

MINUTES
MONTCALM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
MONTCALM TOWNSHIP HALL
November 6, 2019 7:15 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Chairman Richard Karnatz led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Richard Karnatz called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Jeff Dolphin made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2019 meeting. Jessica Shear seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPECIAL LAND USE REQUEST FOR "MET" WIND DATA TOWER

- Wind Data tower is temporary, used to gather wind data.
- Temporary is no more than 5 years
- Will add GPS coordinates to application

COMMENT FROM ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

- Mike Nelson commented on property south of Nelson's Speed Shop.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Public Hearing Results Discussion
 - Jeff Dolphin made a motion to approve the Special Land Use request for Met Tower located on 7888 Colby Rd for a temporary period of 5 years from the first date of operation. With GPS coordinates, 43.270880 / -85.231363 added to application. Robert Hemmes seconded the motion. Roll call vote:
 - Jessica Shearer- yea
 - Jeff Dolphin - yea
 - Richard Karnatz - yea
 - Robert Hemmes - yea
 - Erin Nerychel - yea
- Election of Officers for the Year of 2020
 - Jessica Shear motioned to keep the planning commission officers in their current roles: Richard Karnatz (Chair), Erin Nerychel (Secretary), Jessica Shearer (Board Liaison), Jeff Dolphin (Vice Chair, Zoning Board of Appeals Liaison) and Robert Hemmes (Commission Member). Jeff Dolphin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Set Meeting Dates for Year of 2020
 - Bylaws call for meetings once per quarter:
 - Feb 5, May 6, Aug 5, November 4
 - Start time at 7 pm
 - Jeff Dolphin motioned to schedule 2020 planning commission meetings at 7:00 pm on February 5, May 6, Aug 5 and November 4. Robert Hemmes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

- Chicken – land requirement – section 21.22 ZO
 - Discussed 2.5 acre requirement and if it could be removed and adding requirement for containing within parcel.
 - Discussed treating chickens as a nuisance.
 - Jeff Dolphin motioned to revise Section 21.22.D Keeping of Animals as Accessory Residential Use, Keeping of Livestock to “The keeping of livestock as an accessory use to the principal residential use of a lot shall be permitted in all Districts provided the parcel on

which such livestock is maintained do not exceed the following densities.” Robert Hemmes seconded the motion. Roll call vote:

- Jessica Shearer - yea
- Jeff Dolphin- yea
- Richard Karnatz - yea
- Robert Hemmes - yea
- Erin Nerychel - nay
- Will research if another public hearing is required
- Junk Cars / Nuisance Items
 - Discussed what defines a junk car, how many should be allowed, zoning of the area, does the vehicle have a title and what to include as nuisance items.
 - Reviewed City of Howard City ordinance for blight
 - Discussed township providing assistance via a township clean-up day more than once a year, providing trash removal and providing assistance to clean up parcels
- Discussion of Old Turk Lake Elementary
 - Zoning Administrator has received requests about purchasing the parcel for commercial use.
 - Parcel is zoned residential (R2)
 - Depending on use it will need to be re-zoned or submit special land use

Robert Hemmes motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Dolphin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Nerychel, Planning Commission Secretary