

Don Tapio, Vice Chair
Tom Feldhusen
John Kraft

Martin Oakley, Chairperson

Gary Johnson, Secretary
Frank Haslip
Tom Sandblom

**REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Planning Commission Approved Minutes 06/12/2017

- 1.) Meeting Called to Order at 7pm.**
- 2.) Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3.) Roll Call:** Mr Oakley, Mr Tapio, Mr Haslip, Mr Sandblom, and Mr Feldhusen were present. Mr Johnson and Mr Kraft were absent due to being out of town. Terry Knapp was present as Zoning Administrator.
- 4.) Agenda** was approved with the addition of 6 C: Gas Stations. Motion by Mr Tapio, Seconded by Mr Feldhusen. Motion passed by voice vote.
- 5.) Minutes:**
 - a) Planning Commission Minutes of 03/20/2017 (rewritten): Motion to approve by Mr Tapio, Seconded by Mr Oakley. Motion passed by voice vote.
 - b) Planning Commission Minutes of 05/8/2017: Motion to approve by Mr Sandblom, Seconded by Mr Haslip. Motion passed by voice vote.
- 6.) Reports:**
 - a) *Zoning Administrator Report for May 2017:* Mr Knapp turned in a written copy as well as discussed several items of interest including the ongoing Lindholm Non-Compliance. Under discussion was the old gas station in South Republic near the True Value (the old Shell Station) and what could be done.

Motion was made to communicate with the Republic Township Board to request a joint meeting with the PC and the Township Board to discuss the old Shell Station (Owned by Mr Lindholm) in regard to the zoning violations (blight) and contamination of the property. Motion was made by Mr Tapio, Seconded by Mr Sandblom. Motion passed by voice vote. Mr Oakley as the Chairperson and acting Secretary in the absence of Mr Johnson would write a letter to the board requesting the joint meeting.

Motion to accept the Zoning Administrator's Report was made by Mr Oakley, Seconded by Mr Tapio. Passed by Voice Vote.

b) *Recreation Committee:* Mr Oakley, as PC liaison to the Rec Committee reported that they were working on a brochure for the recreational opportunities in Republic Township as well as that Mr Brennan had been working on the picnic tables. The situation with the vandalism at the dam was brought up, but no action was taken.

Mr Haslip asked who was in charge of the new campground as he had a friend that came into town and was not able to register, but stayed until the following Monday morning and came into the office and took care of the bill. Mr Oakley explained that the campground was not part

of what has been given to the Planning Commission, and that Mr Haslip would have to speak to the Township Board or the front office in order to find out what the status is.

c) PC Chairperson's Report: Mr Oakley reported on the NMU EAN (internet) agreement that was put into effect by the township board. Mr Oakley also thanked Mr Feldhusen for being a strong voice in support of the agreement.

7.) Old Business:

a) Proposed update to Section 417 of the Zoning Ordinance regarding Recreational Vehicles. While requested to have both Ordinances (Township and Zoning) printed out, due to the busy schedule of the office it was not. Discussion was made about what could be done to loosen up the language of Section 417 to point to the Township Ordinance and give it precedence. Mr Knapp was asked to provide the Township Ordinance so that the Planning Commission could look at both and decide what would be done. Any action was tabled until the July Meeting without objection

b) Recreation Plan: Mr Oakley had requested the Recreation Plan be copied, but due to the amount of work in the front office this was not done, which was understandable. Tabled without Objection until July's meeting.

c) Gas Stations (Economic Development): Mr Haslip outlined that he had been in contact with several individuals. One outright said no to locating a gas station (like Koski Korner) in Republic. Two others expressed interest. Mr Haslip would continue communication with those who expressed interest and suggest they come to a Planning Commission Meeting.

8.) New Business:

a) Request from Ordinance Enforcement Officer: To look into the language of the Zoning Ordinances as to whether or not we could hold the contractor liable if they continued work after being told to stop work due to the permits not being in place. The discussion included the fact that the situation in question was more complex than first explained, and that it was not in fact an actionable request. Everything falls back on the home owner.

9.) Public Comment:

It was asked of the Zoning Administrator and the Planning Commission where the Township (Police Power) Ordinances could be found. It was explained that it they were on the website, as were the Zoning Ordinances.

10.) Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn by Mr Oakley, Seconded by Mr Haslip. Motion passed unanimously.

Sincerely,



Martin R. Oakley, Planning Commission Chairperson.