

Michigamme Township
Planning Commission Minutes

July 15, 2021

Present: Ruth Starr, David Niemi, Terry McBride, Julia Leake, Janice Anderson

Absent: Jason McCarthy (Zoning Administrator)

Call to Order: 5:37 pm

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to Approve: Ruth Starr, Second: Dave Niemi, Motion Passes.

III. Approval of the Minutes of June 10, 2021

Motion to Approve with corrections: Julia Leake, Second: Ruth Starr, Motion passes.

IV. Old Business

A. Plan to Conduct Planning Commission meetings in person Motion: Ruth Starr, Second: Terry Mc Bride, motion passes.

B. Action on Sign Ordinance Changes – DDA is done with their work. Changes will be presented in written form at the next meeting.

C. Blight Tour – Recheck has not yet been scheduled. Properties with blight problems not originally identified during the first blight tour will be visited during the recheck.

1. William Seppanen will schedule a time when Jason McCarthy is available.

2. Dumpster Days – August 16 – 18 and 21st – those receiving blight warnings should be able to take advantage of this service.

D. Update on Highline Broadband Service

1. This is a 3 ½ year project to bring fiberoptic cable throughout the UP, and improve internet service to rural areas.

2. Work is already started in the Escanaba area, with Michigamme being the last area to be completed, due in part to the difficulty of working in our rocky terrain.

3. Pricing is expected to be competitive to other servers.

E. Update on Master Plan Revision

1. Bob DellAngelo is finished with his work. He wants to meet with the Planning Commission once we have all read the Master Plan and thought about it.
2. Meeting likely to be scheduled late in the fall – likely November or December.

F. Construction Without Permits – Deferred

Site visits not done at this point. No action.

G. Small Animal Ordinance Changes

1. Action deferred to next meeting after reviewing how other townships are handling this problem.

V. New Business

A. Changes in Fee Schedule for Zoning Compliance

1. Motion to increase the cost of a Zoning Permit from \$10.00 to \$25.00
2. For permits obtained after construction has begun, fees will double.
3. Motion to Approve these Changes: Ruth Starr, Second:Terry McBride, Passes.

B. Changes in Scheduling Planning Commission Meetings

1. Writing time ½ hour before formal meeting when needed.
2. Julia Leake willing to approve if all members come prepared.
3. All sessions are open to the public.
4. Motion to Approve: Julia Leake, Second: Ruth Starr, passes

C. Resignation

1. Resignation letter of Joel Johnson of May 12, 2021 was read
2. Planning Commission accepts Joel Johnson's resignation with regret
3. Motion to accept: Ruth Starr, Second: Terry McBride, Motion passes.

D. New Zoning Permits Issued- Compliant

1. Dan and Kelly Mead – Residential structure and accessory building,
(52-09-335-001-13) Blue Road (address not yet assigned)

VI. Correspondence

- A. Letter from State Senator Ed McBroom – re: proposed VRBO legislation

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Adjournment 7:20 pm

Next Meeting: August 12, 2021 5:30 pm