

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

January 2, 2024

These minutes are not approved until our next meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Matt Little called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Dan Schaible, Susan Ochs, Mike Bossory, Karen Flahie and Matt Little. Township Supervisor Larry Lindemann and Planner Rodney Nanney were also present.

It was suggested by Little under old business to make Barn Sanctuary #1, Stoneco #2 and Master plan review #3. Little made a motion with support from Bossory to adopt the agenda with this change. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Schaible with support from Ochs to dispense of reading the minutes from December 5th and approve them as presented. The motion passed.

Reports: Little reported he had gotten a call from a woman wondering if she could build a small home next to her mothers on Bethel Church road. James Campbell had called Little and said they were 75% there with the agreement with Bethel Church. There were no ZBA meetings. Township Supervisor Larry Lindemann reported the defibulator was up in the Township Hall. There was a meeting with all Township Supervisors about commercial solar. We have until the middle of November to get an ordinance in place. The Township has put in for a water resource grant. Jody Anderson is the new Township Hall Manager. There is a zoom meeting on January 17, 2024 with MTA on green energy at noon. Karen Flahie asked about the light by the flag pole at Consumers and also the large pile of dirt in the back of the property. Susan Ochs presented members with the recap of meetings for 2023.

Audience participation: Nothing

New Business

- 1) Planning Commission Officer elections. Ochs nominated Matt Little for Chairman with support from Flahie. A roll call vote was taken. Bossory-yes, Flahie-yes, Schaible-yes and Ochs-yes. Nomination passed.

Ochs nominated Mike Bossory for Vice Chairman with support from Schaible. A roll call vote was taken. Little-yes, Flahie-yes, Schaible-yes and Ochs-yes. Nomination passed.

Flahie nominated Susan Ochs for Secretary with support from Little. A roll call vote was taken. Little-yes, Bossory-yes, Flahie-yes and Schaible-yes. Nomination passed.

Officers for 2024: Chairman Matt Little
Vice Chairman Mike Bossory
Secretary Susan Ochs

The Recording Secretary is a Township Board Appointment and Carol Huehl will do it again this year.

- 2) Review of Commercial Renewable Energy Installations. It was passed so it takes away about 90% of the Townships involvement. Facilities would come to the Planning Commission with a site plan. A Township can choose to do nothing and there is some benefit to that. There are some choices to make, do nothing or adopt an ordinance that matches the State one. It was asked if a Township can prohibit the

clearing of wood lots for Commercial Solar facilities. The answer was it can be done but doesn't solve the problem entirely.

Old Business:

- 1) Barn Sanctuary PUD. The area plan and project use plan has been updated. There was a question about the private road. The private road does need to be class A designed so emergency vehicles can drive down them. It was suggested to give updated plans to Rodney Nanney for his review before making copies for the Planning Commission. Little suggested to the Planning Commission members to read section 5.105 in the Zoning Ordinance. Also to read 14.03 the PUD criteria.
- 2) Stoneco Conditional Use Application for mining expansion at Burmeister Site. Waiting on agreement between Stoneco and Bethel Church.
- 3) Master Plan Review. It was suggested to Planning Commission members to read through the current Master Plan and give recommendations at the next meeting

Communications: MTA

Audience Participation: nothing

Chairman Little adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ann Huehl, Recording Secretary