

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

February 7, 2018

Approved

- The Planning Commission regular meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Andrew Brown with members Doug Dow, Grace Rappe, Bill Marske, and Gary Wood present. Richard Carlson and Jerry Kohn were absent.

The Agenda was reviewed. Marske moved to approve the agenda, supported by Dow. Motion carried.

Minutes of the prior December 6th and December 20th meetings were reviewed.

Marske moved to approve the minutes, supported by Dow. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Discuss and review the decision made to approve minor amendment to Special Land Use # 192 (Greenbush)

Building and Zoning Administrator, Van Thornton, explained that no one is alleging wrongdoing of the township and legal council has agreed that the original Greenbush request may have been considered a minor request. Thornton added that the applicant may have made it sound as though the adjacent neighbors were in support of the amendment. In order to be fair to all involved, Thornton is suggesting that the original decision on the amendment be rescinded and the hearing be posted as a public hearing to allow anyone with an opinion to speak.

Moved by Wood, that in order to assure that Chikaming Township provides information and services with total transparency and fairness to all residents and interested parties, this board rescind the approval of a Minor Amendment to Special Land Use # 192, at 5888 Sawyer Rd., MI because he feels that some members of the board relied on the statement that the neighbor directly to the south "no longer has any objections." Wood further moved that the board schedule a public hearing for this request for a Minor Amendment and instruct the Zoning Administrator to notice and publish this hearing as required by MCL 125.3103. Supported by Dow. Motion carried.

2. Update on the progress of the proposed Zoning Ordinance

Wood informed the commission that the committee has stepped back to review the full ordinance based on feedback obtained from the public hearing. A revised draft is anticipated to be ready for review in 3-4 weeks.

Other Communication: None

New Business: None

Public Comments: Underhill expressed disbelief that anyone in the community would not have been aware of the revised ordinance since the process has been taking place for 13 months now. She added that she thinks the Planning Commission has been doing a great job with the process.

Dan Coffey questioned how much time will be between the completion of the Ordinance final draft and the next public hearing for review. Wood responded that the document has been available for months and they will give as much time as possible. Wood estimates that the draft will be finished the first week in March with a public hearing to be held in May.

Robert Kaufman, Building and Zoning Administrator of Weesaw Township, stated that Weesaw reviewed and revised their full ordinance a few years ago. He encouraged the commission and offered assistance.

Adjournment:

With nothing further, Wood moved to adjourn at 7:00 p.m., supported by Dow. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,
Jess Reed
Recording Secretary

Bill Marske
Secretary, Chikaming Township Planning Commission