

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP BOARD, PLANNING COMMISSION & ZBA SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

Wednesday, November 6th, 2013, 6:00p.m.
3461 Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck, MI 49453

MINUTES

Supervisor Wester called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Township Board Members Present: Supervisor Bill Wester, Clerk Brad Rudich, Trustee Jonathan Phillips and Trustee Roy McIlwaine

Absent: Treasure Lori Babinski

Planning Commission Members Present: Chair Maggie Conklin, Brad Rudich, Joe Milauckas, Sandy Rausch, Dayle Harrison, Bill Rowe & Ed Welk

Absent: None

Zoning Board of Appeals Members Present: Chair Shawn Powers, Bill Rowe & Mark Putnam

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Acting Township Manager Aaron Sheridan, ZBA Alternate Kathleen Miller Cook & ZBA Alternate Marcia Tucker

Public Comment: Wester opened to public comment.

- Bill Wester wanted to commend Sandra Rausch for her service on the Planning Commission
- Jon Helmrich mentioned that *Stateside with Cynthia Canty* on 104.1, Michigan Public Radio is airing a program on fracking at both 3p & 10p on Thursday 11/7; you can also listen to the podcast at their website anytime.
- Fritz Royce – Stated he is against fracking

Correspondence, Larry Dickie

Dickie wanted to thank the boards for addressing fracking and allowing him to serve as a nonvoting member of the fracking committee. Also wanted to know if there was a way to distribute fracking information to the public via the township (email, newsletter, etc)

Discussion on Number of Planning Commission and ZBA Members

After discussion between the boards, it was determined to leave the boards at the current number of members that Township currently has. The Planning Commission will stay at 7 members; the ZBA will stay at 3 members and 2 alternates.

Planning Commission Update on Working Program Ordinance Changes. Re: Signs, Road Ends and Fracking.

Members of the Planning Commission updated the boards on upcoming ordinance changes in regards to signs and road ends. In summary they are updating the definition of a “sign” and portions of private roads ordinances to state “private driveway” versus “private road”. PC will also require all private roads that are part of PUDs to be reviewed by them versus the zoning administrator. The PC spent some time reviewing the basis and foundation of a possible fracking ordinance, also requesting an additional 6 months on the moratorium until they can get details of the ordinance ironed out.

Township Board Direction to Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals

Wester suggested changing to the time of Planning Commission meetings to 6pm from 7pm. The PC has agreed to place this on the upcoming meetings agenda to discuss.

Board Member Questions

None

Set Next Joint Meeting Date

The next joint meeting will happen on the first Wednesday of the month, in April & November 2014.

Adjourn

Wester stated after having no further business to come before the board we stand adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05p.

Bradley Rudich, Clerk

Elizabeth "Birdie" Holley, Recording Secretary