

APPROVED MINUTES GRASS LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING  
COMMISSION MEETING APRIL 16, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Members Present – Pindzia, Phillips, Elliott, Memmer, Lesinski.  
Members Absent – Dorr, Bednarski-Lynch  
Also Present – Tom Nolte.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: By all.

AGENDA ADDITIONS: Chairperson Phillips added “Permitted Billboards/Signs” to Old Business.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Pindzia moved, supported by Lesinski to approve the agenda as amended. All Ayes. Two absent. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 19, 2009 PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING: Memmer moved, supported by Phillips to approve the March 19, 2009 meeting minutes of the public hearing as well as the regular meeting as written. All ayes. Two absent. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT: Lesinski reported the following:

- The Board of Trustees (BOT) approved an Industrial Development District (IDD).
- George Riedel accepted an offer to purchase real estate from the Township located on the old Marion Meadows property, with frontage on Sarossy Lake Road.
- The multi-jurisdictional parks and recreation group plan is currently available for review. A public hearing has been scheduled for May 6, 2009.
- The weed control program in Grass Lake will apply the first dose in May to be followed by a second dose in August.
- The Ganton project is working towards finalizing their financing. At the applicant’s request, the Township is researching establishing a DDA for the area,

It was noted here that the Planning Commission cannot review a final site plan on the project with short notice. Ganton must return to the Planning Commission for final site plan approval but the PC needs at least two weeks (more preferably) notice to perform a proper review.

NEW BUSINESS: There was none.

OLD BUSINESS: Permitted Billboards/Signs

The intent of these regulations is to control the proliferation of billboards within the Township, primarily along the I-94 corridor.

A quota per mile was a Township requirement but Nolte recommends restoration of old requirements.

There is a strong need to regulate billboards as a lack of control will result in blight.

Government entities erecting billboards/signs are exempt from local regulations.

An electronic message board is a permitted use.

The Township administration has recognized the need to advertise community events.

The old ordinance defined signs differently from billboards.

Should the Township erect an electronic message board, additional boards would be expected.

The Planning Commission requested that the Zoning Administrator research other I-94 corridor communities for regulations on electronic message boards.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There was none.

MEETING SCHEDULE: Next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Lesinski, supported by Pindzia to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. All ayes. Two absent. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Pindzia, Secretary  
Grass Lake Charter Township Planning Commission