

BURT TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission Minutes
May 15, 2017

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Chris Kindsvatter on May 15, 2017, at 7:00 pm at the Burt Township Hall, 7029 Birchwood Road, Cheboygan, Michigan.

Members present: Chris Kindsvatter, Gene Hodulik, Matt Landon, Paul Janness, Jay Jontz

Also attending: Dave Hutto, Claire Karner, Harold Koviak, Tim MacArthur, Jim Larson, Donna McDougall, Clerk/Recording Secretary

Chair Kindsvatter led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda - Kindsvatter

MOTION: Moved by Jontz, supported by Landon to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION APPROVED

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Declaration of Conflict of Interest – none

Minutes – March 13, 2017

MOTION: Moved by Jontz, supported by Landon to approve the minutes as published.

APPROVED

Public Comment: None

Township Planner - Kindsvatter

Kindsvatter introduced Claire Karner, Beckett & Raeder. She said she is originally from Traverse City area and her background is in planning and urban development and has worked with several townships. Beckett & Raeder is based in Ann Arbor with offices in Traverse City and Petoskey.

Report of Board Representative to the Planning Commission – Hodulik

May Board meeting:

- Approved Beckett & Raeder – township planner
- Approved LIAA for website design and logo
- Approved Charter franchise for 15 years
- DTE will distribute natural gas to east side – approximately 90 households have signed

Report of ZBA Representative to Planning Commission - Kindsvatter

Next meeting May 26, 2017 – six variance requests

Old Business

Update on Septic Inspections – Hutto

Hutto presented a draft ordinance using some information from Milton Township. It focuses on septic inspections only at time of transfer. He will give it to Granetta Thomassy to review. He will ask Thomassy to help market the project to the county, realtors, etc. Also ask the planner Karner to review. It is anticipated that if successful then consideration of adding the water inspection portion. This is presented as a three-year project and would sunset after 3 years. It would require review report after there 3 years. If successful then it would require re introduction as an ordinance.

Vegetation Strip –MacArthur

MacArthur reviewed the vegetation strip information. He said if the verbiage “variance” is used, then the ZBA would be the appropriate venue for review. If “variance” is not used, then a mixed committee could be reviewers. Claire Karner will bring to the group any ideas gleaned from other areas so a final review and wording may be completed at the next meeting.

Lake Property Rentals – Kindsvatter

Kindsvatter said Chris Brown told him the county commissioners are going to look at this ordinance and probably change it to allow rentals less than 28 days.

Karner said the Mich. Assoc. of Realtors is pushing the state legislature to make short-term rentals legal. She is also working on stand-alone, noise ordinances for other townships.

MacArthur said we would need to contract with the county to have the sheriff’s dept. issue citations.

Sign Ordinance Changes - Kindsvatter

MTA will not have the final ordinance language until June.

Michigan Medical Marijuana Act – MacArthur

MacArthur said Pubic Act 283 was adopted in 2016 to include marijuana equivalents such as edibles and oils. Burt Township has not opted-in to allow any medical marijuana facilities.

MacArthur said the current ordinance is satisfactory at present and no changes need to be in compliance with the state new law.

New Business

Animal husbandry /chicken coops - Kindsvatter

Section 6.17 currently allows chickens/etc. Given the township has not experienced any problems, it was decided to leave the ordinance as is.

Zoning Administrator Report - Larson

Larson said a question has arisen whereas a waterfront resident may put in a portable fire pit with an approved surround and then later remove the fire pit and essentially have a “deck” in the 75’ waterfront setback. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Planning Commission Comments –Hodulik

Hodulik said electronics recycling is no longer available in Cheboygan. Individuals must now go to the Emmet County Recycling Center on Pleasantview Road or bring their old electronic items to the big dump day on June 17. He also talked to Kling’s Scrap in Cheboygan and they

will come to Burt Township and pick up any old cars at no charge to the owner or township. Proceeds from the scrap can be paid to the car owner or to the Cheboygan Foundation.

Public Comments - None

MOTION: Moved by Landon, supported by Janness to adjourn.

MOTION APPROVED

Adjourned at 8:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McDougall, Clerk/Recording Secretary