

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
August 18, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

The Williamstown Township Planning Commission convened at 7:35 pm at the Williamstown Township Hall located at 4990 Zimmer Road, Williamston, Michigan. Chairman Michael Fielek called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL:

Chairman Michael Fielek, Vice Chairman Rex LaMore, Commissioners Rutgar Hoag, Ger Schultink, Ronald Cook & Rod Imhoff, Board Representative Martin Wright, and Planning Assistant Wanda Bloomquist.

ABSENT:

Commissioner Gerald Eidt and Building Inspector Mark Miller.

ALSO PRESENT:

Planning Consultants Chris Doozan & Zeb Acuff of McKenna Associates.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Motion by Commissioner Hoag to approve the minutes of June 16th as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Cook. Motion approved.

CITIZEN COMMENT (NON- AGENDA ITEMS):

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Brick Industry Association presentation (Scott Miller)

- Power point presentation highlighting advantages to using brick.
- Suggestions to incorporate brick use into the "Mixed Use" & "Commercial Use" areas of our ordinance.
- Recommendation to specifically define "brick" as "clay brick" to protect Ordinance against misinterpretation. (This applies to other building materials as well).
- Scott was asked to provide examples of other communities regarding brick use. Asked for suggested language for our Mixed Use, Commercial, PUD and Green Zone.

Deliberation of Article 2

- Commissioner Imhoff still concerned about "unobstructed sight distance" – suggested change to 9'.
- Strike: Home based business limit to one.
- Roof-mount antennae – change wordage to "20' maximum above roofline", drop rest.

Motion by PA Bloomquist to recommend approval by the Board of Article 2 with reference to recommendations made in letter from McKenna Assoc on May 27,09 and the above changes.

Seconded by Commissioner Hoag. Motion approved.

Discussion of addressing "junk cars" in Article 2 however should be addressed in Blight Ordinance.

Meeting Dates

- Recommended to skip December PC meeting unless pressing issues arise – agreed.
- September 15th meeting will be scheduled at 6:30 pm with Township Board to receive presentation from Tri-County Regional Planning.
- Commissioner LaMore discussed meetings he has been attending on advisory Board of Tri-County.
- PA Bloomquist discussed Tri-County Urban & Rural Service District/Boundaries meetings she is attending.

Wetlands Resolution

- The PC was urged by the Township Board to submit their own resolution in addition to the Board, agreed to follow suit.

Motion by Commissioner Schultink to adopt and submit a resolution to oppose the repeal of the Michigan Wetland Protection Act.

Seconded by Commissioner Hoag. Unanimously supported.

Sub-committee for Ordinance Review

- Would like to start new approach of sub-committee review and recommendations to PC to cut costs and better utilize meeting time.
- Commissioners to choose an Article they are interested in reviewing to make suggestions on any changes. Wanda will follow up by email.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Moved to September meeting.

REPORTS AND REVIEW:

Township Board

- Township Board appreciates effort by Planning Commission to cut costs.
- Building Inspector Mark Miller is leaving us to pursue teaching - we are ready to begin interviewing process for a replacement. **Commission commends Mark on all of his efforts and appreciates all of his work.

Motion by Commissioner LaMore to create a resolution commending Mark Miller.

Seconded by Commissioner Cook. Motion approved.

Planning Staff

- Change of meeting time September 15 to 6:30 pm.
- Growth through Green workshop 8/26 from 6-9:30 pm.
- PA Bloomquist & Consultant Doozan met w/ MDOT regarding pathways – they will only consider doing expanded 8' shoulders at this time – will be making appropriate changes to the Grant.

PC Chair

- Nothing

Review

- Nothing

Chairman Fielek adjourned the meeting at 10:00 pm.

Gerald A. Eidt, Secretary

Michelle Morse, Recording Secretary