

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ALPENA PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES – Public Hearing

Monday, December 12, 2022

MEETING COMMENCED: 6:00 PM
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THOSE PRESENT

Corey Code, Larry Dehring, Chairperson Tom Hilberg, Delynn Pauly, John Stender and Vice-chairperson Michelle Woodruff

ABSENT

Norm Poli

OTHERS PRESENT

Nathan Skibbe – Township Supervisor
Kevin Pauly – Township Building Official

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Larry Dehring made a **motion** to adopt the agenda, **supported** by Vice-chairperson Woodruff. *Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-chairperson Woodruff made a **motion** to approve the November 21, 2022 minutes, **supported** by L. Dehring. *Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Skibbe introduced the newest member of the Planning Commission, John Stender, and highlighted some of his skillsets such as gas/oil easement experience and wind/solar energy knowledge.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Special Event – Intro to Planning & Zoning for Renewable Energy – January 11, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Ordinance No. 152 – Zoning ordinance amendment to address aggrieved person, child care facilities, chickens/ducks/turkeys/guineafowl/geese, solar energy, wireless facilities, wind energy and building height.

Vice-chairperson Woodruff made a **motion** to open the Public Hearing, **supported** by L. Dehring. *Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.*

Supervisor Skibbe reviewed the amended animal portion of the ordinance. Vice-chairperson Woodruff asked how does the ordinance get enforced and Supervisor Skibbe explained that first a site visit is made and then a follow-up letter is sent. There is a process to the enforcement. He also explained what GAAMP (Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices) is and how it is referenced in the ordinance.

Supervisor Skibbe covered upcoming projects for the commission in the next year such as amending the zoning ordinance and updating both the Master Plan and Rec Plan. Points to consider for these projects include what does Alpena want to be known for, focusing on natural resources, sustainable tourism and how do we incorporate these ideas. Chairperson Hilberg inquired about the Lake Huron Forever Pledge and Supervisor Skibbe replied that he invited the City of Alpena and County of Alpena to join in the pledge and be concurrent.

Discussion took place regarding the M-32 and US-23 corridors, traffic count, by-passes, infrastructure and how businesses are attracted to what areas and what can be done to incentivize businesses to the US-23 South corridor.

J. Stender commented on the solar portion of the amendment and felt that the restrictions listed in it would detour solar development. Maybe reconsider setback and siting panel requirements. He explained how large solar farms operate and how much land they typically need.

Vice-chairperson Woodruff made a **motion** to close the Public Hearing, **supported** by D. Pauly. *Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.*

A **motion** was made by Vice-chairperson Woodruff to table recommending adoption of Ordinance No. 152 to the Charter Township of Alpena Board of Trustees, **supported** by D. Pauly.

Roll call vote: C. Code-aye; L. Dehring-aye; T. Hilberg-aye; D. Pauly-aye; N. Poli-absent; J. Stender-aye; and M. Woodruff-aye. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

None

NEXT MEETING – January 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. (tentatively)

ADJOURNMENT – L. Dehring made a motion to adjourn, supported by M. Woodruff. Meeting adjourned by Chairperson Hilberg at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Daoust
Acting Secretary