

**GOLDEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 29, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Chairperson Cook, Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Roll Call: Present; Beaudoin, Terryn, Coker, Cook, Whelpley, Zoning Administrator Draper. Absent: Fong, Walsworth 15 Members of the public.

Agenda: Cook moved the election of officers to the first item of New Business. Motion by Beaudoin to approve the Agenda with the change, supported by Terryn. Voice vote, all Ayes, motion carried.

Minutes of the January 8, 2019 Special Meeting: Motion by Beaudoin to approve the minutes of the January 8 Special meeting as presented, supported by Terryn. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Zoning Administrator Report: 98 Permits issued for 2019, 36 were for new dwellings. 92 Short-Term Rental Permits issued with several more to be processed.

New Business:

a. Election of Officers: Cook opened floor for nominations. Terryn nominated Cook for Chair, supported by Beaudoin. Motion by Beaudoin to close nominations supported by Coker. Whelpley nominated Fong for Vice-Chair supported by Cook. Motion by Coker to close nominations supported by Beaudoin. Cook nominated Whelpley for Secretary supported by Coker. Motion by Coker to close nominations supported by Terryn. Motion by Coker to elect the ballot presented supported by Terryn. Voice vote all ayes, motion carried.

b. Public Hearing for Sign ordinance amendment:

Cook opened the Public Hearing

Whelpley explained the changes.

7. Illuminated Signs

Signs may be internally or externally illuminated by a direct or indirect source of light provided that the light source is shielded or directed to prevent glare and to assure the light source is not visible from any road right-of-way, or abutting or adjoining property. This shall not preclude the use of electric lamp banks as part of a sign (e.g. time and temperature signs, scrolling messages, etc.). Scrolling messages shall not exceed 75% of the sign area. Scrolling messages may be operated between 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM, or ½ hour past the closing of the identified business. Flashing or intermittent illumination of any type is prohibited.

Comments: Mark Houghton asked how brightness would be controlled. There were no other comments pro or con. There were no written comments.

Cook closed the Public Hearing.

Deliberation: The brightness issue is covered by other sections of the ordinance. Coker suggested adding transitional to scrolling to describe messages. The consensus was to add transitional. Motion by Coker to recommend to the township board to amend zoning Ordinance Section 15.5(7) to read the following: Signs may be internally or externally illuminated by a direct or indirect source of light provided that the light source is shielded or directed to prevent glare and to assure the light source is not visible from any road right-of-way, or abutting or adjoining property. This shall not preclude the use of electric lamp banks as part of a sign (e.g. time and temperature signs, scrolling/transitional messages, etc.). Scrolling/transitional messages shall not exceed 75% of the sign area. Scrolling/transitional messages may be operated between 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM, or ½ hour past the closing of the identified business. Flashing or intermittent illumination of any type is prohibited. Supported by Whelpley. Voice vote all ayes, motion carried.

c. Site Plan Amendment Review for Penz Insulation. Site Plan for parcel # 64-006-013-400-07, 5140 W Polk Road, Zoned CI Commercial Industrial. The existing building consists of three sections. The front section will house retail store, middle section storage and the rear section for Insulation/ Drywall business. All uses are permitted in the CI Zoning District. The parking is adequate for all uses. Motion by Coker to approve the Site Plan Amendment supported by Whelpley. Voice vote all ayes, motion carried.

d. Planning Commission Bylaw Change: To establish a policy on reading correspondence Cook offered the following bylaw amendment to Section 5, paragraph I, item 3: “During a public Golden Township Planning Commission meeting, correspondence that is addressed to the commission will be acknowledged and copies will be available to members prior to the scheduled meeting. During the meeting, correspondence may or may not be read, either in its entirety or summarized, depending on the decision of the chair.”

Members agreed that this will speed up meetings but not obstruct the public from addressing the commission. Motion by Whelpley supported by Beaudoin to amend the Bylaws with the addition of Item #3. Voice vote all ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

a. None

Ordinance Amendments & Other Reports

a. Master Plan Committee Report: Stephan Carlson, WMSRDC, and the committee reviewed and discussed the Goals and Implementation Steps. The next phase will be working on the Future Land Use Map.

b. Dangerous Building Committee Report: Work in progress.

c. Shipping Containers Committee Report: The committee has a proposed revision of General Provisions Section 4.15 as follows: 4.14 Use of Semi-Trailers for Storage Purposes

The use of semi-trailers, shipping containers, van truck boxes, and other utility trailers for the storage of agricultural products in the agricultural zoning district prior to the shipment of such products for processing or sale is permitted in the agricultural zoning district as a matter of right, they may not be used as dwellings. The use of semi-trailers, shipping containers, van truck boxes, and other utility trailers for the storage of goods or materials or as dwellings in any other zoning district shall not be permitted unless otherwise stated on a Zoning Permit for no more than 6 months.

After some discussion, motion by Beaudoin supported by Coker to take this proposed amendment to Public Hearing at the February 26, 2019 meeting. Voice vote all ayes, motion carried.

Public Comment: Chris TerHaar asked about street lights at 34th & Fox, Polk and 56th having two lights. The Fox & 34th is a Road Commission installed light and their responsibility. The light at Polk and 56th intersection belongs to the Road Commission; the other was installed many years ago by the township.

Patti Hammond ask about the possibility of getting a Junk Ordinance passed to clean-up around Mears.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Jake Whelpley, Secretary