

## Newton Township Planning Commission

### Public Hearing

Called to order 6:33

Community comments: There are many concerns in the community about making changes to Article 9 and the addition of the definition for Recreational Vehicle. They would like us to hold off moving forward. Community members who address the planning commission and spoke were Chris Gallagher (Clark Road), Diane Vitale (Lakeside Drive), Julie Burdette (Clark Road), Diane Axter (I Drive South), and Sussie Fuey (I Drive South). Many other community comments were made through out the public hearing. There are feelings that the township elected officials and appointed members, are NOT transparent enough and they have lost the trust of the township community. The members present did not feel listened to. The planning commission was unclear to the reason for not moving forward. This was a very frustrating public hearing for both sides.

Closed public hearing 6:54

### Meeting Minutes August 3, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 6:54 pm

Roll call was taken, members present – Stan Wawzysko, SueAnn Jessup, Michelle Barnes, Rick Westphal and Eric Dittmer. Township officials present were Troy Radcliff and Joyce Foondle. Plus 20 community members (see attached sign in).

July 2021 Minutes were read and approved by all.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Discussed Public Hearing Article 8 – Sign Regulations, Article 9 – Parking and Loading Requirements, and the addition of Recreational Vehicle definition
  - After review of the article published motions were made:
    - Original Motion by Michelle Barnes was to move forward with Article 8 and the definition of recreational vehicle, but not Article 9 because it was not clear in the publication. After discussion this motion was not passed as stated and two new motions were made.
    - Second motion by Rick Westphal was to move forward with Article 8 and the definition of recreational vehicle. We would pass to the board for there approval. – Pass by all
    - Third motion by Rick Westphal was to hold on Article 9 due to the miss publication and we would further review. – Pass by all
- Reviewed parts of Article 10.
  - 10.05 – Looked at again after communications back from McFarland. Will keep as written with the addition of a definition in Article 22 for Newspaper - as defined in MCL 691.1051 and as amended from time to time.
  - 10.08 – remove a. and b. because they are not consistent with corresponding Article 17 and Article 18, then renumber. Add the statement 10.07e.
  - 10.09 – keep as is

- 10.10 – correct District OC to District WCOD, keep rest as is with the addition of 10.07 e.
- 10.11 – correct District OC to District WCOD, add Camps and Lodges to Districts AA, RA, and WCOD. Keep the rest as is with the addition of 10.07 e.
- Public Comments:
  - Community members asked about reversing our motion to move forward with any of the corrections. Some feel the addition of the definition for recreational vehicle will change the meaning of Article 9.
  - Conversation for the reason of changing ¾ ton to 1 ton was clarified.
  - We clarified the members of the planning commission; Consist of 5 people - Chair operates as the ZBA chair, a trustee of the board, and 3 additional community members.
  - Discussion on meaning of temporary (is in an area for a short time period, variable) vs temporarily (happens a few times, variable)
  - Clarified the industrial zone in the township was only in the Master Plan, we do not have any actually labeled for that at this time.
  - Clarified Newspaper had to be something distributed in our area

Next meeting: October 5, 2021

- Start at Article 10.12

We adjourned the meeting at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted Michelle Barnes