

**Flowerfield Township
St. Joseph County
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes**

January 19, 2017

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 P.M. PC members present: Joe Woodin, Greg Hamelink, Ron Shaver, Rich Rice, Neil Farrell. Marty Eldred was absent. Flowerfield Township Zoning Administrator Doug Kuhlman was in attendance.

Board Member Additions to Agenda

None

Approval of Agenda

Joe made a motion to approve the agenda, Rich seconded the motion, motion carried.

Board Member Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

Joe made a motion to approve the November 17, 2016 meeting minutes, Neil seconded the motion, motion carried.

Public Comments & Requests for Applications and/or Special Exceptions

None

Correspondence

The PC received correspondence regarding an upcoming Master Citizen Planner Training that will be held at Southwest Michigan Construction Code Library in White Pigeon MI. Training will be conducted from March 22 – May 3, 2017.

Old Business

Doug discuss medical marihuana facilities, issue is very volatile and still being defined at the state level. Doug recommended the township not pursue any zoning at the moment regarding this issue but was going to provide the township with a resolution that would assist with addressing the issue in the interim. A presentation regarding this topic will be held in Cass County on February 8th.

New Business

Public Hearing for Zoning Ordinance

The PC discussed a potential schedule for conducting a public hearing for zoning ordinance and proper review by township board and county PC board.

-Present draft zoning ordinance to township board at monthly meeting on February 14, 2017.

-Receive response from township board at March 14, 2017 meeting.

-Conduct planning meeting at March 16, 2017 PC meeting.

-Conduct public hearing at April 20, 2017 meeting. Provide a copy of zoning ordinance draft to County PC Board for review following public hearing.

-Receive a response from County PC Board for consideration.

-Receive final approval from township board and adoption of new zoning ordinance.

-Zoning ordinance will be official in July 2017.

The PC also discussed section 4.15 regarding farm animals and how this relates in an urban environment. PC agreed some feedback was necessary from legal, Greg will reach out to Roxanne for comment/input. Doug requested contact info for all PC members, Greg will work on this information and provide it to Doug.

Adjournment:

Joe made a motion to adjourn, Rich seconded the motion and the meeting ended at 8:53 P.M.

Next Meeting: February 16, 2017