

OID TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

OID TOWNSHIP OFFICE, BRANCH COUNTY, MICHIGAN

November 5, 2020

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The Ovid Township Planning Commission was called to order by Andy AcMoody at 6:00p.m.

Members present: Andy AcMoody, Chris Donbrock, Sean Groves, Jim Snivley, Tammi Schorfhaar

Other present: Gregg Gemmill, Robert Hawley, Max Benjamin, Matt Drennan, Michael Mihuc, Randy and Kelli Cook, Larry Omo, Chris Khorey, Shelly AcMoody, Colin Kammerfeldt

Chris Donbrock made a motion to approve the Agenda; seconded by Sean Groves; motion carried.

Jim Snivley made a motion to approve the October 6, 2020 Planning Commission Meeting minutes; seconded by Sean Groves; motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Master Plan/Zoning Ordinance discussion regarding Commercial Solar Production – the Planning Commission reviewed and discussed the Letter Agreement that has been suggested in lieu of a Moratorium on Solar Energy. Currently, our Master Plan does not address Alternative Energy. We are in agreement that the Master Plan, which was last changed in 2006, needs to be updated. Chris Donbrock made a motion that the Planning Commission recommend approval of the Letter Agreement to the Township Board; seconded by Andy AcMoody; motion carried.

New Business:

1. Joe Hass, Township Attorney – Joe updated the Planning Commission on the changes to the Open Meetings Act which are required as a result of Public Act 228 which became effective on October 16, 2020. A copy of PA 228 has been attached to the Minutes.
2. Chris Khorey updated the Planning Commission on the necessary steps which are required as a result of the November 3, 2020 election in which the citizens of Ovid Township voted to allow Retail Sales of Marijuana (this vote will remove the previous Moratorium). A Public Hearing will be held at 6:00p.m. on December 1, 2020, to consider the possibility of allowing Retail Sales of Marijuana by Special Use Permit in those areas currently zoned as Enterprise or Commercial.
3. Sean Groves made the motion to recommend to the Township Board that the Planning Commission has the authority to work with McKenna and Joe Hass to begin reviewing and updating the Master Plan; seconded by Chris Donbrock; motion carried. The first workshop on this matter will be held at 6:00p.m. on Tuesday, November 17, 2020. The workshop may take place via Zoom – the Planning Commission will provide proper public notice.

Zoning Report: presented by Robert Hawley

Public comment:

Greg Gemmill has talked to our attorney, Joe Hass, about the possibility of changing our permit process to a two-step process. The suggestion is that first, a conditional permit would be issued. The homeowner or contractor would then have 60 days to call for a footer inspection. Upon approval, a final permit would be issued. If contact is not made before the expiration of the 60 days, the conditional permit would be voided and the project would be red flagged. Chris Khorey of McKenna will draft a change for consideration by the Planning Commission.

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 6:00p.m. following the Public Hearing.

Chris Donbrock made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Sean Groves; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tammi Schorfhaar, secretary.

