

COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

September 6, 2022

7:00 PM

Meeting held in person at Township Office

Minutes

Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance: Chairperson Wanty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Mr. Trout called the roll: Present: Chairperson Todd Wanty, ViceChair Bob Jenson, Secretary Mike Trout, Mike McKay, Hollis Jeffreys, Walter Reed, Absent: Krissie Barnes; Recognized Guests: Rick Church, Linda Bracey, Andrew Krause

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. McKay, supported by Mr. Reed to approve the agenda as amended. Ayes all. Motion Carried

Approval of Tuesday, July 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes: Motion by Mr. McKay, supported by Mr. Jenson to approve the minutes with corrections. Ayes all.
Motion Carried

Purpose of meeting: Chair Wanty presented the purpose of the meeting.

- a. Public Hearing for_request to Re-zone Property Parcel 000-19-31-151001-07 Vicary Rd., Cement City, MI 40233

Public Comment: Chair Wanty opened the public comment period at 7:05 p.m. Linda Bracey introduced herself as the property owner across U.S. 127 on the corner of Vicary Rd. She wanted to know what was happening at this hearing and she was interested in understanding the process. Andrew Krause representing the property owners introduced himself and indicated the request was for potential future use and that there was a long-term farm lease on the property that would continue. There were no further public comments and the Chair closed the public comment period at 7:18 p.m.

Old Business:

- a. Review Master Plan Survey: Chair Wanty indicated he was trying to connect with the township on the status of the survey and results. He suggested a video of the Master Plan through a local partnership might be something to consider as other townships have done. Mr. Reed asked if there were results and Mr. Wanty said he was working with the township

on that. Mr. McKay would like to know how the survey is going overall in terms of participation and preliminary results.

MI

New Business:

a. Public Hearing: Re-Zoning of Property Parcel 000-19-31-151-001-07 from AG to C3 Commercial Highway Service.

Chair Wanty opened the public hearing at 7:13 and explained the request was to Re-zone Property Parcel 000-19-31-151-001-07 from AG to C3 Commercial Highway Service. He asked the proponent if he had anything to add and Mr. Krause reiterated he was not intending to develop the property and this was for potential commercial development in the future. Ms. Bracey said she was comfortable with the proposal and understood what the purpose of the hearing was. Mr. Trout asked about the portion on Vicary road and whether that would be a future access point. There was discussion about the area already zoned C3 within the parcel. Mr. Wanty made the motion supported by Mr. McKay to recommend approval of the request to rezone Property Parcel 000-19-31-151-001-07 from AG to C3 Commercial Highway Service. Ayes all. Motion carried

Public Comment: Chair Wanty opened the public comment period at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Church commented that the recommendation would also need to be reviewed by the Region II Planning Commission that could take some additional time prior to being ready for the township board. He added a resolution should be developed and forwarded to the County. There were no further public comments and the Chair closed the public comment period at 7:35 p.m.

Commissioner Comments: Hollis Jeffreys asked Mr. Trout about the recommendation regarding marijuana establishments, and Mr. McKay also indicated a status update of items presented to the township board would be helpful. Mr. Trout briefed the commissioner's on his comments at the last township board meeting where he supported the planning commission action to explore the options available to the township in allowing marijuana establishments. Mr. McKay discussed several of the advantages and pointed out the risk of a referendum approach versus the township controlling the location and number of establishment. Mr. Trout indicated he believed the township would like to understand all their options. The members also discussed the charter township proposal being considered.

Adjournment: Mr. Wanty made the motion supported by Mr. Trout to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Ayes all. Motion carried

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Mike Trout, Secretary