

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

September 1, 2020 Minutes

Planning Commission Chairman Greg Wise brought the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Present: Greg Wise, Joel Whelan, John Hinkley, John Krueger, Jeff Fineske and Larry Shea. Jane Murphy arrived at 7:15 p.m. Absent: Doug Sherman and Gordy Whelan. Also in attendance were Zoning Administrator Bruce Nickel, Recording Secretary Sue Whitehead and Supervisor Dan VanValkenburg. Whitehead read the minutes from the last meeting (5/5/2020). Hinkley moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Fineske supported. Motion carried 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor VanValkenburg said the Solar Farms moratorium has expired. Now that VanValkenburg is Supervisor and no longer on the Planning Commission he would like to hand-off the work that he had begun regarding Solar Farms to a Planning Commission member. Large solar farms would be addressed not residential.

Murphy asked about the progress being made on the Chateau Aeronautique Winery property on U.S. 12. Nickel responded that excavation is being done and vines will be planted soon for the vineyard. The patio that was approved is scheduled to be installed this Fall.

Nickel discussed several topics with the Commission including short-term rentals, large greenhouses, funneling and noxious weeds. Fineske said there have been issues with some short-term rentals on Evans Lake. Nickel updated the Commission that there are still a large number of tires that need to be removed from the former Bear's Lair property on U.S. 12. Nickel is in contact with Township Attorney Lucas regarding the matter. Nickel noted that Region 2 has nearly completed the Ordinance changes that were sent to them.

NEW BUSINESS

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for October 6th.

Having no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Sue Whitehead
Recording Secretary