

SHERMAN TOWNSHIP ZONING/PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
November 14, 2017

Chairman Ford called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Members Present: Alan Ford, Kathy Sahli, Lance Thornton, Vince Mifsud, Bill Pueschel, Frank Kalasky

Members Absent: Roger Krontz

Visitors: Steve Wolf, Jamey Rouch, Ben Rouch, Don Leeth, Rod Borgert, LaVonne Borgert, Chris Hamilton, Connie Converse

Minutes: Motion by Thornton, support by Sahli, to approve the October 10, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0, Pueschel abstain.

Old Business: Chairman Ford distributed copies of an example of a Planned Unit Development (PUD) ordinance provided by Cathleen Kaufman (Bauckham, Sparks, Thall, Seeber & Kaufman PC). Members of the Planning Commission reviewed the document and commented on topics including personal homes within the PUD, if various parcels would be included in the PUD, would the PUD designation extend to future owners of the property? The example is 17 pages in length and requires additional study by the Planning Commission members.

A motion was made by Mifsud, support by Kalasky, to conduct a public hearing to review the proposed Planned Unit Development ordinance at the December 12, 2017 Planning Commission meeting. Secretary Kalasky to post the public hearing notice in the Sturgis Journal.

During the next month, Chairman Ford and Township Supervisor Wolf are to meet with the Rouches, and Township legal council to discuss a specific plan for development of a proposal for the Rouch property to comply with the example proposed PUD ordinance.

Secretary Kalasky provided a review of the process to evaluate the Township Master Land Use Plan. Four firms have been sent requests for proposal to bid on the project with the bids due by November 30, 2017. Copies of all bids will be distributed to Planning Commission members at the December 12, 2017 meeting and each Planning Commission member is to evaluate each bid prior to the January 2018 Planning Commission meeting. At that time the successful bidder will be determined and recommended to the Township Board.

New Business: Chairman Ford stated that he has been contacted by individuals regarding large scale solar panel installations in the Township. Questions were if installation were allowed, not allowed, or allowed with a special use permit. It was determined that since there is presently no solar panel ordinance in the Township, they are not allowed. The current ordinance does not permit the Zoning Board of Appeals to permit any installation not covered by an ordinance.

Adjourn: Motion by Sahli, support by Thornton, to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0 at 8:10 PM.
Next scheduled meeting Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 7:00 PM at the Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank J. Kalasky, P.E.
Secretary