

ALMENA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2015

Members present: Chairman Ron Marvin, Greg Babik, Mark Roman, Matt Moulds, Steve Manning, Carol Himes, Nina Consolatti (Alternate), and Christopher Khorey

Members absent: Brian Rumsey - Excused

I. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Ron Marvin.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL/CHANGES – Changes were made to the agenda. The annual report will be moved from Section VII to Section V (a), resulting in changing (b) to Township Board Liaison Report and (c) to M-43 Commercial Overlay Committee Report. The letter received by Bill VanTassel from Judge Willis requesting possible appointees to the Boundary Committee will be (b) in Section VII. **Motion to approve the agenda as amended** by Mark Roman, **second** by Steve Manning, **Motion approved 7-0.**

III. CORRECTIONS AND/OR APPROVAL OF December 8, 2015 MEETING MINUTES – Section V: Replace “Steve will contact Mr. Leduc” with “Steve will have Bill VanTassel contact Mr. Leduc.” **Motion to approve as corrected** by Steve Manning, **second** by Nina Consolatti. **Motion approved 7-0.**

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS – No public in attendance.

V. REPORTS

a. **Annual Report** – Mark Roman presented the Planning Commission annual report. Each section was reviewed and discussed. The terms and meeting attendance was compiled from the minutes, the actual amount of education and training was the only line item close to being used, and future activity was based on a list by Chris Khorey and re-worked by Mark. ~~The Parks and Recreation Commission will be sending a survey out to residents.~~ The proposal for Parks and Recreation is available to review from the Township Board. The word “ordinances” will be added after “township subdivision” in Section I. **Motion to present the Planning Commission Annual Report to the Township Board as corrected** by Ron Marvin, **seconded** by Nina Consolatti. **Motion approved 7-0.**

b. **Township Board Liaison Report**

1. A re-vote was taken on the Road Maintenance and Storage facilities ordinances as the amendments were not published correctly.

2. The Kennel and Mobile Home amendments will be on the agenda for the next Township Board meeting January 14, 2015

3. The Parks and Recreation Commission will be sending out a survey to township residents to decide what would be done with the empty space behind the township hall. As part of the cost savings with the township planner, Jerry and Chris will be

brainstorming the proposal on occasion before board meetings if anyone would like to join Sandra is working on updating the zoning ordinances. The website will need to be updated when complete.

- c. **M-43 Commercial Overlay Committee Report** – The site plan review document is “not completed” by the committee. ~~will be included in the agenda for the February meeting.~~

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Wireless Communications Facilities Ordinances** – Communications have occurred with a potential applicant for a tower. The applicant has not applied for a special use permit and was not present at the meeting. A preliminary balloon test was scheduled to see if the tower can be seen from different directions. Steve Manning did not think it had happened, does not have everything back from the FAA, and believes there may be a safety issue for the proposed location. A Public Hearing is scheduled in Pine Grove Township on January 21, 2015 by the same company interested in putting one in Almena Township.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The Planning Commission meeting date of September 7th was changed to the 14th due to Labor Day.
- b. A letter with a request to nominate two residents from Almena Township to serve on the Boundary Committee from Probate Judge Frank Willis was received. Meetings will be on an as needed basis in Lansing. Ron Marvin and Nina Consolatti volunteered to be nominated.

V111. **ADJOURNMENT** – **Motion** to adjourn by Mark Roman, **second** by Carol Himes. **Motion passed 7-0.** The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Minutes Approval Date: February 2, 2015

Lia Will
Almena Township Deputy Clerk

Cc: PC (8)
Twp. Board (7)
ZBA (5)
Christopher Khorey
Bill Henderson
Attorney