

**Laketon Township Planning Commission
July 11, 2018 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Don Nellis called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

SWEARING IN OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER

- June Earhart was sworn in by Veronica West, Notary Public
- Chairperson Don Nellis welcomed June Earhart, introduced and welcomed the new zoning administrator Theresa Maner and held a moment of silence for past zoning administrator David Sheehy who passed away recently.

ROLL CALL:

- Present: Eric Anderson, Paul Hoppa, June Earhart, Don Nellis, Cindy Zaagman and Dave Mieras
- Absent: DJ Hilson, with notice/excused
- Also present: Zoning Administrator Theresa Maner, Township Supervisor Kim Arter and Recording Secretary Veronica West and a couple area residents; Michael Belt and Richard Young.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Cindy Zaagman moved and was supported by Paul Hoppa to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Eric Anderson moved to approve the minutes of 3/14/18 as presented. Paul Hoppa supported the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: NONE

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Planning & Zoning News – Several monthly issues distributed for informational purposes. Theresa Maner pointed out an article relating to the Right to Farm Act because there is an upcoming training session being offered by the MTA that will be discussing the Right to Farm Act. See Theresa if interested in going to the training. Eric Anderson had questions regarding if the prior zoning administrator or anyone else had been keeping track of training attended by members as the by-laws have a minimum amount of training that each member must take periodically – it will be looked into.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Park and Recreation Plan: Don Nellis commented on this; noting they are way ahead of schedule in starting this review. He further suggested and moved that this item be tabled due to the sudden passing of Zoning Administrator David Sheehy and the hiring of a new Zoning Administrator, Theresa Maner to allow her time to get acquainted with Township and all the necessary documents before beginning on this review process. The motion was supported by Cindy Zaagman. Paul Hoppa asked when the review is due to be completed. Don Nellis reported the park and recreation plan portion of the review is due by the end of 2019 and the master plan review is due by the end of 2020. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. Review of the Park and Recreation Plan is tabled to a future, to be determined date

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Chairperson Don Nellis recognized audience member Michael Belt – who stated he was in attendance only as a citizen interested in what is going on in his community and had no comments.

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BOARD REPORTS:

- Township Board – Cindy Zaagman – Commented on the DEQ/Oil Seep project that is staging at Horton Park, noting the project is halfway finished and once it is complete and their equipment all moved out the Horton Park/DNR Trust Fund Grant project will begin.
- ZBA – Eric Anderson – a variance hearing was held 7/10/2018 with the ZBA denying the requested variance as it did not meet any of the criteria in the ordinance to warrant the granting of a variance. He added that it is difficult to make applicants understand that variances cannot just be granted arbitrarily but must meet specific criteria outlined in the variance section of the ordinance. There is another variance hearing scheduled for 7/17/2018 – will report on that next month
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ADJOURN: Cindy Zaagman moved to adjourn the meeting. DJ Hilson supported the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Veronica West
Recording Secretary