1	Charter Township of Kalamazoo
2	Minutes of a Planning Commission Meeting
3	Held on August 1, 2019
4	
5	A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo Charter Township Planning Commission was conducted on
6	August 1, 2019, commencing at 7:00 p.m., at the Township Hall.
7	
8	Present were:
9	William Chapman
10	Fred Nagler, Chairman
11	Denise Hartsough
12	Jim Cripps
13	Henry Dingemans
14	About was
15	Absent was:
16	Jeremy Hathcock
17	Also proceed were Township Manager, Doylor Mitchell, Township Zoning Administrator Datrick
18	Also present were Township Manager, Dexter Mitchell, Township Zoning Administrator Patrick
19 20	Hudson, Township Attorney Seth Koches, and approximately two additional interested persons.
20	Call to Order
22	Can to Order
23	The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
24	The chairman canea the meeting to order at 7.00 p.m.
25	Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors
26	non can and necessimilar or visitors
27	Chairman Nagler welcomed those in attendance and noted that all Commissioners were
28	present, except Hathcock. Nagler noted that Hathcock called and said he would not be present
29	at the meeting. Upon <u>motion</u> of Dingemans, <u>supported</u> by Chapman, and <u>unanimous vote</u> ,
30	Hathcock was excused from the August 1, 2019 regular Planning Commission meeting.
31	
32	Approval of the Agenda for the August 1, 2019 Meeting
33	
34	The Commissioners received the agenda in their packets. Upon motion of Cripps, supported by
35	Chapman, and <u>unanimous vote</u> , the agenda was approved as presented.
36	
37	Approval of Meeting Minutes for July 11, 2019
38	
39	The next item on the agenda was the approval of the July 11, 2019 regular Planning
40	Commission meeting minutes. Copies of the July 11, 2019 meeting minutes were provided to
41	the Commissioners in their agenda packets. The Commissioners had no additional revisions to
42	the proposed meeting minutes.
43	

Upon <u>motion</u> of Hartsough, <u>supported</u> by Cripps, and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the minutes of the July 11, 2019 regular Planning Commission meeting were approved as prepared. Dingemans signed the minutes and provided them to Hudson for transmission to the Township Staff.

### **Scheduled Reviews**

# 4274 Ravine Road - Aggregate Resources

Hudson prepared a staff report regarding Aggregate Resources, 4274 Ravine Road. Hudson noted that the site is well maintained; Hudson confirmed that the bond and insurance are up to date and valid. Hudson said the soil erosion permit expires on 3/17/21. The inspection fee was paid. Hudson noted that concrete crushing taking place on site is well placed and no complaints have been received. Gary Moline of Aggregate Resources was present and said that all the required documents were in order and asked the Commission to extend the Aggregate Resources special exception use permit for one year.

Upon <u>motion</u> of Nagler, <u>supported</u> by Hartsough, and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the special exception use permit for Aggregate Resources, 4274 Ravine Road was extended for one year.

# 3800 Ravine Road - StoneCo

Hudson prepared a staff report regarding StoneCo, 3800 Ravine Road. Hudson noted that the site is well maintained and that the bond was given an indefinite term. Liability insurance is valid and the soil erosion permit is valid until 2020. The inspection fee was paid. Hudson said no complaints have been received regarding this site.

Upon <u>motion</u> of Hartsough, <u>supported</u> by Cripps, and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the special exception use permit for Aggregate Resources, 3800 Ravine Road was extended for one year.

### **Public Hearings**

### 1421 Healy – Kalamazoo County / Helios Solar LLC – Special Use

The next item on the agenda was a public hearing for the request of Kalamazoo County, 201 W. Kalamazoo Ave. for a special land use and site plan approval for a proposed solar energy facility on its property at 1421 Healy Street (Parcel Tax Number 06-23-445-120) within the Township. The subject property is located in the I-2 General Industrial District Zoning Classification and is approximately 6.1 acres in size. The standards for consideration of the special exception use by the Township Planning Commission are set forth in Section 8.02.TT of the Township Zoning Ordinance. The standards for site plan review are contained in Section 26.02 of the Township Zoning Ordinance. Setback variances for this proposed facility were granted by the Township Zoning Board of Appeals on June 19, 2019.

