

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

7:47 P.M. Monday, July 16, 2012

Republic Township Hall

DRAFT MINUTES

1. The meeting was Called to Order by Chairperson Dan Mitchell at 7:47 p.m.
2. Members Present: James Brennan, Bill Bergin, Tom Feldhusen, Dan Mitchell, Tom Sandblom and Terry Knapp (Township Zoning Administrator).
3. Bill Bergin made a motion that was seconded by Tom Sandblom to approve the agenda, but to change the date on the agenda sheet from June 16, 2012 to reflect the correct date of July 16, 2012. The motion passed.
4. Jim Brennan made a motion that was seconded by Tom Sandblom, to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2012 meeting. The motion passed. Dan Mitchell indicated he would have the minutes of the April 16, 2012 Planning Commission meeting completed for the August meeting.
5. Public Comment: None.
6. Communications:
 - A) Discussion from the Township Board Meeting: Tom Feldhusen spoke about the issue of a dead tree being cut down at the cemetery and discussion about planting a new tree at the cemetery. Tom Feldhusen spoke about the frustration of the Township Board taking action on items that should first be taken up at Planning Commission Meetings. Specifically he referenced the Pavilion Issue, and indicated that the Planning Commission should have been involved in this issue. Bill Bergin asked Tom how the members of the Township Board respond when it is brought up that the Planning Commission needs to be involved. Tom indicated that the issue just gets skirted over.
 - B) Tom Sandblom asked what the status of the old bank building was. Tom Feldhusen responded that the Township finally got the grant money for this, but it was not clear to him what action was now to occur. Tom said to his knowledge, the grant has been approved, but the township has not seen the money as yet. Jim Brennan brought up the issue of road millage money and possible frustrations in the future, if something is not done on Hawks Drive. Tom Sandblom expressed frustration about the Township Board circumventing the Planning Commission. He encouraged Tom Feldhusen (as the liaison between the Township Board and the Planning Commission) to keep reminding the Township Board that the Planning Commission needs to be involved in many of the issues the Township Board is acting on.
 - C) Dan Mitchell reported that Faye Mattila completed the Fire Grant and got it turned in on time. Mitchell reported that he read the grant, and felt it was well written. The Township should find out within six weeks if we get the grant.
7. Committee Reports:
 - A) Ordinance Sub Committee: Dan Mitchell reported that the Township Supervisor has still not scheduled a meeting;

- B) Parks & Recreation: Jim Brennan spoke about areas he is pursuing regarding improving the ball park facilities. Up to this point he has not been able to identify grants that go exclusively for ball parks.
 - C) Community Services: Tom Feldhusen indicated there was nothing to report.
 - D) RM School: Tom Feldhusen and Dan Mitchell reported that the school Millage Projects are proceeding in an efficient and timely manner.
8. Zoning Administrator's Report: The report is attached to the minutes.
9. Old Business:
- A) Zoning Ordinance Review Committee Update: Dan Mitchell indicated that this committee has met and there are a number of recommendations that will be coming to the Planning Committee for their review. Dan informed everyone the document being submitted for review is four hundred seventy three pages.
 - B) Review of the Camping Ordinance: Jim Brennan distributed a packet titled Ordinance for the Control and Regulation of Campers. This document is being proposed as a Stand Alone Only Ordinance. The Planning Committee reviewed the document and suggested two changes.

Bill Bergin made a motion to approve the document entitled: Ordinance for the Control and Regulation of Campers with two changes, and to send this document to the Township Board for their review and approval. The motion was seconded by Dan Mitchell. The two changes Bergin cited were:

1. Item 11-A: Strike out the words: Zoning Administrator, and substitute it with the words: the Republic Township Clerk.
2. Section D. Enforcement: Strike out the words: Zoning Administrator, and substitute it with the words: Zoning Ordinance Compliance Officer.

The motion passed. This will now be sent to the Township Board. If the Township Board approves this ordinance, there will then have to be an Open Public Hearing.

10. New Business: None.
11. Public Comment on Agenda Items: None
12. Adjourn: Tom Sandblom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 P.M.. Bill Bergin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Bergin, Recording Secretary