

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP  
MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 8, 2023 @ 7:00 PM**

Members present: Paul Trumble, Doug Dewey, Linda Cran, Tom Sheneman and Scott Steiner.  
Absent. None.  
Also, present Stephen Barnard.

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

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

**AGENDA:**

Moved by Steiner, and seconded by Sheneman, that the commission approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The Chairman requested public comment. There was no public comment. Public comment closed at 7:02 p.m.

**STEVE BARNARD- ZONING ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE:**

*Ice Removal Equipment Ordinance – Bubblers/de-Icers:*

Complaint Corey Arsnoe – Wrote that due to bubblers/de-Icers used on Clam Lake has caused open waters at Arrowhead Park – the public is unable to access ice for fishing and other winter ice activities.

Property owners as follows:

East side – Jacob & Jessica Kendall, 7753 Cottage Drive, Bellaire. Winter address: 3030 Covey Run Court, Marion, IA 52302

West side – Steven Wall, 7789 Cottage Drive, Bellaire

Letters sent to both property owners.

Discussion followed.

Moved by Sheneman, and seconded by Steiner, that the Zoning Administrator publish the Ice Removal Equipment Ordinance in the Antrim County Review as follows:

- 1) In next publication of the Antrim County Review.
- 2) Send mailer to all property owners that access to waterfront properties to include Lake Bellaire, Intermediate Lake, Clam Lake and Torch Lake.
- 3) That the Ice Removal Ordinance be published in the Antrim County Review in November.

Motion carried – all present voting yes.

Short- Term Rental:

Letter from John N. Damoose, Senator Michigan’s 37<sup>th</sup> District regarding the status of short-term rentals. As it stands right now, townships and local units of government are free to do whatever they want to regulate and zone rentals. Control will come up again this legislative session, and we need to be prepared in case it does.

Letters left or mailed to Zoning Administrator while on break:

Dean Farrier – Zoning issue  
Douglas Gillespie – Section 1645 – Subdivisions and Condominiums  
Complaint – Unknown mailer: 2932 S. East Torch Lake Drive.  
Callers: Inquiries about zoning

**MINUTES:**

Moved by Sheneman, and seconded by Cran that the commission approve the meeting minutes dated December 7, 2022 as correction. Motion carried as follows: Yes – Steiner, Trumble, Cran, Sheneman; No – None; Absent – None; Abstained – Dewey.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Short-Term Rentals – Discussion.

Moved by Sheneman, and seconded by Cran that **he (Sheneman) identify a couple of vendors that specialize in running a Short Term Rental Program for Townships and seek presentations. Have them present a program within commission make the recommendation to the FHT Board to explore hiring an outside firm and seek proposals for a future program.** Carried as follows – all present voting yes. **CORRECTION – 4/5/2023**

- Dewey addressed Traverse City’s Short-Term Rental program administration sends out letters to make owners aware of violations and to inform them of restrictions.
- Cran addressed continued complaints on blight concerns at the Bacon residence and that a business may being ran from this home.
- Trumble asked Cran to have those complaining to her to submit a written complaint or attend meeting in person.
- Sheneman asked the Zoning Administrator if he had a chance to review the minutes that Sheryl Guy copied and gave to you mentioning Torch Lake Cellars. Barnard reported that he had not gone through them as of this meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Sheneman – Announced that his son Daniel plans to build a pole barn/home on a parcel containing 20 acres and will be inquiring on the processes.

Barnard – 7 Short-Term Rental calls and no status report on Miley/Polarmo vs FHT Court Case.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The Chair requested Public Comment. There was no public comment. Public comment closed at 7:58 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

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Chair, Paul Trumble

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Secretary, Linda Cran