 Nagler opened the public hearing. Nagler explained the rules of procedure that apply during public hearings held by the Planning Commission. Nagler said that the Township Zoning Administrator/Planning Consultant will present a summary or analysis of the request; then, the applicant will present his request to the Commission. Nagler said all interested parties will be given the opportunity to be heard during the public comment portion of the public hearing; thereafter, the Commissioners will deliberate and take action on the request.

Hudson prepared and summarized a staff report which was contained in the Commissioners' agenda packets. The applicant proposed to construct a 149.65 kW solar project to reduce energy purchases from Consumer's Energy. All adjacent parcels to the east, west, north and south are all zoned I-2 and are occupied by county government facilities; or, to the north, by existing industrial uses. The subject property borders the I-94 business loop on the west side. Hudson said the subject property is a 6.1 triangular site abutting the I-94 Business Loop on the west side and the county jail to the east side. The north half of the property is occupied by a storm water basin and a building housing part of the county sheriff's department. Hudson said the applicant proposed to erect approximately 380 solar panels in six rows of successively shorter rows on a triangular southern tip of an otherwise vacant parcel adjacent to the I-94 Business Loop.

Section 25.02 of the Township Zoning Ordinance provides the Schedule of Regulations for the I-2 General Industrial District Zoning Classification. The minimum lot area is 43,560 square feet; the subject property is 265,716 square feet in size (approximately 6.1 acres). The subject property satisfied the minimum lot width requirement of 150 feet. The front yard setback requirement is 50 feet; each side yard setback requirement is 30 feet; the rear yard setback requirement is 50 feet; and, the maximum lot coverage by all buildings is 75%; the existing lot coverage is 8%. Hudson noted that the ZBA granted a 20' variance from the side setback requirement (i.e. 10' side-yard setback). Hudson said the applicant did not provide a screening plan.

Hudson completed the review of his staff report and Eric McNamara addressed the Commission on behalf of the applicant. McNamara said he is the Director of Grounds for Kalamazoo County and noted that the County is exempt from Township ordinances. McNamara said that the County always brings its projects to the municipality to respect the Township's zoning ordinances. He said the solar panels will be owned by Helios Solar, LLC (Helios) for 6 years, then the County will assume ownership. The plan is to install a 380-400 solar panel system and McNamara preferred that the solar energy panels are visible (not screened) to the public in order to promote green energy solutions. The solar panels will be approximately 8 feet in height. Hartsough asked what the life expectancy is for the solar panels; McNamara said approximately 25 years. Nagler asked how the solar panels are replaced; McNamara said the County has a fund for capital improvements and sets aside money for that purpose. McNamara noted that the County will be paying Helios \$22,000 per year from that fund. Dingemans asked whether the solar panels will be able to generate enough energy to power the building located on the subject property; McNamara said yes, noting that the building is open seven days per week, consists of office space and is 30,000 square feet in size. Cripps discussed environmental

protection issues and asked whether Helios has the burden to maintain the site; McNamara said there aren't any hazardous materials contained within the solar panels, noting they are made of aluminum and contain no batteries. The frame consists of steel poles, glass and copper wiring. McNamara said that the same type of solar panels were sold to and installed at the Kalamazoo Nature Center. Chapman asked how many jobs will be created from this project; McNamara said approximately 6-8, noting that it will take approximately one month to install the solar panels. McNamara discussed the removal process and said that the infrastructure has scrap value, which far exceeds the removal costs.

Nagler opened the public comment portion of the public hearing and invited any interested party to speak in support of or against the special land use request for a solar energy facility at 1421 Healy Street, within the Township. Hearing no additional public comment, Nagler closed the public comment portion of the public hearing and the Commission entered into deliberations.

