

Republic Township Planning Commission

Chair: Martin R. Oakley

Vice-Chair: John Kraft

Secretary:

Frank Haslip, Tracy Wilkinson, Tom Feldhusen, Tom Sandblom

PC minutes for 05/14/2018

1. Meeting was called to order at approximately 7pm.
2. Salute to the flag.
3. Silent Roll Call was taken. All present except for Mr. Sandblom. Mr. Sandblom came in at 7:05pm.
4. Agenda: The agenda had the additions of #8 (b) TIFA variance request, #9 public comment, and #10 adjournment. Motion by Mr. Kraft seconded by Mr. Haslip. Motion Passes.
5. Minutes:
 - Draft Public Hearing Minutes 04/09/2018: Motion by Mr. Oakley seconded by Mr. Kraft. Motion Passes.
 - Regular Meeting Draft minutes 04/09/2018: Corrections Add roll call vote to #7, correction of Miss Wilkinson's first initial throughout. Motion by Miss Wilkinson seconded by Mr. Feldhusen. Motion Passes.
6. Reports:
 - Zoning Administrator: Welcome to Mr. Johnson as Zoning Administrator. Final written report by Mr. Knapp was received as well. Lindholm situation under discussion following day in closed session by Township Board.
 - Recreation Committee: Mr. Brennan was absent due to being out of town. Written report was read by the Chair. The June meeting of the Rec Committee would be held at the Old Gravel Pit/Coffee Property in order to asses it for Recreational Usage as specified in the deed.
 - June 9th 10am staining tables at the fire hall.
 - No word on playground grant yet.
 - Iron Ore Heritage Trail will be placing a bike repair station and benches before September. They also have the match money for the welcoming center and are ready to cut the check.
 - Rec Committee recommends due to dilapidated nature and safety hazard of equipment, that the playground in Witch Lake be removed entirely. It would cost too much to repair/update. Motion by Mr. Kraft seconded by Mr. Haslip to move this to the Township Board. It was brought up by Mr. Johnson that the deed may have a revert clause, that if it is not used for the

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purpose of a playground it may revert to the original owners. The Township Board is to be made aware of this. Motion Passes.

PC Chairpersons report: Marquette County Planning Department approved unanimously the rezoning of the properties. Motion by Miss Wilkinson seconded by Mr. Kraft to pass this on to the Township Board. Motion Passes.

7. Old Business:

Marihuana Zoning Ordinance. What the attorney provided was given to the PC. Also given was what Mr. Johnson, Mr. Oakley, and Mr. Knapp worked on in sub-committee. It was the suggestion of both the Zoning Administrator and Mr. Oakley that we go forward with a public hearing at the next Planning Commission Meeting for the purpose of adopting the Marihuana Zoning Ordinance that Mr. Knapp and the sub-committee had proposed. Explanation was given as to why we would not move forward with a special meeting for the public hearing by the Chair. Explanation also given as to why it would not include a commercial facility for sale of recreational due to it not being passed as of this time. Motion by Mr. Feldhusen seconded by Miss Wilkinson. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Recreation Plan: Update given verbally by Mr. Oakley that Mr. Brennan was given 60 days by consensus of PC, which gives him until the next meeting to update the ADA and Action/Goals.

Master Plan: Discussion on how to get feedback from the community to find out what the community sees for the future of the Township. Consensus was to ask people in the community what they would like to see improved and/or changed. Mr. Sandblom spoke of creating an atmosphere in Republic that looks good and is open to new people and businesses. To be brought up at the June meeting and continue to workshop the Master Plan.

8. New Business:

Planning Commission Secretary: Miss Wilkinson volunteered to be the Planning Commission Secretary starting in June of 2018. Motion to accept Miss Wilkinson as Secretary was unanimous.

TIFA Variance Request: The Zoning Administrator gave history of the TIFA's request as well as the actions taken in order to see how the TIFA is able to buy the dam property and the zoning is legal. The consensus of the discussions between the Zoning Administrator and the Township Attorney was to have the Assessor (Mr. Ulrich) approve the split, then to change the zoning. Spot Zoning was suggested for the dam property to Commercial. The PC Chair stated he was against this without an attorney's opinion.

Motion by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Miss Wilkinson to table the subject. Motion later rescinded.

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The Assessor was asked for his input and opinion and asked for time to research. The Assessor was given a week to get back to the Zoning Administrator and PC Chair with the results of his research, as he would be the one signing the land split.

Based upon the response that the Assessor gave from his research, then the decision to move to public hearing at the June Planning Commission meeting would be moved forward. Motion made by Miss Wilkinson, Seconded by Mr. Haslip. Motion passed.

9. Public Comment:

Mr. Ulrich asked if there was a possibility of having a special meeting for the public hearing for the variance. For the same reason as the Marihuana Zoning Ordinance being held at the next PC meeting, a special meeting would not work out. Also either the TIFA or Mr. Roger Crimmons would have to pay for a special meeting.

10. Meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin R. Oakley

Approved