

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 3, 2022 7:30 PM ESCANABA TOWNSHIP HALL 4618 CO 416 20TH RD GLADSTONE MI 49837

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairperson Dean VanLoon followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call present: Chairperson Dean VanLoon, Theresa Chenier, Greg Faust, Larry Klope. Absent Nate Neumeier. 4 members fulfill the quorum requirement.

Motion to approve September 14, 2022 Special Meeting minutes as modified was made by L. Klope. Second by G. Faust. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public participation: Fred Minor handed the members paperwork. He asked for these to be considered when reviewing corrections to the zoning map.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by G. Faust. Second by T. Chenier. All in favor. Motion passed.

No Zoning Administrator's report. Al Gareau is not present.

Board Liaison report by T. Chenier: The fire department participated in the Honor Flight homecoming displaying the American Flag from the ladder truck. The carpet in the township hall entrance way has been installed and looks very nice. I AM RESPONDING app is now being utilized by the fire department. The address fire signs are still in process to be completed. Delta County has tab on their website regarding the fire sign progress. Delta County is having a Meeting of the Whole October 28, 2022 regarding zoning.

OLD BUSINESS: The solar draft ordinance and solar overlay map will be passed on to the Board for review and consideration.

NEW BUSINESS: The Board has requested the Planning Commission to proceed with Zoning Map corrections and review details of a fence ordinance. D.VanLoon announced that the ZBA determined that the Zoning Map is incorrect and changes needed will be recommended to the Board. He suggests there be 2 groups of 2 members each. One for zoning map issue and one for the fence ordinance consideration. Greg Faust and Larry Klope will be the team for the Fence Ordinance review. Theresa Chenier and Dean VanLoon will be the team for the Zoning Map corrections. Mr. VanLoon reiterated that only 2 members can discuss these issues outside of the public meetings to stay quorum compliant. The groups will collect and do research to bring to the next meeting.


No ZBA meetings held in September 2022.

Public Comments: Gary Way would like to see current fencing given a grandfather clause. Larry Klope requested public input during the fact finding stage of the fence ordinance consideration. Tom Piche shared concerns on the out bursts and threatening comments being directed at the members during previous meetings that need to stop. He thanked the Planning Commission for taking the whole township into consideration. This is not about any one person, but involves the whole township.

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm made by L.Klope. Second by G. Faust. All in favor. Motion passed.

Next Escanaba Township Planning Commission regular scheduled meeting is November 7, 2022, 7:30 pm at Escanaba Township Hall 4618 County 416 20th Rd Gladstone MI 49837.

Meeting minutes by Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary



Approved Dec 5, 2022 as presented
Cathy Culliton

Escanaba Township Planning Commission Meeting Minutes November 7, 2022
7:30 PM Escanaba Township Hall 4618 County 416 20th Rd Gladstone, MI 49837

At 7:30 pm, Mr. Greg Faust announced there was not a quorum present to conduct a meeting. The next scheduled meeting of the Escanaba Township Planning Commission is scheduled for December 5, 2022 at 7:30 PM at the Escanaba Township Hall. He thanked everyone for coming out for this meeting and apologized that we were unable to proceed.

Present: Theresa Chenier. Greg Faust. Nate Neumeier. Absent due to illness: Chairperson Dean VanLoon. Member Larry Klope's resignation was received and effective as of October 2022.

No discussions or decisions were held by the members.

Minutes prepared by Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary



approved Dec 5, 2022 as presented
Cathy Culliton

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 5, 2022 7:30 pm

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP HALL 4618 CO 416 20TH RD GLADSTONE MI 49837

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Chair Dean VanLoon then followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Verbal Roll Call: Present are Nate Neumeier, DJ Dean, Theresa Chenier, Dean VanLoon. Absent: Greg Faust. 4 member forum present to fulfill quorum. Chair VanLoon introduced the Planning Commission newest member, DJ Dean.

Motion made by Nate N to approve October 3, 2022 minutes as presented. Second By Theresa C. Nate, YES. DJ Dean Abstain. Dean V YES. Theresa C YES. Motion passed 4 Yes to 1 Abstain.

Motion made by Nate N to approve November 7, 2022 minutes as presented. Second by Theresa C. Nate YES. DJ Dean Abstain. Dean V YES. Theresa C. YES. Motion passed 4 Yes to 1 abstain.

No Public Participation.

Motion to approve agenda as presented by Nate N. Second by DJ Dean. All in favor. Motion passed.

No Zoning Administrator report. Mr. Gareau is not present. There are 6 permits to be reviewed.

Theresa C gave the Board liaison report: They are working with FEMA on an ordinance and policy to help protect people in the flood water plains areas. The Fire Dept has received compliments and gratitude for participating in Marinette, WI for a paper mill fire in November 2022. The new carpet is installed in the township hall entrance. The Bleacher repairs are on hold. ARPA (American Rescue Protection Act) funds spending ideas are requested. Verso grow permit holder information is being sought. A bidding policy was passed. Brian Pahnke of Thrivent Financial gave a report regarding fund investments. Contract was approved with Highline internet service. LaBumbard blight issue is proceeding with updated photos. Shumacker Technology Group was approved to be the developer of a new website. Invasive weeds on the side of the roads was discussed The fire department participated in the Escanaba Christmas parade and attended a funeral in Wisconsin of a man that was involved in the development of our truck#5. The fire department is considering becoming a 501c3 enabling them to hold fund raisers. New member to the Planning Commission, DJ Dean, was sworn in. He will be filling the vacancy of Larry Klope. The Solar Ordinance was presented and passed. A limited charge card was approved.

Old Business. Nate and Greg are teamed up to research other townships handling of fencing. The 2010 zoning map has discrepancies. The attorney has been involved with the best way to handle and make the corrections. Reviewing minutes back to 1976 is a very lengthy procedure. There will be a Public Hearing January 3, 2022 during the Planning Commission regular meeting, to discuss and consider zoning map amendments. The ZBA investigated a zoning concern and also found other changes were made but not put on the 2010 Zoning Map. **Motion was made by Nate N with second by DJ Dean to provide a public notice to hold a special meeting January 3, 2023 to review and discuss the 2010 zoning map corrections needed. All in favor. Motion passed.**

Clerk Chenier is continuing to work with CUPPAD to get the Future Land Use Map updated.

NEW BUSINESS: Steve DeLaire addressed the Commission with a plan for an unattached garage. Chair VanLoon advised he compose a letter describing the building proposed along with a site plan requesting a variance. This needs to be presented to Supervisor Rymkos or Zoning Administrator Gareau. There will then be a hearing with the ZBA scheduled. Neighbors within 300 feet will be notified and the hearing details published.

Theresa C made a motion to approve the 2023 Planning Commission regular meeting schedule as presented. Nate N second. All in favor. Motion passed.

No ZBA hearings were held in October or November. Public Comments: Maradee Luft, Verso Grow concerns

Motion to adjourn at 8:09PM made by Nate N. Second by DJ Dean. All in favor. Motion passed.

The next scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission is January 2, 2023 7:30 pm at the Escanaba Township Hall 4618 Co 416 20th Rd Gladstone MI 49837

Minutes prepared by Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary