YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

<u>In Person</u>– Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

August 15, 2024

Yankee Springs Township Hall 284 North Briggs Road, Middleville, Michigan 49333

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Planning Commission Chair, Shana Bush.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call: Present: (Six (6) Present): Beukema, Bush, Fiala, Frigmanski, Knowles,

Kooistra.

Absent with Notice: R. Craven

Zoning Administrator: Joe Shea, Present.

Professional Planner: Not Present

Dennis Buist-Constable, Sandy Marcukaitis, Rob Heethuis, Brad Staff Present:

Williams- Code Enforcement Officer.

Visitors: 7 (not including staff present).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Add/Change: None

Motion by Beukema with support from Knowles to approve tonight's agenda as

submitted. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS from REPRESENTATIVES:

Board of Trustees- Larry Knowles, reported regarding the Board meeting on 8/8/24:

The Board:

Approved 2nd public hearing for Barlow Lake Weed Assessment District

- Approved to have a special hearing to have Rural Water explain findings of the water system rate study that was performed.
- Approved land split on Old Mill Road.
- Approved Kitchen (township hall) remodel (again).
- Approved installment of four (4) doors at the Fire Station.
- Requested PC to do what it can tonight to finish up and give them the language of the survey (regarding the Master Plan).

ZBA, John Frigmanski, reported regarding the meeting on 8/13/24:

- Two items came before the ZBA. Both were to overturn the ZA's rulings.
- One item was on a STR that raised some questions and the ZBA has asked the PC to take a look at it -regarding the house and STR unit on Barlow Lake (Heritage Bay Dr.)
- The other item was on shipping containers. Shipping containers is on the PC agenda for this evening.

DRAFT MINUTES Page 1 of 4 PC APPROVED:

Regular PC Mtg. August 15, 2024

Routing 8/19/24 Beukema

Email Web Binder

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

BOARD REPORTS

from

REPRESENTATIVES

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: Joe Shea, ZA

Most of their (J. Shea and Brad Williams) time this summer has involved STR enforcement. J. Shea commented that he has denied probably 50 applications for STRs and some of those have appealed. The ZBA has seen some of those. Also approximately 20 citations have been issued for STRs being operated without permits. They've also been to court almost every Monday since early June to the Magistrate for **ZONING** STRs to be resolved. Most of those have been resolved by arriving at a settlement for a lower fine and the person signs a consent order never to operate without a permit of a STR. One defendant insisted on a hearing in front of the Magistrate. She found him fully responsible and he was liable for a \$2,500 fine. J. Shea concluded, "It's been really hard but we expect it to improve."

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ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

PUBLIC COMMENT: 3 minute limit

Eric Leep of YS Township commented that he has two (2) shipping containers on his residential lot at the end of a private drive in the woods. E. Leep plans on putting a roof over them and making it look like a barn when it's done. "It will look great when COMMENT it's done, ... and hopefully we can keep them," added Leep.

PUBLIC

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting of July 18, 2024

Motion by Knowles with support from Beukema to approve minutes of Regular Meeting of July 18, 2024 as presented. All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

INQUIRY ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

ROLL CALL: 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 present noted: NO conflicts. No: 6, Yes: 0, Absent: 1

INQUIRY ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST

NEW BUSINESS:

SEU 24-06-08: Parcel ID 16-370-011-00, A request by Dan VanSuilichem and Amy Johnson of Gun Lake Property LLC for a STR at 2740 Sandon Circle #11.

A representative was not at the meeting to present the request. Application and information was shared to PC Members in advance by the Zoning Department. Chair Bush noted that this request was similar to last month's request in which Whispering Pines condominiums are currently zoned for Resort Recreation (RC), which gives the PC leeway to allow for an SEU for a STR. Joe Shea commented that this request (tonight) was basically the same situation as with the three (3) Whispering Pines condos SEU requests at the last PC meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

SEU 24-06-08: Parcel ID 16-370-011-00 request for 2740 Sandon Circle #11.

Open of Public Hearing. 7:12 p.m.

No Public Comment.

Close of Public Hearing 7:13 p.m.

Reference was made to the three (3) similar requests of Whispering Pines property owners at the Planning Commission's meeting on July 18, 2024.

Motion by Fiala with support from Knowles to approve SEU request #24-06-08 (Gun Lake Prop. LLC) for only the remainder of 2024. Beukema: Yes, Bush: Yes, Fiala: Yes, Frigmanski: Yes, Knowles: Yes, Kooistra: No, Craven: Absent. Yes: 5, No:1, Absent: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

DRAFT MINUTES Page 3 of 4 PC APPROVED:

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MOTION to APPROVE

EDUCATION – UPCOMING AND COMPLETED OPPORTUNITIES

No educational activity to report for this month. Fiala noted "Hot Topics" educational opportunity coming up. S. Bush will email the group regarding her findings of anything coming up within the next two or three months.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on Shipping containers-

J. Shea, ZA, commented noting conversation with PCI regarding shipping containers and what other communities are dealing with- mentioning zoning areas where shipping containers are permitted and not permitted. Regarding building code, PCI noted there is not a standard for these. Items such as shipping container attachment, connections and foundations, etc., present an unusual situation from a building code standpoint as well.

Discussion took place with PC members.

Discussion of Public Input regarding the Master Plan

Questions for the public survey were discussed, along with the postcard that will be mailed out. Discussion also took place regarding notification of an upcoming public meeting regarding the survey/info for Master Plan. The completion date of survey was noted as being October 31st.

OTHER SUCH BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Fiala noted the word "**parcel**" noting a distinction between a tax parcel and deeded parcel when someone comes in for a building permit or STR. Fiala feels a resident should bring in their warranty deed and a survey. It's very difficult to read the current ordinance and reach that conclusion as to what is meant by "parcel" and what can be permitted, (or not permitted) with the said parcel. Example: Combination of more than one lot into a tax parcel and individual deeded lots within that parcel may have certain allowances or restrictions.

The ZBA has asked the PC to review for possible STR Ordinance changes.

Frigmanski noted that "close proximity" of a STR owner's main residence to the STR unit was an item to be taken into consideration by the PC in looking at the STR ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS

SHIPPING CONTAINERS

Public Input regarding the Master Plan

OTHER SUCH BUSINESS
AS MAY PROPERLY
COME BEFORE THE
PLANNING
COMMISSION

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE	DRAFT MINUTES
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ADJOURNMENT:	APPROVED:
	Regular PC Mtg.
	August 15, 2024
Motion by Beukema with support from Knowles to adjourn meeting at 7:52 p.m.	
	PUBLIC COMMENT
Approved by:	ADJOURNMENT
Frank Fiala, Planning Commission Secretary Date	