

**Watersmeet Township Planning Commission
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
Final and Approved Regular Meeting Minutes**

Location: Watersmeet Community Center

Meeting called to order by Chairman Peterson at 6:33 PM

Roll Call:

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

Members Absent: Peggy Tuttle and Jeff Zelinski

Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 14, 2018 and March 21, 2018 Special Meeting. John C. and 2nd by Craig H. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Roy D. and 2nd by Jeff W. Motion Carried

Public Comment: Yvonne Clark was concerned about the agenda for the meetings being published in a timely fashion. Paul noted that he generally has the agenda posted in town and on the website by the Monday of the meeting date. Agendas are also available at the Township Office. She was particularly concerned that the Commission was going to take some type of formal action regarding the issue of short-term rentals. She noted that the one from Acme Township was designed for the particular needs of their township and might not address the special issues associated with Watersmeet. She was assured that no formal action was taking place at the meeting. The issue of short-term rental was going to be focus of the meeting tonight.

Zoning Administrator's Report: Dan Kline reported that zoning permits were being sought for one pole building, a single family dwelling, and a garage.

New Business: None

Old Business:

Short-term rental. Points that were brought up for consideration were the following: The need for a local agent available. Short-term rental separated from the Use by Special Approval as it has different criteria to be met. How to secure as much public input into the creation of the new ordinance including having a committee composed of commission members and community members representing the different the different zoning districts. This would be done a volunteer basis to look at the Acme Township ordinance as a guide with the knowledge that significant changes would be made to meet the specific needs of Watersmeet Township. There was discussion of creating a possible questionnaire to solicit public input as to what needed to be included in the ordinance. It was suggested that members of the commission work

on a rotation basis to ensure that all commissioners have better knowledge and more input into the creation of the ordinance. It was felt that short-term rental is not just an L1 and L2 issue and applies to all zoning districts. Chairman Peterson noted that discussion would occur at the next meetings of the commission as we approach summer when we would hope to bring members of the community into the process. Dave Lamoreaux suggested that we have a sign-up sheet available for community members to show interest in participation in the creating of the ordinance. It was noted that this process will take a significant amount of time to complete. The Commission will meet again in May to discuss this issue and may consider not meeting again until July when more of the residents will be available. Before the process is completed there will have to be several work sessions and Public Hearings. Paul said that he would check into getting a Word document from Acme Township that was editable so that we could then use a template for our new ordinance. We could then begin the process of looking at what types of changes we would like to make to have the ordinance fit the needs of our community.

Motion to table issue until May 9, 2018 meeting by Paul K. and 2nd by Roy D. Motion Carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Roy D. and 2nd by John C. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Next Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Submitted by: Paul D. Kemppainen – Planning Commission Secretary