

Meeting Minutes – 1/19/2023

Meeting opened at 6pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by Mike Carey.

Attendees: Mike Carey, Russ Bauwens, and Ryan Warmboe. Absent: Jacob Trulock, John Gilner

Other Attendees: Brock VanOss.

Mike Carey motioned to approve the meeting minutes from 8/25/22 and Ryan Warmboe seconded; the motion passed.

Mike Carey motioned to approve the 1/19/23 meeting agenda and Ryan Warmboe seconded; the motion passed.

Jake Conery's term on the Planning Commission ended on 12/31/22. The Township Board appointed John Gilner the Planning Commission for a 3-year term.

Russ Bauwens was nominated to remain as Planning Commission chairman. Mike Carey motioned to approve and Ryan Warmboe seconded. The motion was approved.

Ryan Warmboe was nominated to remain as Planning Commission secretary. Mike Carey motioned to approve and Russ Bauwens seconded. The motion was approved.

The Zoning Ordinance update was approved by the Township Board on 9/21/22. Public notice went out on 9/22/22 and the updated ordinance went into effect on 10/5/22.

A possible telephone tower installation project in the township was discussed. The old dump property would be a great location with higher benefits to the township, but the installation might occur elsewhere closer to Michi-Aho. This project will require a special use permit.

No news has come through on the Sparks Grant for the Dawson Lake Park upgrade.

Solar farm and wind turbine energy should be addressed in the next Master Plan or Zoning Ordinance updates. We will look at other township verbiage to aid in those updates.

Mike Carey raised a concern about the future of the Lake Ellen Bible Camp. The idea of a hotel tax was discussed in case the property becomes a VRBO or something of that nature.

Brock VanOss raised a concern as a public comment. Perhaps we should consult a lawyer about the township's legal standing regarding spot-zoning on Richard Craig's property. We need the ability to deny that kind of re-zoning in the future. We need to look into what we can require ensuring that setback requirements are met in the future.

The next Planning Commission meeting was tentatively set for 5/2/23 at 5pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm after being motioned by Russ Bauwens and seconded by Mike Carey.