

**PUTNAM TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
March 25, 2009
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gannon called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. There were 8 citizens in attendance.

ROLL CALL

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

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

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Opened 7:05 p.m.

Tom Goetz, 2122 Tiplady, asked if his kids would need to take down their small sign about selling eggs and hay.

Closed 7:08 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dobis added an item to Old Business – D) Discussion of Dates for next Public Hearing.

Motion by Dobis & supported by Balk to approve the agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Balk & supported by Porath to approve the 3/11/09 minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE None.

PLANNER'S REPORT None

ZONING BOARD REPORT None

TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT

Dobis reported on the 3/18/09 meeting. He also informed the Commission that a new policy has been instituted to handle any issues that arise among members of the various groups. For the Planning Commission, the issue will first be taken to the Planning Commission chairman & Dobis, as trustee of the board, for discussion with the aggrieved parties. If not resolved there, further discussion will take place with the Supervisor.

LAND DIVISION REPORT None

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR None

PUBLIC HEARINGS None

OLD BUSINESS

A) Off Street Parking

Van Steenhuyse went over his memo & recommendations. A lively discussion ensued on this topic. Some members wanted no parking of commercial vehicles in a residential zone. Others wanted parking regulations dependent on the zoning district and a lower tonnage restriction on the smaller lots. Parking is an accessory use, not a primary use. Vehicles parked inside an accessory structure are permitted. Heavy equipment should not be parked on the street. Additions & revisions were made to Van Steenhuyse's recommendations.

B) Alternative Energy Conversion

Van Steenhuyse went over his recommendations and examples. Members generally agreed on regulations similar to those adopted by the city of Ferrysburg which seems to cover most of the issues (eg noise, safety, etc.) posed by Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS). Members felt that only a site plan review would be needed. A special land use permit would require a public hearing & that did not seem necessary, at least initially. The Planner will finalize the guidelines for WECS to be reviewed at the next meeting.

C) Ordinance Issues List

Members went through Lewis' list with Van Steenhuyse. The attached maps made resolutions about each of these issues relatively easy. Most of these parcels will be rezoned to be more congruent with the surrounding areas. There were still questions about the St. Brendon parcels. It will be revisited at the next meeting.

D) Discussion of Dates for next Public Hearing

A public hearing on the ordinance text changes from the last & this meeting, WECS, and the above rezonings will be set for the second meeting in April.

NEW BUSINESS None.

OTHER BUSINESS None

NEXT MEETING 4/8/09

- A) WECS
- B) St Brendon
- C) Ordinance Issues List

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Opened at 9:49 p.m.

Don Speer, 11518 Dexter-Pinckney Rd, felt all public hearing publications should go to the Press Argus newspaper.

Closed at 9:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ligon and supported by Balk to adjourn at 9:51 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Ingrid Weisz
Recording Secretary**