 Article 8, Section 8.02 TT addresses the special use requirements for wind and solar renewable energy systems. Hudson directed the Commission's attention to Section 8.02TT.2.e, which states:

e. Solar Energy Facilities – Utility Grade (over 10 kW, operated by a utility company or government entity):

i. Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Systems: Ground mounted and freestanding solar energy systems over 10 kW capacity are permitted subject to special land use approval in the R-1, R-2, I-1 and I-2 zoning districts, and subject to the following regulations:

• Location and Setbacks: The solar energy system shall not be located closer to the street than any portion of the principal building, and shall meet the minimum front, side and rear yard setbacks of the zoning district.

• Height: The height of the solar energy system and any mounts shall not exceed fifteen (15) feet when oriented at maximum tilt.

 Screening. Landscaping shall be provided to screen the racking from view on all sides.

 Building Permit: A building permit shall be required for any ground-mounted solar energy system.

• Area: Ground-mounted solar energy systems shall be subject to the maximum lot coverage standards of the zoning district.

ii. Batteries: When solar storage batteries are included as part of the solar collector system, they must be placed in a secure container or enclosure when in use, and

when no longer used shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

iii. Removal: If a solar energy system ceases to perform its intended function (generating electricity) for more than twelve (12) consecutive months, the operator shall remove the collectors, mounts, and associated equipment and facilities no later than ninety (90) days after the end of the twelve (12) month period. Where the removal has not been lawfully completed as required above, and after at least thirty (30) days written notice, the Township may remove or secure the removal of the solar energy system or portion thereof, with the Township's actual cost and reasonable administrative charges to be placed as a lien on the property. A lien on the property shall be superior to all other liens except taxes.

The Standards for Granting a Special Land use are contained in Section 26.03.C of the Township Zoning Ordinance, which provides, in part:

C. Standards for Granting Special Land Use Approval.

### 1. Compatibility with Adjacent Uses.

a. The location and screening of vehicular circulation and parking areas in relation to surrounding development.

 The location and screening of outdoor storage, outdoor activity or work areas, and mechanical equipment in relation to surrounding development.

c. The hours of operation of the proposed use. Approval of a special land use may be conditioned upon operation within specified hours considered appropriate to ensure minimal impact on surrounding uses.

 d. The bulk, placement, and materials of construction of the proposed use in relation to surrounding uses.
e. Proposed landscaping and other site amenities. Additional landscaping over and

 e. Proposed landscaping and other site amenities. Additional landscaping over and above the requirements of this Ordinance may be required as a condition of approval of a special land use.

2. <u>Compatibility with the Master Plan</u>. The proposed special land use shall be consistent with the general principles and objectives of the Township's Master Plan.

3. <u>Public Services</u>. The proposed special land use shall be located so as to be adequately served by essential public facilities and services, such as highways, roads, police and fire protection, drainage systems, water and sewage facilities, and schools, unless the proposal contains an acceptable plan for providing necessary services or evidence that such services will be available by the time the special land use is established.

- 4. <u>Impact of Traffic</u>. The location of the proposed special land use within the zoning district shall minimize the impact of the traffic generated by the proposed use. In determining whether this requirement has been met, consideration shall be given to the following:
  - a. Proximity and access to major thoroughfares.
  - b. Estimated traffic generated by the proposed use.
  - c. Proximity and relation to intersections,
  - d. Adequacy of driver sight distances.
  - e. Location of and access to off-street parking.
  - f. Required vehicular turning movements.
  - g. Provisions for pedestrian traffic.

5. <u>Detrimental Effects</u>. The proposed special land use shall not involve any activities, processes, materials, equipment, or conditions of operation, and shall not be located or designed so as to be detrimental or hazardous to persons or property or to public health, safety, and welfare. In determining whether this requirement has been met, consideration shall be given to the level of traffic, noise, vibration, smoke, fumes, odors, dust, glare, and light.

6. <u>Economic Well-Being of the Community</u>. The proposed special land use shall not be detrimental to the economic well-being of those who will use the land, residents, businesses, landowners, and the community as a whole.

7. <u>Compatibility with Natural Environment</u>. The proposed special land use shall be compatible with the natural environment and conserve natural resources and energy.

The Commission discussed whether it should require the applicant to incorporate a landscaping plan. The Commission decided it wasn't necessary due to the character of the subject property and the importance to promote green energy solutions. Cripps and Hartsough noted that landscaping to the north and east of the subject property is not an issue and both were satisfied with the applicant's plans.

