

Michigamme Township

Planning Commission

Minutes of May 13, 2021

Present: Ruth Starr, Janice Anderson, Joel Johnson (via Zoom), Julia Leake

Absent: Emma Murphy, Jason McCarthy (Zoning Administrator)

Guest: Don DeRoche

Call to Order: 6:36 pm

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Approval of Agenda: Motion to Approve: Joel Johnson, Second: Ruth Starr, Motion passes.
- III. Approval of Minutes of April 15, 2021. Motion to Approve: Joel Johnson, Second: Julia Leake, Motion passes.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. Changes to Zoning Regarding Small Animals
 1. No action. Examples of small animal ordinances from similar small communities will be brought to the next meeting.
 - B. Feedback from DDA on Zoning Ordinance Review regarding Signs
 1. No action
 2. DDA will have finished suggestions for changes before the next Planning Commission meeting.
 - C. Letter to Republic Township re: VRBOs
 1. Republic Township Supervisor called William Seppanen and told him they were not interested in regulation of VRBOs.
 2. Michigamme Township Planning Commission is disappointed in the response and will resubmit a letter to the entire Republic Township Board after agreement by William Seppanen expressing their concerns.
 3. Members of the Township Board is reminded of House Bill 4722 that would prohibit townships from regulating short-term rentals and are urged to contact their legislators to express their opposition to this bill.
 - D. Review of Zoning Ordinances
 1. Zoning Administrator is responsible for rewriting zoning ordinances.
 2. Discussion about how to submit zoning changes to the board:

- a. As sections are approved by the Planning Commission they are submitted to the board for review.
- b. When zoning update is complete, committee requests Jason McCarthy to present a summary of the changes to the board so they can ask specific questions about them.
- c. A public hearing is required before the Michigamme Township Board can approve the changes in zoning.

E. Grant Submission to the DNR for Tennis and Basketball Court Resurfacing

1. Changes in the grant application have been made to make is ADA accessible.
2. Grant has been resubmitted by the deadline of May 15, 2021

V. New Business

A. Blight Tour – May 15, 2021, at 9:00 am

B. New Zoning Permits Issued

1. Charles P. Anderson and Corbin S. Lutz, 219 Main St. , garage (52-09-500-035-00)
2. Nicole Haskett, 134 Brown Road, Shed, (52-09-327-013-00)

VI. Correspondence:

A. Letter from Emma Murphy informing us of her resignation from the Planning Commission

1. Julia Leake moved to accept Emma’s resignation with regret, Second: Ruth Starr, passes.
2. Letter from Joel Johnson wishing to leave the Planning Commission- No action, since he is willing to remain for a few months.

VII. Public Comment: Don DeRoche: Concerns about blight and unlicensed dogs.

Adjournment: 8:51 pm

Next Meeting: June 10, 2021, 6:00 pm