

**Eureka Charter Township Planning Commission**  
Regular Meeting Minutes – Unapproved  
May 19, 2021

**Agenda Items 1 & 2: Meeting Convene & Roll Call**

Vice Chairman Posekany called the regular meeting of the Eureka Charter Township Planning Commission (PC) to order at 7:00 pm.

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

There was a quorum for the meeting.

Zoning Administrator/Supervisor Darcia Kelley, Cory Smith from The Daily News, a Montcalm County Sheriff's deputy and approximately 21 others were also in attendance.

This meeting was audiotaped.

**Agenda Items 3 & 4: April Minutes & Correspondence Received by Secretary**

Motion was made by Commissioner Klepper to accept the April minutes as written. It was supported by Commissioner Weger.

**Motion carried.**

There was no correspondence.

**Agenda Item 5: Audience Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

There were no audience comments at this time.

**Unfinished Business**

The Public Hearing regarding the review and updating with reorganization of Draft Ordinance #79 started at 7:02 pm. Several people, including five stating they were Eureka Township residents (Lauri Bahlman, Brian Murray, Kathy Craig, and Trisha & Bev Rose), as well as four concerned individuals from other townships spoke regarding the Wind Energy Systems section of the Draft. They all shared concerns they had about the ordinance as written and asked that the Planning Commission look at issues such as height restrictions, setbacks, health and wildlife concerns, among others.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:26 pm.

After some discussion, the commissioners agreed that the ordinance should be looked at more closely and assured the audience that they would continue to look out for the safety and welfare of all Eureka Township residents. Further study and possible revision of the Wind Energy Systems section of Ordinance #79 was recommended.

Commissioner Weger motioned, with support from Commissioner Sharp, to approve Draft Ordinance #79 as presented and send it to the Township Attorney for further review.

**Motion carried**

Short-Term Rentals in the Township were again discussed. A Short-Term Rental Community Meeting occurred on May 5, 2021 and their report was shared with commissioners. The report outlined bullet points/main ideas that should be addressed. After some discussion, the commissioners agreed to add some points to the report including wording that describes a Short-Term Rental as less than 30 days, has a minimum stay of 3 nights, mandating that a local contact person be available at all times, a requirement that well water be tested and posted annually, and not allowing overnight tents, campers, etc. on the rental

property. The compiled report will be passed on to the Township Attorney to draft a Short-Term Rental Ordinance.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Zoning Administration – Kelley**

- Received 7 complaints regarding RVs parked in the front yard, blight control, and noise at the gun range
- Approved many site plans for additions, decks, and pole buildings
- Mark Christensen met with S. County Line residents to discuss work there
- Thanked the Planning Commission members who worked so many extra hours going over Ordinance #79

**Road Commission – Kelley**

- Has a schedule of what will be paved
- Limestone will be applied to S. County Line Road
- Brine treatments are happening soon
- The next project is applying tar overlay to W. County Line Road between Kent and Montcalm

**Township Board – Hanson**

- Met May 10
- Working on the fire contract with the City to add dry hydrant and lift assist services
- Clean Up Day was a success, dumpsters were full early in the day
- Tax bills and the Township Newsletter will be sent out July 1
- Our assessor, Megan VanHoose, received a perfect score on her state AMAR report
- Passed the Township audit

**Zoning Board of Appeals – Putnam**

- Nothing to report due to absence

**Commissioners**

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

**Items for next Agenda**

- Wind Energy Systems section of Ordinance #79
- Short-Term Rental ordinance, if available
- Long Term Rentals

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

The next meeting will be on June 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Homant  
Recording Secretary

Linda Weger  
PC Secretary