 Upon <u>motion</u> of Cripps, <u>supported</u> by Hartsough, and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the request for a special exception land use and site plan approval for a proposed solar energy facility on its property at 1421 Healy Street (Parcel Tax Number 06-23-445-120) was approved as presented because the provisions of Article 8, Section 8.02, TT.e, Article 26, Section 26.02; and, Article 26, Section 26.03.C were satisfied.

#### **New Business**

## Site Plan Amendment for Additional Office Space – 3715 E. Main Street

The first item under New Business was the request of Dianne and Elizabeth Griffith, 6682 Celery Street for a site plan amendment to property addressed as 3715 E. Main Street (Parcel Identification Number 06-12-435-071) to construct a 7,300 square-foot commercial office

building in two phases, removing the existing house after the first phase is complete to a site with an existing office building. The property is located in the C-2 District Zoning Classification and is approximately 2.3 acres in size.

Hudson provided a staff report to the Commissioners and summarized it. The property has an existing 4,500 square-foot building, a 1,180 square-foot building, a 1,716 square foot storage building and a 2,245 square-foot house on a 99,894 square-foot lot, with 268 feet of road frontage on E. Main Street and 408 feet of frontage on Huntington Ave. The current lot coverage is 10.3%. The property is located in the C-2 District. The properties across Huntington Ave. to the east are zoned R-2 and are occupied dwellings. The properties across E. Main Street to the south are zoned C-2 and are occupied by commercial uses. The properties to the west are zoned C-2 and are occupied by various types of buildings in some states of disrepair. The properties to the north are zoned RM-2 and are occupied by apartment buildings.

 Ron Vegh addressed the Commission on behalf of the applicant. Vegh said he wanted approval for the building and then will submit a detailed site plan. Vegh said he did not want to incur the costs of hiring an engineer and/or architect before knowing whether he will obtain approval for the additional building.

Cripps requested that this matter be tabled until a complete detailed site plan was submitted to the Commission for review. Cripps noted that there were too many missing pieces in the site plan that was submitted to the Commission for it to be properly reviewed. Cripps said more information was needed on the proposed use and office setup/layout; parking had to be addressed and storm water calculations must be completed. Cripps said he had no issue with the applicant's conceptual plan, but the details were lacking at this time for the Commission to properly review his request; Dingemans agreed.

Upon <u>motion</u> of Cripps, <u>supported</u> by Dingemans, and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the Commission tabled the request of Dianne and Elizabeth Griffith, 6682 Celery Street for a site plan amendment to property addressed as 3715 E. Main Street (Parcel Identification Number 06-12-435-071) to construct a 7,300 square-foot commercial office was tabled until the applicant submits a complete detailed site plan.

### **Old Business**

### **Zoning Ordinance Issues**

## Continued discussion regarding recreational marijuana text amendments

The Planning Commission held a special meeting on July 30, 2019 to discuss the recreational marijuana text amendments. Hudson provided an updated copy of the proposed recreational text amendments to the Commissioners, which was contained in their agenda packets. The Commission discussed the proposed text amendment in Article 8, Section 8.02, XX, 6. Adult Use Marijuana Event Organizer License and decided to remove this sub-section (XX, 6.) in its

entirety. The Commission discussed fencing requirements; Mitchell noted that the purpose of the fencing is to prevent people from seeing other people smoke marijuana.

Hudson discussed text amendments to Article 8, Section 8.02 WW Recreational (Adult Use) Marijuana Text Amendments. Nagler discussed whether someone could smoke marijuana at a medical marijuana facility, noting the exception found on page 8, paragraph 4.a Adult Use Marijuana Temporary Event License. The exception provided that "an Adult Use temporary Marijuana Event may temporarily allow consumption of marijuana on a premises where a medical marijuana or adult use marijuana facility has been properly approved and established and such activity is otherwise prohibited." The Commission asked for clarity regarding this note and on Section WW, 1.e General Regulations, which provides, "an Adult Use marijuana retailer, grower, processor, transporter, testing facility and/or microbusiness, shall not be permitted as a home occupation, home-based business or accessory use nor may they include accessory uses except as otherwise provided in this ordinance"; and, Section WW, 3.c. Adult use Marijuana Retailer – Other Activities, which provides that, "marijuana and tobacco products shall not be smoked, ingested, or otherwise consumed in the building space occupied by an adult use marijuana retail business."

