

Planning Commission/Sandstone Charter Township Meeting Minutes June 5, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Peggy Eiler, Blaine Goodrich, Greg Inosencio, Cheryl Marks

GUESTS: Ken Powers, Keith Acker, Jason Thornsberry, Tyler Lasser

Acting Chairman Greg Inosencio called the Public Hearing to order at 6:02 p.m. Blaine Goodrich moved to approve the minutes as written of the April 10, 2018 meeting. Cheryl Marks supported the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Supervisor Acker reminded us that we need to formally adopt the language for our Zoning Ordinances about Civil Infractions vs. Misdemeanors. This language change will allow the township to save money since it avoids a jury trial by having the issue go before a judge instead. We need to hold a Public Hearing to move forward with this concept that has been discussed in previous meetings. New consultant Tyler Lasser (from Carlisle Wortman) will talk to Chris Atkin about this request. Keith Acker commented that a few months ago he had heard from some residents that they were not in favor of a veterinary clinic. No neighbors were in attendance at the public hearing nor did the township receive any correspondence against the zoning ordinance text amendments. We believe as a commission that a veterinary clinic fits in with our rural and agricultural environment. Blaine Goodrich commented about cattle and dairy cattle being both mentioned so we deleted the word dairy in the language. Greg Inosencio closed the Public Hearing at 6:10 p.m.

Greg Inosencio called the regular Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:11 p.m. Blaine Goodrich moved to recommend approval to the township board to amend Zoning Ordinance Section 2.1-Definitions; Zoning Ordinance Section 4.1.2-Conditional Land Uses; and Zoning Ordinance Section 7.11.2-Veterinary Clinics to allow Veterinary Clinics as a Conditional Use in the AG-1 Agricultural District. Cheryl Marks supported the motion. Roll Call vote: Eiler=yes, Goodrich=yes, Inosencio=yes, Marks=yes. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: We are directing our planners to start the language for Civil Infractions to be presented at a Public Hearing on August 7, 2018. Cheryl Marks mentioned neighboring township Blackman thinking about an ordinance for barns being used for weddings and she shared an article from Michigan Farmer highlighting that very concept in a different township. We may need to be proactive and become educated on this topic. We also need to be proactive regarding recreational marijuana if it becomes approved by state this month or on ballot later in the year. The township already has said NO to marijuana growing facilities.

Peggy Eiler moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m. Blaine Goodrich supported the motion. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Marks-Secretary of PC