

Watersmeet Township Planning Commission

August 9, 2017

Regular Meeting Minutes

Location: Watersmeet Community Center

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pete Peterson at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll Call: Members Present: Jeff Zelinski, Giiwegiizhigookway Martin, Jeff Wasson, Pete Peterson, John Cestkowski, Peggy Tuttle, Paul Kemppainen, Roy D'Antonio, Craig Hesse

Members Absent: None

Approval of Minutes of July 12, 2017: Motion by John and 2nd by Giiwee. Motion carried

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Jeff W to add Item 8A. Zoning Administrator and 2nd by Craig. Motion Carried

Public Comment: Pat Walsh raised questions about buildings that should be demolished.

Zoning Administrator's Report: Zoning violations were noted for Trent Griffin and two for Robert Walker on Poor Lake. There is an issue with an addition on Marion Lake that has not permit applied and part of addition is on neighbor's property that he is presently dealing with. There was some discussion about increasing zoning fines for people acting without a permit being issued. The following permits were issued: George Peterson III, garage; George Stephen, addition to pole barn; Donald Dornan, pole barn; Michael Hazen Jr., dwelling addition; Jim Livermore, dwelling; and Donna Wilber, dwelling. Dave brought up again about having the zoning ordinance require approval for the septic system by the Health Department. Pete said that we would research into what would be appropriate.

New Business:

Zoning Administrator Report

Pete said that a copy of the cover sheet for all zoning applications be submitted to the Planning Commission along with a written recommendation from the zoning administrator. If a permit was denied a reason should be supplied by the Zoning Administrator. The goal is to have a complete paper trail as to the status of all permit applications so that the Planning Commission knows of any outstanding applications that have not been issued for cause. The report should be for all applications taking place from the date of the last Planning Commission meeting to the current one. Requests for use by Special Approval in particular must be made known to the Planning Commission as soon as possible after they have been applied for. The Planning Commission secretary is creating a spreadsheet of the permits that have been issued along with any other applications that are outstanding to provide a convenient source for researching applications and their status. This spreadsheet will be done on a fiscal year basis, April 1st – March 31st.

Old Business:

Master Plan – Has been sent to the Watersmeet Township Board for consideration

Recreation Plan –

Updates and Approval: Discussion took place and changes were given to Paul to make and then send to the Township Board. Motion by John and 2nd by Jeff W. Roll call vote with all in favor.

Possible Grass Ordinance: We will look at existing ordinances in other cities and townships. Motion to table at this point by Roy with a 2nd by Paul. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Roy, 2nd by Paul. All in Favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Next regular meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Submitted by: Paul D. Kemppainen – Planning Commission Secretary.