

**FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2017**

Members present: Paul Trumble, Doug Dewey, Dan Steiner, Linda Cran and Tom Sheneman.

Absent: None.

Also present: Stephen Barnard, John and Fay Kirkpatrick,Carolynn Nichols, Barb Carton and Sue Mahan.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

AGENDA:

It was moved by Sheneman, seconded by Cran to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried – All present voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Chairman requested Public Comment. Barb Canton thanked the commission for having a copy of the minutes available for public. Public comment closed at 7:03 p.m.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Stephen Barnard
Kirkpatrick Site – Cedar Meadow Subdivision

Reported the drainfield had not been marked as requested at the last commission meeting and therefore, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick are non-compliant.

Fay Kirkpatrick reported that they had requested their son-in-law to probe the site and he was unable to complete due to his busy work schedule. They did speak to a professional that stated that the drainfield area needs sunlight to remain dry and if covered may damage the drainfield. Stating that they are being treated unfairly as many others in the subdivision have trailers parked in their yards.

Zoning Administrator stated that the Township Supervisor Mr. Smith had talked to Casey Clement of the Health Department and was told that shadowing caused by the RV would not cause damage to the drainfield.

Trumble stated that no one is being treated unfairly and it is time to take action, due to the amount of time that had been given to the Kirkpatrick's.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick announced that the RV has been relocated to another location and moved out of Cedar Meadows Subdivision.

Trumble requested that the Zoning Administrator follow up and verify that the RV has been relocated off site and if the RV has been moved offsite the issues is mute.

Moore Site – Cedar Meadows Subdivision

Mr. Smith and Mr. Barnard visited the site and measured the parcel and a recommendation was offered to the owners that the best location to park their trailer is in the backyard and will fit inside the property envelope. The owners agreed to comply with the recommendations and will be parking on the asphalt driveway while loading and unloading.

Happy – Town Campground – DEQ report

The Township has had no involvement with permitting and that the unit is not compliant with any of the permitting units. The stop work order continues to be in effect as placed by the Antrim County Building Department and now the involvement of the DEQ. The contractor announced that he will be working with his attorney.

Short Term – Rentals

Newspaper articles involving Acme Township and short term rental issues were provided to members.

Thorton Site – Corner Grass Lake Road and Bellaire Hwy.

James Leposkey – filed an environmental complaint with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for the poultry farm operation at 4008 Grass Lake Road. The complaint stated his concerns of excessive noise from roosters close to his property. On August 1, 2017 an inspection was conducted by the agency and found that the chicken housing is mobile and could move the shelters further away from the neighboring property line. The inspection revealed that the poultry operation did not have a small poultry facility Manure Management System Plan and that the zoning is Waterfront Residential Zoning District. The zoning district does not allow agriculture as a use by right and your facility is located within 250 feet of a neighboring residence. Therefore, site does not conform for site selection and odor control for new and expanding livestock facilities and closed for non-compliance.

Zoning Maps Corrections – FHT Zoning Ordinance

1. Steps to correct the FHT Zoning Ordinance to replace and correct the maps within the document.
2. The township verified with the owner that the Township map in the ordinance was not correct and would be corrected. The owner was told that she was in compliance with the FHT Zoning Ordinance.
3. Verify with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development the system in which they classify zones and define the districts.
4. Zoning Administrator to speak to Joanna Thorton on the status of farming business.

Powers – Special Land Use Request

Public hearing is scheduled for the meeting of November 1, 2017 to conduct and hear the request of Joseph and Cynthia Powers to build an accessory building prior to the construction of a dwelling.

MINUTES:

It was moved by Steiner, seconded by Cran to approve the minutes of meeting dated September 6, 2017 as corrected. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Munger Property – Bellaire Hwy

Cran spoke of a trailer parked at site filled with hay and pumpkins.
Barnard reported no permits are needed.
Barnard reported that Ms. Berg has not submitted any applications for permits.

Steve Bacon Site

Cran asked if any of the members have noticed the units that are being built on site.
Barnard stated that the units do not have a permeant foundation can be built, moved and sold.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trumble stated that the zoning maps in the FHT Zoning Ordinance be addressed at the December meeting.

Sheneman reported that business owner Mr. Banfield located on Eckhardt Road has equipment and pallets that appear to be in violation of the setback requirement. Barnard will check on site and make a recommendation to the business owner if needed.

Public Comment:

The Chairman requested public comment. There was none.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M.

Chairman, Paul Trumble

Secretary, Linda Cran