

Ford River Township Planning Commission

Regular Meeting: March 2, 2017

Agenda

Opening

The regular meeting of the Ford River Township planning Commission was called to order at 7:00pm on March 2, 2017 in Ford River Town Hall by Chairman Nelson. Present were: Mr. Wellman, Mr. Lippens, Mr. Fettig and Mrs. Kolinsky. Also in attendance: Supervisor Fountaine

Pledge of Allegiance- done

Roll Call-taken

Approval of Agenda- approved by all present

Public Hearing: None

Public Comment on Agenda items: None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed. Mr. Lippens motioned to accept, Mr. Fettig seconded, All approved.

Permits: None

Unfinished Business:

1. Preparation for Ordinance Changes.

Twp. Attorney John Bergman still in process of reviewing changes. Members agreed that to move forward without Attorney comment would be a waste of time and possibly leave the door open for legal problems.

2. Other unfinished business was to look into other townships for what they have on the books for pond ordinances. Mr. Nelson will be looking into it by contacting other township. Discussion ensued by committee members that in the past ponds have been under the guidance of the Delta County Soil Conservation District. Difference between quarries and ponds was also discussed as quarries are already addressed in our zoning ordinances. Supervisor Fountaine supplied a copy of Public Act 110 to address the quarry vs pond situation. Mr. Fettig to bring in some information he has on ponds and quarries.

3. Medical Marijuana Facilities Workshop Webinar at Bay College March 30, 6-9 pm. Mr. Wellman and Supervisor Fountaine will have more information from a meeting in Marquette. Supervisor Fountaine to invite other townships to attend Bay College Webinar. Discussion ensued on township role in Medical Marijuana. Name of Brad Newman, from MSU, as a resource was given for more information.

4. Expense Voucher addressed by Supervisor Fountaine. Expense Voucher will be written out every month. If you don't fill it out you won't be paid. Mr. Wellman asked if the Township Board addressed this at the Budget Workshop. The Planning Commission moves from salary to per diem. Training and meeting will be included on the expense voucher. Positions need to be stated on the voucher. They will be turned in every month.

5. Bylaws reviews that were passed out last month. Members have had time to review them. Mr. Nelson had a suggestion on the bylaws not to set a specific date but to say that meeting will be held on day and date set on the January of that year. Mr. Fettig suggested that we would have to check on Public act 33 for any changes to present reading. Mr. Lippens stated that under zoning we should be handling land division. Supervisor Fountaine responded that she was reticent to add more to this committee when we are just getting use to our present duties and that we need to get other work done that is presently under our jurisdiction rather than to try add more work. Mr. Nelson suggested we read the ordinance every month before the meeting to get used to our own rules.

6. Ordinances review will be handled the same. Committee members were encouraged to read them every month before the meeting to get very familiar with the rules under which we work.

New Business

Communications:

Supervisor Fountaine presented a Bark River zoning issue that is near Ford River Township line. Concern was that it appeared to be spot zoning and as Ford River has property near this area other people might want the same variance on their Ford River property. She is reaching out to Bark River to be notified to be of their decision. Mr. Lippens had knowledge of the property and that they are already doing production there at this time. It was Agricultural and now going to Production. Mr. Wellman will go the meeting and Mr. Nelson may also. They will report. We will maintain our present standards.

PA-110 Zoning Enabling Act. Given to read

Agenda for Next Meeting

New Fire Signs. Need for standardized signs. To be discussed further. It is a safety act. Ideas were discussed on several fronts. Cost, being consistent with other Township/Counties, zoning rules stating on where the sign is to be placed. Will probably need a zoning changes on type, color and placement of fire signs. Suggested to check GIS on County Website (under records) to look for homes.

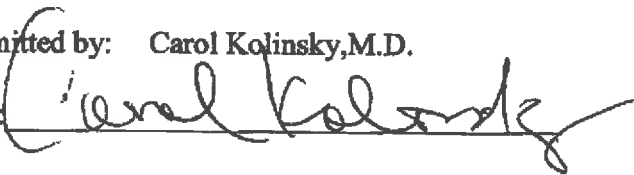
Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: None

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm by Mr. Lippens, seconded by Mr. Fettig. The next general meeting will be at 7 pm on April 6, 2017, in the Ford River Township Hall.

Minutes submitted by: Carol Kolinsky, M.D.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol Kolinsky", written over a horizontal line.