

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