



Birch Run Township Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 20th, 2023
11935 Silver Creek Dr., Birch Run, Michigan 48415

Call to Order of Meeting:

Chairman C.J. Norris called the June 20th, 2023, Special Meeting of the Birch Run Township Planning Commission to order at 19:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

C.J. Norris, Chair; Mike Marr, Vice-Chair; Mike Musial, Secretary; Keith Jewell, Fred Sheridan & Ed Munson, Members.

Members Absent: Stacy Kue, Member.

Motion by Marr seconded by Musial to excuse Stacy Kue from the meeting.

Motion PASSED by majority voice vote.

Others Present:

One (1) person was in the audience. Also present were Adam Flory, Township Attorney; Gretchen Nielsen, Zoning Administrator; Riley Kiessling, Recording Secretary; Kurt Kiessling, Trustee.

Agenda:

Motion by Marr seconded by Sheridan to approve the June 20th, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

Motion PASSED by majority voice vote.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Sheridan seconded by Marr to approve the April 18th, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion PASSED by majority voice vote.

Motion by Marr seconded by Musial to approve the May 3rd, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion PASSED* by majority voice vote.

*Fred Sheridan abstained due to absence at the meeting in question.

Election of Officers:

To be done at first meeting of 2024.

Old Business:

None

Public Hearing – Caregiver Marihuana Ordinance:

Began at 19:04. Ended at 19:15

Staff Comments:

Adam Flory & Gretchen Nielsen gave a brief presentation of the proposed Ordinance before the Planning Commission. Pointed out some simple typographical changes to be made.

PC Comments:

Appreciate the work done by our Zoning Administrator.

Public Comments:

Kurt Kiessling – wants expanded language on Section I, Subsection D, Subpart 11 regarding “Outdoor Storage.”

Motion by Sheridan Seconded by Marr to close Public Hearing at 19:15.

Motion PASSED by majority voice vote.

Motion by Sheridan seconded by Marr to adopt and send to the Birch Run Township Board of Trustees Ordinance #2023-06, as amended, for final approval by the Board.

Yeas: Marr, Musial, Sheridan, Munson, Jewell, Norris,

Nays: None

Absent: Kue,

Motion PASSED by majority roll call vote.

New Business:

None

Public Comment: 19:46 – 19:46

None

Reports:

Township Board Representative (*Fred Sheridan*):

None

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) Rep. (*Mike Marr*):

- Update from 5.16.2023 Meeting – Drielick’s were denied their application for a Variance (See meeting minutes).

Zoning Administrator (*Gretchen Nielsen*):

None

Other:

Stoneyard Inc. Update:

- Update from Adam Flory on the proceedings with Stoneyard Inc. in the Saginaw County Court.

Expo Center Project Update:

- Update from C.J. Norris on Jerry Preston’s Expo Center Project. Questions regarding DDA assistance, as well as DDA boundary expansion, that might help with the project. Ray Letterman, Mike Musial & C.J. Norris meeting with Saginaw County Commissioners.

Ordinance Review Project:

- Musial brought up the Ordinance review project started by the Planning Commission with the adoption of the updated Birch Run Township Master Plan – hopes to get back on track with reviewing and updating more. PCB wants to look at “hot topic” ordinances to review first, as well as look at potential new ones.
- Poss. Ordinances to review:
 - o NEW: Vacation Rentals By Owner Ordinance
 - o REVIEW: Ordinances regarding the keeping of animals
 - o REVIEW: Commercial Parking & Setbacks, Parking in general
 - o REVIEW: Fireworks Ordinance
- Township Clerk to review Zoning Ordinance amendments to see if anything may need to be updated that has not been touched on in a while.

Adjournment:

Motion by Sheridan seconded by Norris to adjourn at 20:32
Motion passed by majority voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Recording Secretary, Riley Kiessling

Mike Musial

Planning Commission Secretary