The Commission discussed various buffer requirements, and recommended a buffer from municipal buildings. The Commission discussed treating microbusinesses separately. Dingemans and Nagler discussed residential buffer requirements contained in Section WW, 4.e. of the proposed text amendments. Section WW, 4.e. "Buffer Zones" provides for a 1,000' buffer from public or private elementary, or secondary schools and public libraries; and, a 500' buffer requirement from, among other uses, public parks, housing, religious institutions, child daycare facilities, and youth centers. Hudson said he will create a new sub-paragraph, within Section WW to address microbusinesses. Cripps discussed Section WW, 3.c Adult Use Marijuana Retailer – Other Activities, and asked that buffer requirements from government buildings be addressed. Hartsough discussed indoor event centers, and said it is similar to a bar. Mitchell discussed how a business may want to host a temporary indoor event; Hartsough said it may be possible within the C-2 District. Hartsough discussed buffer requirements and recommended allowing this type of use in the C-2 District. Being no further discussion, the Commission discussed setting the proposed text amendments for public hearing for the September 5, 2019 Planning Commission meeting.

Hudson directed the Commission to discuss the proposed text amendments regarding C-1, C-2, I-1 and the I-2 Zoning District Classifications. The Commission began by discussing the proposed text amendments to the C-1 Local Business District Zoning Classification. The Commission recommended deleting the proposed amendment contained in Section 17.02.A. Principal Permitted Uses, sub-paragraph 22 from the proposed text amendments (sale of Cannabidiol) (CBD), subject to obtaining and holding a license from the Michigan Department of Agricultural and Rural Development (MDARD) from the C-1 District. The Commission next discussed the proposed amendments to Section 17.03.B Special Land Uses. The Commission confirmed the additions of sub-paragraphs to Section 17.03.B:

1	11. Adult use Marijuana Retailer, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, WW., 3;
2	
3	12. Adult Use Marijuana Designated Consumption Establishment, subject to Article 8,
4	Section 8.02, XX., 5.; and,
5	42. As add to see Masting as Tananana Frankling as his day a Adda O Cantina O Co.
6	13. An adult use Marijuana Temporary Event License subject to Article 8, Section 8.02,
7	XX, 4.
8	
9	Hudson said he will prepare the proposed revisions to the C-1 District as indicated by the
10	Commissioners.
11	The Countries of the Co
12	The Commissioners next considered the proposed text amendments to Article 18, the C-2
13	Commercial Corridor District Zoning Classification. The Commissioners discussed and confirmed
14	the proposed amendments to Section 18.02.B. Special Land Uses by adding the following sub-
15	paragraphs:
16	24 Adult Has Mariinana Patailar subject to Article C. Costian C.O. MANA 2.
17	24. Adult Use Marijuana Retailer, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, WW., 3;
18	25 Adult Lies Mariinana Designated Consumentian Establishment subject to Article O
19	25. Adult Use Marijuana Designated Consumption Establishment, subject to Article 8,
20	Section 8.02, XX, 5; and,
21	26. Adult Use Marijuana Temparany Event License, subject to Article 9. Section 9.02. VV
22	26. Adult Use Marijuana Temporary Event License, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, XX, 4.
23	<b>4.</b>
24 25	Hudson said he would confirm the revisions in the undated text amendments that will be
25 26	Hudson said he would confirm the revisions in the updated text amendments that will be considered for public hearing.
27	considered for public hearing.
28	The Commissioners next considered the proposed text amendments to Article 19, I-1 Light
29	Industrial District Zoning Classification. The Commissioners discussed and confirmed the
30	proposed text amendments to Section 19.02.B Special Land Uses by adding the following sub-
31	paragraphs:
32	paragraphis.
33	32. An adult use Marijuana Retailer, subjection to Article 8, Section 8.02, WW., 3;
34	32. All dadit use Marijaana Netalier, subjection to Article 0, Section 0.02, WW., 5,
35	33. An adult use Grower, Processor, Transporter and/or Testing Facility, subject to
36	Article 8, Section 8.02, WW., 4;
37	7 ti dele 0, 3 e ci o i i ci o 2, 11 11 11
38	34. An adult use marijuana Excess Grower License, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, XX.,
39	3.;
40	<del>,</del>
41	35. An adult use marijuana Temporary Event License, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02,
42	XX.4;
43	·

