

Bridgeton Township Planning Commission
Minutes May 13, 2024

Meeting called to order by Mr. Howes at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: McClintock present, Dore present, Howes present, Clough present, Hawkey absent
Alternate: Hinton present

Approval of Agenda: K. Clough made a motion to approve the agenda. P. Hinton 2nd: Motion carried

Approval of Minutes: K. Clough made a motion to approve the minutes of April 8, 2024. P. Hinton 2nd: Motion Carried

Public Comment on agenda items: Community member, J. Bunce, asked a question in response to Mr. Howes' shared input from Ryan Coffey regarding Zoning Ordinance 3.02 Land Clearing at the April 8, 2024 meeting. Ms. Bunce asked if Mr. Coffey had offered any revised wording for the ordinance. Mr. Howes responded that there was a discussion that involved defining land clearing in great detail, as well as all the contingency details would need to be determined and outlined. The question remains how a rural community with an abundance of trees interprets this ordinance to fit their community or is it just removed. Ms. Bunce followed up with wanting to know how watershed areas are protected if this language is in question. Clough and Howes explained that watershed areas are protected by EGLE at the state-level and there are special requirements/permits/and permission required to remove trees or any development in a watershed.

Secretary report/communications: No communications received by secretary

Reports:

Township Board: B. Dore reported that the Newaygo County Hazardous Waste drop off will be Saturday, May 18 at the Newaygo County Road Commission from 8-2. Paint will not be accepted this year. Accepted items include: electronics and medication. Tires will be collected at a separate event at the Road Commission on June 15. Tires must be off the rim to be accepted. There will be an upcoming Public hearing on opening up the Bridgeton Township Hall for event rental. Launch workers are needed two days a week for the summer. Workers must be at least 18 years of age. Interested parties should contact Supervisor Janice Barnhardt. A road millage is being discussed by the Township Board. Zoning maps are being created and will be posted to the township website. Disinterment of ashes at the Bridgeton Township Cemetery is \$200.

Zoning: B. Kolk, Zoning Administrator did not have a written report. He reported that the Tim & Ada Linderman property split has been completed. Mr. Kolk is in discussion with another community member who wants to build a home on property that already has a single-wide with grandparents in residence. Zoning ordinances do not allow for separate residences on a single property. The configuration of the property does not allow for a split of the property without requesting a variance. Mr. Kolk will continue to work with them. Mr. Kolk let the Planning

Commission know that he is working with another individual on a Special Land Use request. He wanted to let the PC know that it may be ready for consideration at the June meeting.

Old Business:

Brooks Forbearance: No new information. There has been no guidance from the lawyer at the time of this meeting.

Disposition of Ordinance 3.02 "Land Clearing: The Bridgeton Township Board is asking for recommendations from Ryan Coffey and the Township lawyer on addressing the language in the Zoning Ordinance.

New Business: None

Public Comment on non-agenda items: K. Clough asked about property on Warner with the long-horned cows; she wondered if the number of cattle on the property exceeded those allowed by zoning ordinances. If there are questions concerning zoning ordinances a complaint form can be completed and submitted so that Mr. Kolk can follow up on any issues.

Ms. Bunce asked about perimeters of commercial properties to the neighboring properties. She wanted the planning commission members to keep in mind buffers to neighboring properties when considering site plans. She thanked the PC members for their consideration.

Other: None

Adjourn: P. Hinton made a motion to adjourn the meeting: K. Clough 2nd: Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted: DeAnn McClintock Bridgeton Township Secretary