinski moved and Hinkle supported the nomination of Roger Memmer for Secretary. No other nominations were entered. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried. Roger Memmer elected as 2017 Secretary. All ayes. One absent.

Zoning Administrator, Lammers presented a proposed schedule for monthly meetings. Moved by Lesinski and supported by Hinkle to accept the proposed meeting schedule with four required regular 2017 meeting dates set for January 19, 2017, April 20, 2017, July 20, 2017 and October 19, 2017. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried. All meetings to begin at 7:00 pm.

b. Review of sign ordinance changes.

The draft copy of updated Chapter 17, Signs, was reviewed. Several minor corrections and clarifications were incorporated. It was moved by Hinkle and supported by O'Quinn to forward Chapter 17 Signs, with the changes, to the Jackson County Planning Commission for their review and comment.

c. JCPC review of Zoning Ordinance text amendment, Section 14.07.AA, Open Air Business.

The Jackson County Planning Commission comments on the proposed amendment to Section 14.07.AA, Open Air Business were reviewed and the following was noted:

1. Regarding consideration of limiting the processing of firewood to the Agriculture District instead of allowing firewood processing in both Commercial and Agriculture Districts: After discussion it was decided not to limit the processing to the Agriculture District since some areas in Commercial districts may be appropriate for firewood processing and if there were concerns for a particular site, they could be addressed in the Planning Commission review/approval process.
2. Regarding the need for paving, it was decided not to require paving since other surfacing options may be appropriate and this issue could be addressed in the Planning Commission review/approval process for a particular site.
3. Regarding concern for the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer, it was noted that this was not part of the Planning Commission's jurisdiction.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION: None

TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT: Lesinski reported:

- a. The Township has completed the budget
- b. The Township is sponsoring a Site Plan Review Workshop. The workshop will be on Wednesday March 8, 2017 from 5:30 to 9:00 pm at the Napoleon Township Hall. All Planning Commission members are encouraged to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Zoning Ordinance Text, R-1 District, Farming as a permitted use. Item was tabled.
- b. Zoning Ordinance, Section for LI/HC. Item was tabled.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: None

PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting was established for February 16, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Lesinski, supported by O'Quinn to adjourn meeting at 9:10pm. All ayes. One absent. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Roger Memmer, Secretary
Grass Lake Charter Township Planning Commission