

PINE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
7900 W. Second Street, Stanton MI 48888

Minutes of May 22, 2023 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Scott Millard, Chair, followed by roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Scott Millard, Chair; Gary Christensen, Vice Chair; Jamie Gorby, Secretary; Tyler Nadeau, Township Board Liaison; Chris Bell, Derek Buchholz

Dan Main arrived at 5:06 PM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion – Nadeau, Support - Bell

MOTION PASSED

APPROVAL OF APRIL 10, 2023 MINUTES AS WRITTEN:

Motion - Nadeau, Support – Buchholz

MOTION PASSED

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Discussion of Montcalm County Planning Commission comments, resolution of solar ordinance, and recommendation to Pine Township Board**

Montcalm County Planning Commission did not send any comments regarding our Pine Township Solar ordinance amendments. The 30-day waiting period for the Pine Township Planning Commission to receive comments from the County Planning Commission regarding the proposed Solar Ordinance has passed. Gorby will send the ordinance documents along with all documents as listed in the resolution to the Pine Township Board for consideration at their June 12, 2023 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Property rezoning/special use permit request:**

The request by Ronald S. Imhoff of 11157 W. Stanton Rd., Trufant, Michigan 49347 to rezone parcel # 016-031-002-21 (2.21 acres) from Ag. Preservation to commercial and/or the need for a Special Land Use permit was discussed.

Imhoff explained that he is only making the request because he has been informed that it is a Township requirement and he has received multiple letters from the township regarding his property not being in compliance. He believes that he would fall into the "grandfather" clause, as the Pine Township Zoning Ordinance went into effect in the year 2000 and he has resided and operated on this property since prior to that time.

His business is cleaning up wooded areas that have been logged off. He trucks firewood from those sites to buyers and does some tree service. The property in question is being used to store equipment, wood chips, and logs.

Nadeau will contact Chuck Zemla, Pine Township Assessor, to learn when Imhoff began paying taxes on this property. Nadeau will also check with the Michigan Townships Association to learn whether, if Imhoff's business is "grandfathered" in and doesn't require rezoning or permit, his \$500 application fee will be refunded. Nadeau will follow up with Imhoff and the PC with his findings to resolve this matter.

- **Discussion of blight ordinance presented by Montcalm County Planning Commission and steps going forward.**

Nadeau questioned who would enforce the requirements recommended in the Montcalm County ordinance. Noise was discussed and it was decided that noise complaints would be difficult to enforce.

Nadeau recommended that the Commission compare the proposed Montcalm County Blight Ordinance to the Pine Township Blight Ordinance at the next meeting on July 10, 2023.

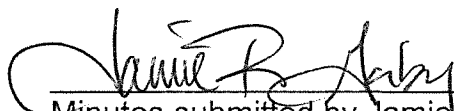
Meeting times and dates for the upcoming year will be set in July. The Commission agreed to continue with the current schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Bill Drews, Township Supervisor, suggested that the Commission add short-term rentals to their list of items to work on.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion - Nadeau, Support – Gorby - to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 PM. MOTION PASSED.


Minutes submitted by Jamie Gorby, Secretary

Typed by Barbara Kaaikala