

**PUTNAM TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
October 14, 2009  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Gannon called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. There were 4 citizens in attendance.

**ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Porath, Gannon, Balk, Press, Dobis.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Beemer, Ligon.

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

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Opened 7:06 p.m.

No comments.

Closed 7:06 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Gannon & supported by Press to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Members made a few changes to the 9/23/09 minutes

**Motion by Porath & supported by Gannon to approve the 9/23/09 revised minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Representatives from the Livingston County Department of Planning met with Gannon & other township officials to let them know of the various services they provide. They are also in the process of creating an email newsletter that could be available to the township. They were interested in knowing if they could further assist the township administrators in any way and of anything the township would like to see in their newsletter.

**PLANNER'S REPORT** None.

VanSteenhuysen invited the members to the MTA conference in January to be held in Grand Rapids where LSL would host a breakfast for them.

**ZONING BOARD REPORT** None.

**TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT** None.

**LAND DIVISION REPORT** None.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S ORDINANCE ISSUE LIST**

The item listed as 'new' needed to be changed to 'closed'.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

A) Proposed Text Amendment to Chapter 31, Sec. 1; General Standards for Signs

**Motion by Press & supported by Gannon to open the public hearing at 7:18pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

VanSteenhyse went over the amendment changes. Members discussed the amendment. There were no comments from the public.

**Motion by Porath & supported by Press to close the public hearing at 7:22pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion by Press & supported by Gannon to recommend approval of proposed text amendment to Chapter 31, Sec. 1; General Standards for Signs. MOTION CARRIED (Porath against)**

A) Proposed Text Amendment to Chapter 31, Sec. 2; Commercial Vehicle Parking in Residential Districts

**Motion by Gannon & supported by Porath to open the public hearing at 7:24pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

VanSteenhyse reviewed the amendment and members discussed it. There were some concerns about D.3) in Section 2; that it could be too easily abused as stated.

Ralph Musson, Pinckney Rd, asked about people leaving a trailer for modular homes more than 48 hours.

**Motion by Porath & supported by Gannon to close the public hearing at 7:36pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

A straw poll on this amendment showed 3 members for recommending approval and 2 against. At least 4 votes were needed so members decided to table the amendment.

**Motion by Gannon & supported by Porath to table the proposed text amendment to Chapter 31, Sec. 2; Commercial Vehicle Parking in Residential Districts until more members were present. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

A) Adoption of Principles of Governance

Several more signatures are needed for this document.

B) Review of Planning Commission Bylaws

Members went through the Bylaws & made various revisions that VanSteenhyse will correct & return to the Commissioners for review. Press was designated Secretary Alternate.

C) Wind Energy Ordinance discussion

VanSteenhyse stated that the law is not yet settled on this topic. He will communicate with the teacher of the MSU class attended by Ligon & Press and get back to the Commission with further information.

**Motion by Porath & supported by Gannon to table discussion of this topic until VanSteenhyse provides more information. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

D) Discussion of Tianen's Codes & Ordinances handout

This discussion was postponed since Tianen is scheduled to present at the next Township Board meeting. The Commission will wait for further direction from the Board on this topic.

**NEW BUSINESS** None.

**NEXT MEETING** 10/28/09

1. Public Hearing on Proposed Text Amendment to Chapter 31, Sec.2; Commercial Vehicles Parked in Residential Districts - continued
2. Review of Planning Commission Bylaws
3. Wind Energy Ordinance discussion

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Opened at 9:07 p.m.

No comments.

Closed at 9:07 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Gannon and supported by Press to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Ingrid Weisz  
Recording Secretary**