

MINUTES
MONTCALM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
MONTCALM TOWNSHIP HALL
July 3, 2019 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Chairman Richard Karnatz led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Richard Karnatz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Members present: Richard Karnatz (Chair), Erin Nerychel (Secretary), Jessica Shearer (Board Liaison), Jeff Dolphin (Vice-Chair), Robert Hemmes (Zoning Board of Appeals Liaison)
- Members absent: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Jeff Dolphin made a motion to approve the agenda. Robert Hemmes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Jessica Shearer made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2019 meeting. Jeff Dolphin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES SECTION 7.25 OF
MONTCALM TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

- Correction to section number, should be 7.30
- Karen Baird asked what bench marks were used to determine the ordinance is in the best interest of the township. Also asked if training required for the people inspecting these properties.
- Richard Palmer commented he has not read the ordinance amendment and would be opposed if the amendment did not address controlling the odor created from the production of marihuana.
- Diane Fountain commented in opposition to the amendment due to concern about health of community and smell. Also commented on how administration of the ordinance will be handled.
- Blake Crider commented in support of the ordinance. Also commented on how growers are regulated by the state and by the township.

- Christina Allison commented in support of the ordinance. Also commented about having a place to safely buy and be educated on medical marihuana.
- Joe Tilton commented in opposition to the ordinance amendment
- John Johansen commented that the ordinance still needs to be approved by the township board.
- Dave Overholt commented on filtration for smell, the cost of licenses by state and township and potential tax revenue.
- Mike Callton commented in support of the ordinance. Also commented on propose of medical marihuana act and the testing and inspection of marihuana.
- John Kroneck commented in opposition to the ordinance amendment and provided Michigan Prevention Association hand out.
- Tim Rau asked if there will be any location variances allowed, how many card holders are in the township, how many smaller townships have marihuana ordinances. Also, commented to correct the spelling of assesses.

COMMENT FROM ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

None

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Commission member appreciated comments made during public hearing.

OLD BUSINESS

- Medical Marihuana Facilities Ordinance
 - Change section from 7.25 to 7.30.
 - Correct spelling of assess in section G.9 Application Procedure
 - Robert Hemmes motioned to correct section from 7.25 to 7.30 and approve passing the Medical Marihuana Facilities Ordinance amendment to the township board. Jessica Shear seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:
 - Jeff – Yes
 - Jessica – Yes
 - Robert – Yes
 - Erin - Yes
 - Dick - Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

- Setbacks on Private Roads
 - Discussed privacy fences.
 - Reviewed zoning ordinance. Section 13.4 Clear Vision Zone and section 21.19 Fences and Walls have requirements established.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON OLD BUSINESS

- Karen Baird asked if we could send questions regarding ordinance to ZBA.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chicken Discussion
 - Discussed lot size requirement, fencing requirements and creating a policed ordinance.
- Robert Hemmes motioned to remove chickens from 2 ½ acre requirement in Section 21.22 Keeping of Animals as Accessory Residential Use. Jeff Dolphin seconded the motion. Jeff Dolphin and Robert Hemmes approved the motion. Jessica Shear, Richard Karnatz, Erin Nerychel opposed the motion. Motion did not pass.
- Jessica Shear motioned to revise Section 21.22 Keeping of Animals for Accessory Residential Use by removing chickens from the 2 ½ requirement and require they be fenced. Motion Jeff Dolphin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS

- Richard Palmer recommended we have a policed ordinance in place before revising the chicken ordinance

ADJOURNMENT

- Jessica Shear moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jeff Dolphin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Nerychel, Planning Commission Secretary