

<p>The <u>lawsuit with the junkyard</u> is very close to being done. The lawyers are working on a final version of the court order.</p> <p>Office hours of J. Shea are now: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. (approximately 20 hrs. a week.) Hours may decrease during winter months with less applications coming in.</p> <p>Regarding <u>chickens</u>, J. Shea spoke with Catherine Kaufman who noted that courts across the state have been interpreting the Right to Farm act quite broadly in favor of farmers and even non-farmers who are engaged in agriculture even if it's marginal- such as selling a few eggs at the farm market on a Saturday or even placing a sign on your lawn saying 'Eggs' is enough to invoke protection of the Michigan Right to Farm act even if you are in a non-agricultural zone. J. Shea commented, "Our ordinance requires people to live on a minimum of one (1) acre to raise even one chicken. It's going to be pre-empted by the Michigan Right to Farm Act if we ever go to court on it. So we have two (2) options: 1) Choose not to enforce our ordinance at all ... in which case, anything goes... or 2) If we choose to have enforcement on this activity, we should adopt a backyard chicken ordinance like a lot of different cities have done, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, under local municipalities, allow just a few birds, hens only; no roosters. Then we would have some control over what people could have. I think that makes sense." J. Shea mentioned that he had met with J. Frigmanski a couple of times and they both liked Thornapple Township's chicken ordinance which may be something Yankee Springs Township would like to adopt.</p>	<p>MINUTES Page 2 of 3 PC APPROVED: _____ Regular PC Mtg. Sept. 21, 2023</p> <p>ZA Report- Continued</p>
<p><u>PUBLIC COMMENT:</u> None</p>	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT</p>
<p><u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</u> Regular Meeting of August 17, 2023</p> <p><i>Motion by <u>Frigmanski</u> with support from <u>Beukema</u> to approve minutes of <u>August 17, 2023</u> as presented. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.</i></p>	<p><u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES-</u> 8/17/23</p>
<p><u>INQUIRY ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST:</u></p> <p><u>ROLL CALL:</u> <i>Fiala asked the PC members present if there was any conflict of any PC member with the agenda of requests and as modified this evening. All PC members noted: NO conflicts. No: 7, Yes: 0.</i></p>	<p><u>INQUIRY ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST</u></p>
<p><u>NEW BUSINESS:</u></p> <p><u>Discussion of the Home Occupation Ordinance</u> - Discussion occurred.</p> <p><i>Motion by Knowles with support from Fiala to change Section 4.3-Annual Inspections by replacing "<u>shall inspect</u>" to "<u>may review</u>" and replace "<u>at least once a year</u>" with "<u>annually</u>". AYES: 6, NAY: 1. MOTION CARRIED.</i></p> <p><i>*It was noted that this change (motion above) would be prepared and noticed for Public Hearing by R. Harvey for the PC meeting on October 19th.</i></p>	<p><u>NEW BUSINESS</u></p> <p>MOTION to CHANGE wording of 4.3 of Ordinance.</p>

Education: Upcoming and Completed Opportunities

Regarding the Bauckham, Thall, Sparks Et al. Municipal Law Seminar in Battle Creek on Sept. 13th, J. Frigmanski commented that FOIA was discussed at the seminar and Solar Energy – industrial, commercial and residential -was discussed as well.

Credits should be received/earned by end of the year. Six hours are needed. F. Fiala will find out contact person regarding individual credits needed for PC members.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS:

Discussion of Master Plan- R. Harvey commented regarding our Master Plan and Barry County’s 2040 Master Plan highlights. The County’s plan was adopted in July 2023, and is available on the County website at: barrycounty.org
The Barry County 2040 Master Plan was referred to at tonight’s meeting. Harvey noted eleven (11) Barry County townships are under county zoning. Five (5) Barry County townships (including Yankee Springs) are under local zoning. R. Harvey reviewed parts of the County’s Master Plan and noted it would be receiving a 2023 award for its unique approach to Planning. PC members plan to review the County’s Master Plan online in preparation for next month’s discussion of YS Township’s Master Plan.

Wind and Solar Ordinance Discussion

Shana Bush and Lee Kooistra reviewed the Prairieville Ordinance on Solar Energy Systems. R. Harvey commented on two solar energy handouts provided for this meeting. PC member review of the two documents was recommended.

Update on Short Term Rentals. (noted by J. Shea at beginning of tonight’s meeting.)

Review of 2023 PC Work Plan occurred.

Solar Energy will be looked at before Wind Energy.

**Language for annual inspections and notice for public hearing will be prepared by R. Harvey for next meeting.*

OTHER SUCH BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Bush with support Beukema to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. All AYES, Motion carried.

Approved by: Frank M Fiala ^{10/19/23}
Frank Fiala, Planning Commission Secretary Date

MINUTES

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APPROVED: _____

Regular PC Mtg.
Sept. 21, 2023

**MOTION to APPROVE
SEU**

**OLD BUSINESS
ITEMS**

**OTHER SUCH
BUSINESS**

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Deb Mousseau
Recording Secretary
Regular PC Mtg.
Sept. 21, 2023