

MINUTES

MONTCALM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

MONTCALM TOWNSHIP HALL

June 22, 2017

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Chairman Karnatz led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- Chairman Karnatz called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Members present: Richard Karnatz (Chair), Jeff Dolphin (Vice-Chair), James Lantz (Secretary), Robert Hemmes (Zoning Board of Appeals Liaison)
Amy Richards (Township Board Liaison)
- Members absent: None
- Guests/Others present:
 - Mike Nelson (Zoning Administrator)
 - Four members of the public

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by James Lantz and seconded by Jeff Dolphin. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2017 meeting was made by Robert Hemmes and seconded by Amy Richards. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMENT FROM ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

- Mike Nelson asked about set back requirements for fencing that runs perpendicular to a road right-of-way. The Commissioners stated that Section 13.4 of the Ordinance, which addresses Clear Vision Zones, would require a minimum setback of 20 feet.

OLD BUSINESS

- Michigan Medical Marijuana Ordinance:
Continuing discussion re: Michigan Medical Marijuana laws. Public Act 281 or HB4209. The Commissioners reviewed possible wording for an amendment to the Ordinance. Several refinements were discussed, and incorporated into the proposed amendment.

Jeff Dolphin moved that a Public Hearing be held at 7:15 pm on Wednesday, July 26, 2017, to obtain public comment on the proposed “Amendment to the Montcalm Township Zoning Ordinance for the Regulation and Licensing of Certain Aspects Pursuant to the Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act under MCLA 333.27101, et seq.” Amu Richards seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT CONCERNING OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Solar Panel Farms – Mike Nelson indicated that he had been contacted by Cypress Creek Renewables, of Arizona, inquiring about our zoning related to solar panel farms. The Commissioners noted that the Ordinance does not prohibit such endeavors, but that such activity would be considered a Special Land Use.
- Commissioner terms – Chairman Karnatz noted that the term of Jeff Dolphin is about to expire. Commissioners enthusiastically encouraged his reappointment. Jeff indicated his willingness to continue serving the citizens

of Montcalm Township as a member of the Planning Commission. Amy Richards will communicate this information to the Township Supervisor.

PUBLIC COMMENT CONCERNING NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ADJOURNMENT

- Jeff Dophin moved that the meeting be adjourned. Amy Richards seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James D. Lantz, Secretary