

Watersmeet Township Planning Commission

September 14, 2016

Regular Meeting Minutes

Location: USFS Conference Room

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jeff Zelinski at 6:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll Call: Members Present: Jeff Zelinski, giiwegiizhigookway Martin, Jeff Wasson, Pete Peterson, John Cestkowski, and Roy D'Antonio. **Members Absent:** Rich Henriksen, Michelle Hazen, and David Sherrill.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Roy D'Antonio to approve the agenda, and 2nd by Roy John Cestkowski to approve the agenda. All in favor. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of August, 2016. Motion made by Jeff Wasson to approve, 2nd by Pete Peterson, All in favor. Approved.

Master Plan Updates: Jeff Zelinski had meeting and are working on it, and the next meeting will take place next Thursday, September 22, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Rec Plan Updates: Work on the Rec. Plan once the Master Plan is completed.

Jay Shifra Letter: Discussions on the ordinance issues that pertains to this section and the violation that was cited in the letter to Jay Shifra from the Zoning Administrator. Discussions included why issues regarding short term rentals was put into the ordinance and changed in 1998. It appears to have been for issues not relating to septic issues, but more disturbing the peace, and racing boats around the lakes, which are other agency matters such as the DNR, and local law enforcement. It was noted that there are currently over 20 other permit violations for the same matters that have never been dealt with. So if it is in the Code and we aren't dealing with those violations, what is the purpose? If we deal with one we need to deal with all of them respectively and at the time we are made aware of the violations. Some felt it was as though we are penalizing the landowners who have property rights. We agree and also have concerns about the septic issue and that this is a different matter in itself and work for the WUP - Health Department. After a lengthy discussion the Committee decided to propose modifying the code by the following action:

MODIFICATION PROPOSAL:

Motion was made by John Cestkowski to take out #8 Under Section 5.02 B (Use by Special Approval)– Page 9 – Watersmeet Township Zoning Ordinance and move this item to 5.02 A making it #6 in this section: Primary Uses without Special Approval L-2 and L-2 Districts. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for October 14, 2016 prior to the Regular Monthly Meeting at 6:30 P.M. Notice will be posted at the Watersmeet, MI Post Office, Watersmeet Township Offices, and will be published in the Ironwood Daily Globe. The motion was 2nd by Jeff Wasson. 2nd by Pete Peterson, All present were in favor, 0 abstained, 0 opposed. Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator's Report: Dave Neumann stated that he had 3 dwelling, and 2 small ones, and one on the lake, 2 garages, 1 screen porch and 1 land division he was working with. He also recommended a couple of publications for the board to consider reading. Saving Our Lakes & Streams and Lake Tides. There are some interesting articles and discussions with regards to the issues we are dealing with.

Public Comment: NONE

Adjournments: Motion to adjourn the meeting by Pete Peterson, 2nd by Jeff Wasson, All in favor, Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Submitted by: giivegiizhigookway Martin – Planning Commission Secretary.

APPROVED