1 2	36. An adult use marijuana Designated Consumption Establishment, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, XX., 5.; and,
3	
4 5	37. An adult use marijuana Microbusiness, subject to Article 8, Section, 8.02, WW, 5.
6	Hudson said he would confirm the revisions in the updated text amendments that will be
7	considered for public hearing.
8	The Commissioners next reviewed the proposed text amendments to Article 20. L.2 Coneral
9	The Commissioners next reviewed the proposed text amendments to Article 20, I-2 General Industrial District Zoning Classification. The Commissioners discussed and confirmed the
10 11	proposed text amendments to Section 20.02.B Special Land Uses by adding the following sub-
12	paragraphs:
13	paragraphs.
14	37. An adult use Retailer, and/or Grower, Processor, Transporter, and/or Testing Facility,
15	subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, WW., 4;
16	Subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, WW., 4,
17	38. An adult use marijuana Excess Grower License, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, XX.,
18	3;
19	<i>3</i> ,
20	39. An adult use marijuana Temporary Event License, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02,
21	XX., 4;
22	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
23	40. An adult use marijuana Designated Consumption Establishment, subject to Article 8,
24	Section 8.02, XX., 5; and,
25	
26	41. An adult use marijuana Microbusiness office, subject to Article 8, Section 8.02, WW.,
27	5.
28	
29	Hudson said he would confirm the revisions in the updated text amendments that will be
30	considered for public hearing.
31	
32	Upon motion of Cripps, supported by Dingemans, and unanimous vote, the Commission set the
33	proposed recreational marijuana text amendments for public hearing on September 5, 2019
34	(the date of the next regular Planning Commission meeting).
35	
36	Master Plan – 5 Year Update
37	
38	This matter was tabled until the next regular Planning Commission meeting.
39	
40	Parks and Recreation Plan
41	
42	The Commission discussed the current state of the Parks and Recreation plan. Hudson said he
43	would go to W. Main Street to look at the sidewalks/paths to compare to the current
44	infrastructure to the plan.

Open Discussion – Members of the Audience
None.
Report of the Township Board Representative
None.
Report of the Township ZBA Representative
None.
Comments from Planning Commission Members
None.
Report of the Planner/Zoning Administrator
None.
Report of the Township Attorney
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None.
Adjournment
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There being no further business to come before the Planning Commission, upon motion o
Cripps, seconded by Nagler, and unanimous approval, the July 11, 2019 Planning Commission
was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.
Henry Dingemans, Secretary
- 7 0 7
SYNOPSIS OF ACTIONS
The Kalamazoo Township Planning Commission undertook the following actions at the
August 1, 2019 regular Planning Commission meeting:
- U ,
1. Extended the special exception permit for one year for Aggregate Resources
4274 Ravine Road;

1		
2	2.	Extended the special exception permit for one year for StoneCo, 3800 Ravine
3		Road;
4		
5	3.	Approved Kalamazoo County's request for a special exception land use and site
6		plan approval for a proposed solar energy facility on its property at 1421 Healy
7		Street (Parcel Tax Number 06-23-445-120) as presented;
8		
9	4.	Tabled the request of Dianne and Elizabeth Griffith, 6682 Celery Street for a site
10		plan amendment to property addressed as 3715 E. Main Street (Parcel
11		Identification Number 06-12-435-071) to construct a 7,300 square-foot

12 13

14

15 16 5.

commercial office until the applicant submits a complete detailed site plan.

Set the proposed text amendments for recreational marijuana for public hearing

for September 5, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m. (next regular Planning Commission meeting).