

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
7:00 P.M. Monday, November 14, 2011
Republic Township Hall

1. The meeting was Called To Order by Chairperson Dan Mitchell at 6:59 P.M.
2. Members Present: James Brennan, Bill Bergin, Tom Feldhusen, Dan Mitchell , Tom Sandblom, and Terry Knapp (the new Township Zoning Administrator).
3. It was moved by Jim Brennan and seconded by Tom Sandblom to Approve the Agenda for tonight's meeting. The motion passed.
4. Jim Brennan made a motion to Approve the Minutes of the Open Public Hearing Meeting on Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance held on October 17, 2011. Tom Sandblom seconded the motion. The motion passed. Jim Brennan then made a motion to Approve the Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting held on October 17, 2011. Tom Sandblom seconded the motion. The motion passed.
5. Public Comment: None.
6. Communications: Dan Mitchell spoke about an October 18, 2011 communication he received from Township Supervisor Gary Johnson. In this communication, Mr. Johnson asked about the Planning Commission's intentions in granting the Conditional Use Permit for the Chief Lake Wilderness Youth Camp (CLWYC). Chairperson Mitchell then referenced information regarding the CLWYC Conditional Use Permit, that is in Planning Commission Minutes from meetings held on September 19, 2011 and October 17, 2011, regarding the Conditional Use Permit being granted and limited to the original 13.5 acres as were described in the CLWYC's original permit request. After some discussion, Bill Bergin made a motion to have Chairperson Dan Mitchell respond in writing to a October 19, 2011 communication sent by Mr. Steve Nesbit of the CLWYC, and reconfirm the Planning Commission position regarding the Conditional Use Permit being granted and limited to the original 13.5 acres as were described in the CLWYC's original request. Jim Brennan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chairperson Mitchell then referenced a communication he received from the Township Supervisor indicating that the Township Board elected to return the Planning Commission (PC) to a five member board directly because of budgetary constraints. Shannon Ambuehl and Terry Knapp's positions will not be filled. If any other PC terms of office are up at the end of the year, the Township Board will authorize postings for those positions at the November 21, 2011 Township Board meeting. After discussion regarding this communication, Jim Brennan made a motion that we change the P.C. Bi-Laws to go from seven (7) to five (5) members, and restructure the term limits. Tom Feldhusen seconded the motion. In discussing the motion, Terry Knapp reminded the P.C. that we also should look at membership numbers on the Zoning Appeals Board. The motion passed.

There was discussion on the Term Limits for the P.C. Jim Brennan's term of office will be up at the end of the calendar year. Mr. Brennan indicated he was going to apply, to be re-appointed to the P.C. Bill Bergin made a motion to support Mr. Brennan as a candidate for re-election to the P.C. by the Township Board. Tom Sandblom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

7. Committee Reports:
 - A) Zoning Ordinance Sub Committee: Nothing to report;
 - B) Parks & Recreation: Nothing to report;

- C) Community Services: Tom Feldhusen is the new President. The Committee will retain the same officers, except for President. This committee will continue to plan to help the community and prepare for the annual Christmas Party.
 - D) RM School: Dan Mitchell reported that the RM school successfully passed the Bond issue. Tom Feldhusen served on the School Bond Committee and shared positive remarks on efforts to get the Bond Proposal passed.
 - E) Zoning Ordinance Revision Update: Dan Mitchell indicated that we received approval from the County Planning Commission, so he would leave a copy of this for the Township Supervisor, so that it could go to the Township Board on November 21, for final approval.
 - F) Zoning Districts Mapping: Dan Mitchell went to see Michelle at CUPPAD. There were three mistakes on the mapping. Michelle was going to re-do the mapping and have them delivered to the Township by Thursday, November 17, 2011.
8. Zoning Administrator's Report: Terry Knapp presented the following report:
- 1. Zoning Compliance Permits Issued: None.
 - 2. Zoning Compliance Informational requests:
 - 11-04-11 Dave Duncan – plot/site plan received, 9043 Co. Rd. 601; Hold – Additional information requested for application.
 - 11-04-11 Aaro Illi – follow up for land division request, N Bank Lane. Letter sent regarding new contact information.
 - 11-04-11 Peter Davis – request for address change information – Witch Lake; Referred to township.
 - 11-07-11 Markus Ladd – request for land division information – Chief Lake; Provided ordinance and contact information.
 - 11-08-11 Robert Labeau property – request for purchase information – Plumtree Rd; Provided ordinance and assessor contact information.
 - 3. Zoning Violations: No new actions.
 - 4. Planning Commission: Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments, sent to Marquette County Planning Commission for statutory review and comments by Interim Zoning Administrator.
 - 5. Zoning Board Of Appeals: No scheduled meeting.
 - 6. General: 11-14-11 – Glen Adams – Received a recorded copy of quitclaim deed (2011R-11141,10/31/2011), as requested by Al Pierce, Interim Zoning Administrator, To clarify the description of the parcel and the number of land divisions retained by him.
9. Old Business: None.
10. New Business: Tom Feldhusen spoke about a situation in the community whereby some residents are being bothered by barking dogs. Tom Sandblom suggested turning this situation over to the Township Zoning Compliance/Enforcement Officer.

Dan Mitchell spoke about challenges the Township Fire Department faces regarding Equipment. He suggested that down the road the Township may want to consider a Bond issue to help update Fire Department equipment.

11. Public Comment: Fred Nannestad asked the Planning Commission if they followed through with communicating with the Township Department of Public Works and the Fire Department, regarding their Capital Expenditures for Budgeting. Chairperson Dan Mitchell indicated both departments were communicated with, and to date, the Planning Commission still has not heard from them regarding their Capital Expenditure needs.
12. Adjourn: Bill Bergin made a motion to Adjourn the meeting at 7:42 P.M. Tom Sandblom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Bergin, Recording Secretary