

Eureka Charter Township Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – Approved
February 17, 2021

Agenda Items 1 & 2: Meeting Convene & Roll Call

Chairman Putnam called the regular meeting of the Eureka Charter Township Planning Commission (PC) to order at 7:01 pm.

Roll call found the following PC members in attendance: Linda Weger, Randy Klepper, Mary Sharp, Marty Posekany and Board Liaison - Treasurer Cindy Hanson. Les Lillie was absent and excused.

There was a quorum for the meeting.

Zoning Administrator/Supervisor Darcia Kelley, Cory Smith from The Daily News, ZBA member Lee Beard, and a Township resident were also in attendance.

This meeting was audiotaped.

Agenda Items 3 & 4: January Minutes & Correspondence Received by Secretary

Motion was made by Commissioner Weger to accept the January minutes as written. It was supported by Commissioner Sharp.

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5: Audience Comments on Non-Agenda Items

There were no audience comments.

Unfinished Business

Our current Zoning Map was looked at regarding any needed changes or corrections. After some discussion, Commissioner Putnam suggested that it be looked at more closely after they finish reviewing ordinances.

New Business

The topic of the possibility of Short-Term Rentals in the Township was discussed. A memorandum from Andy Moore, Williams & Works, presenting pros and cons was shared. It was decided that commissioners should read through the memorandum and be ready to discuss this topic more thoroughly at the March meeting.

Committee Reports

Zoning Administration – Kelley

- January was a good transition time, worked with Rod to go through files
- February had a lot of site visits, plan reviews, zoning permits
- Has been attending the meetings of the ordinance review team
- Has been attending many classes; “Emerging Issues in Zoning and Planning” discussed being proactive with wind and solar energy ordinances

Road Commission – Kelley

- Met again with Road Commissioner Mark Christensen
- Received quotes on the list of roads he was given
- Wise Rd. will wait another year
- Will have firm numbers for March Township Board meetings

After some discussion among commissioners regarding road projects, Commissioner Posekany shared that he and Commissioner Sharp had received an email from a concerned resident regarding wind turbines possibly coming to Eureka Township. After much discussion, it was decided that the ordinance review team would discuss our current Wind Energy Ordinance with Andy Moore at their next meeting and the Planning Commission would further discuss this topic at the March meeting.

Township Board – Hanson

- Attorney Jeff Sluggett presented information regarding grinder pumps in Baldwin Lake area within the Township
- Approved a quote for outside lighting from JZ Electric
- Approved a Trustee Salary of \$160 per meeting
- Approved the wording for amending Ordinance #79 regarding Event Venues
- Rescinded some ordinances that are covered in other areas
- Eliminated the cell phone for Zoning Administrator; will use personal phone
- Reviewed Cell Phone Policy and Credit Card Policy

Zoning Board of Appeals – Putnam

- Nothing to report

Commissioners

Are there any comments, concerns, questions, or suggestions on any other topic?

There was a very brief discussion on the status of the M57 project. The project would have to be started all over again, but it has currently been dropped.

Items for next Agenda

- Short Term Rentals
- Wind Energy
- Zoning Map review (PC members, please bring Master Plan Books to meeting)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

The next meeting will be on March 17, 2021, at 7 p.m.

Eureka Charter Township will treat all persons with dignity, respect and impartiality, without prejudice or discrimination. If you need assistance with reading, writing, hearing etc. under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you may make your needs known to this Agency.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Homant
Recording Secretary

Linda Weger
PC Secretary