

**PUTNAM TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
January 9, 2008
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Balk called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. There were 12 citizens in attendance.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Porath, Gazdecki, Lester, Balk, Ligon, Gannon, Dobis.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steven Van Steenhuyse, Planner (via teleconferencing), Ingrid Weisz, Recording Secretary.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dobis moved Item B) Nominations of new officers in Old Business to New Business

Motion by Lester & supported by Balk to approve the revised agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Porath & supported by Balk to approve the 12/26/07 minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

Ligon received information on a program to be presented my MSU on Agriculture & Communities to address zoning issues. She will bring the brochures for members to review.

PLANNER'S REPORT None.

ZONING BOARD REPORT No meeting.

TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT No meeting.

LAND DIVISION REPORT No meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS None.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Opened call at 7:08 pm

Herbert Rossow, East M-36, asked where the 1/23/08 meeting would be located.

Jennifer Chambers, Farley Rd., wants to open a day care center in her home and asked the Commission about the procedure for doing that. The space for the center will be separate from her house but attached to it. Members encouraged her to get the application in sooner rather than later in order to get it handled under the current ordinance. Under the new ordinance it would be prohibited.

Bob Press, Peaceful Valley Rd., said the newspaper said the 1/23/08 meeting would be at the Annex at 00p.m. and asked for clarification.

Jerry Marhofer asked if commercial vehicles had been parked on a property for many years and before there were zoning requirements, if they would still be allowed.

Gary Story asked if the members would be discussing Home Based Businesses at this meeting.

Closed call at 7:40 pm

OLD BUSINESS

A) Home Based Businesses

Members continued going over Van Steenhuyse's text. There were many differing opinions about certain Home Based Businesses being prohibited especially independent trucking companies and heavy equipment operation. Members discussed some safety, lot size, road, & neighborhood issues. It was decided that these prohibitions & several other items in Van Steenhuyse's text needed more discussion or rewording by Van Steenhuyse & will be revisited. Some types of Home Based Businesses may need to be considered with specific requirements (eg. lot size, surrounding neighborhood)

B) Site Plan Review Consideration

Van Steenhuyse went over his memo on Design Requirements for Large Scale Commercial Development. Members went through his text, made some revisions, & agreed to include it in the new ordinance. The public hearing for the new ordinance will be 1/23/08.

C) Van Steenhuyse was requested to use a DRAFT watermark on all documents not in the final form.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Nomination & Recommendation of new Planning Commission Officers for 2008

Motion by Dobis and supported by Ligon to nominate Balk as Chairperson. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion by Balk and supported by Gannon to nominate Ligon as Vice Chairperson. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion by Ligon and supported by Balk to nominate Gannon as Secretary. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion by Balk and supported by Gannon to nominate Porath as Representative to Zoning Board of Appeals. MOTION DENIED

Motion by Ligon and supported by Balk to nominate Lester as Representative to Zoning Board of Appeals. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion by Lester and supported by Balk to nominate Gazdecki as Representative to Land Division. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OTHER BUSINESS

Dobis informed the Commission that a new Planner, Mc Kenna & Associates, has been hired by the Board to assist the Township in the Meijer rezoning request and any other Meijer issues. LSL will continue to be our planners for all other planning issues.

NEXT MEETING 1/23/07

A) Public Hearing on New Ordinance

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Opened call at 10:20 pm

Mr. Rossow asked about the 2/13/08 meeting. The agenda has not yet been determined.

Closed call at 10:21 pm

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lester and supported by Porath to adjourn at 10:22 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ingrid Weisz
Recording Secretary