

MINUTES OF RIVES TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION (PC)

REGULAR MEETING

HELD – TOWNSHIP HALL

January 7, 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:44 pm.

Members present: Chairman Roger DeCamp, Dwight Carmer, Cliff Herl and Jim Lindstrom. These present by roll call.

Mr. Carmer made motion to approve agenda with 2 deletions a) member Walt Luck and b) business item #7 for the 1-7-19 regular PC meeting. Seconded by Mr. Herl. All ayes.

Mr. Herl made motion to approve minutes of 12-3-18 Public Hearing for the Master Plan (MP), seconded by Mr. Carmer. All ayes.

Mr. Carmer made a motion to approve the 12-3-18 minutes of the regular PC meeting, seconded by Mr. Herl. All ayes.

Chairman DeCamp asked for reports. Mr. Carmer reported that no ZBA meeting had been necessary. Mr. Herl reported for the Township Board (TB) a) Dave Klein has been appointed to fill the opening on the PC vacated by Mrs. Pitmon, b) the TB will send some comments for consideration by the PC for the MP approval process. Mr. Carmer and Lindstrom commented on the GLREA (Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association) conference they attended 12-8-18.

Public comment was invited at 7:02 pm.

1. Vercilla Hart noted that PC wasn't addressing the MP tonight. This is because the TB recommendations or ideas for consideration haven't been given to the PC at this time.
2. CJ Fauser asked Mr. Herl why the township attorney was asked regarding renewable energy but wasn't asked regarding MP issues.
3. Megan Short offered to submit written comments already submitted to TB, to the PC.
4. Linda DeBruler stated that in her opinion solar energy arrays could be sited so that they were less noticeable than say a power plant.

Public comment closed at 7:07 pm.

Business:

1. Election of 2019 PC officers a) Motion by Mr. Lindstrom second by Mr. Carmer to have Roger DeCamp serve as Chairman. All Ayes by roll call, b) Motion by Mr. Herl, second by Mr. Carmer to have Jim Lindstrom serve as Secretary. All ayes by roll call vote, c) Motion by Mr. Lindstrom, second by Mr. DeCamp to have Dwight Carmer serve as Vice- Chairman. All ayes by roll call vote.
2. 2019 Regular Meeting dates are established as 1st Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at Township Hall. Approved by all ayes in roll call vote.

- Motion to approve 2019-2020 PC budget as itemized below made by Mr. Carmer seconded by Mr. DeCamp. All ayes, motion passed.

Dept. 400 Planning Comm.	Description	2019-2020 budget request
702.000	Wages	\$7,500.00
727.000	Supplies	\$ 200.00
826.000	Legal fees- Planning Comm.	\$8,700.00
861.000	Mileage	\$ 500.00
900.000	Printing and publishing	\$ 1,000.00
960.000	Education and training	\$ 3,500.00
	Total annual	\$21,400.00

- 2019 PC Objectives (goals) –a) Review conditional Use permits, b) have 2 workshops with TB to foster communications, c) conduct Industrial District review, d) establish Zoning Ordinance definitions e) new member training, f) achieve MP approval by TB.
- Code of Ordinances book check was made to insure all recent update pages had been received. Mr. Carmer book needs updated index page.
- Reviewed Public Comment guidelines. After discussion among PC the previously 7 guidelines listed on back of this meeting agenda and used at the 12-3-18 Public Hearing and the 12-3-18 regular meeting are adopted and will be labeled “Planning Commission public comment guidelines”. Motion by Mr. Carmer seconded by Mr. DeCamp. All ayes.

2cd session of Public comment invited at 7:58 pm

- Megan Short a) expressed concern that with addition of former Blackman Township PC member to this PC, that PC reflects rural and agricultural nature, b) offered to submit written comments already submitted to TB, to the PC. Chairman DeCamp responded that the PC is now in the phase where the MP progress rests with comments from the TB, not the citizens or the “entities” because that phase of the comment for consideration is past. This response continued in order to emphasize and make this clear.
- Linda Debruler challenged Chairman DeCamp on his “tone of condescension” toward the previous commenter. Chairman reiterated that the MP actions next of the PC will be based on the comments received from the TB.
- Lisa Manwell asked if another Public Hearing for the MP will be needed after the PC receives the TB comments.
- Bryce Hammond asked if public can still make comments related to MP during the public comment time slots.
- Vercilla Hart asked when the next MP action will happen so that TB comment that “can wouldn’t be kicked down the road” would be honored. PC responded as soon as comments from TB are received it will be addressed at next meeting.
- Stacy Stoner stated that Supervisor had listed what letters he had received from citizens and hers wasn’t included. Secretary stated that she had submitted the letter to the PC, not to Supervisor.
- Lisa Manwell expressed concern that the room capacity in the township hall had probably been exceeded and was concerned about safety.

Public comment closed at 8:26 pm.

Discussion regarding schedule of next meeting. Chairman expressed frustration of not being informed about change in new member for PC and that Chairman had spent extensive time preparing for training the new member and therefore wanted to cancel February meeting. Mr. Lindstrom disagreed with that recommendation due to the tasks and goals just approved for 2019 that need work to continue on. After consideration by all members, the next meeting will follow the 2019 schedule and be held February 4, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Township Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.

The next Regular PC meeting will be held at 6:30 pm, Monday, February 4, 2019 at the Rives Township office.