

TYRONE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2013

PRESENT: Mark Meisel, Deb Lee, Cam Gonzalez, and Ron Puckett

ABSENT: Brandon Peabody and Mike Wood

OTHERS PRESENT: Tyrone Township Planner Sally Hodges, Planning/Zoning Administrator Vanessa Bader

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Meisel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Lee moved to approve the meeting agenda as presented (Puckett seconded).
The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Meeting Minutes for December 11, 2012

Lee mentioned line 83 - changing "about" to "from" and adding "who" after "residents".
Lee moved to approve the minutes as amended. (Gonzalez seconded)
The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS #1: Accessory Structure Regulations

Planner Hodges reviewed the consolidated regulations and changes that have been made. She noted some columns with common information were merged which made the chart cleaner and easier to read. Two columns were made into rows. She also added a footnote that says the chart is meant for a quick reference only and does not reflect the entire regulation.

Chairman Meisel noted some of the information was centered left to right or top to bottom and was not consistent. Because of this some of the dashes indicating no regulation can be hard to see. Hodges said she would make the changes to center all the information as space allowed.

It was agreed by the Commission that this new amendment would replace certain footnotes in the Schedule of Regulations section of the Ordinance and only the setback regulations would remain.

OLD BUSINESS #2: Cemetery Regulations Amendment

Hodges made the correction to add "RE district" to Section 22.05 C.1 to make it consistent with other parts of the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS #1: Fireworks Discussion

Planner Hodges handed out a summary from the Michigan Municipal League regarding the latest regulations and what we have the authority to regulate. She and Zoning Administrator Bader did some research and found most communities deal with fireworks under their noise ordinance.

Chairman Meisel noted it would have to be regulatory to effectively enforce. Suggested time limits like 15 days before and after a holiday. According to the new law permits must be issued by the municipality when large displays occur, such as Lake Shannon and Runyan Lake. The new law reads as follows:

Display Fireworks

Cities, villages, and townships are responsible, under Michigan law, for issuing permits for "**display fireworks**" (for example, a Fourth of July fireworks show) and "**articles pyrotechnic**" (for example, professional displays during concerts or shows, especially with a "proximate" audience). Fireworks application and permit forms are provided only to the city, village, or township (the local permitting authority), and are available only from the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) Bureau of Fire Services at (517) 241-0691.

Bader mentioned we do have a Fireworks Display Ordinance that requires a permit for a gathering of people, but not for an individual for personal use. Meisel noted the Township Board in recent years has accepted the township's fireworks permit applications as communications but has not issued permits.

Hodges noted Orion Township's ordinance since they are similar to Tyrone and we could use that as a reference. There was discussion on what days, time limits, complaints the township received, sales, etc. It was agreed that Zoning Administrator Bader would present this issue to the Board and add this to the list of other possible ordinances to consider at their February meeting.

NEW BUSINESS #2: Antenna Regulations

Chairman Meisel reviewed the 1996 Telecommunications Act. He referenced Section 21.17 and showed some potential changes to comply with the Act's amendments.

Planner Hodges commented that if you mention "Act Standards" you would have to be familiar with those standards and reference that Act in addition to our own ordinance. After some discussion it was agreed that Hodges would review the changes proposed by Chairman Meisel and also look to some other ordinances for reference.

The Commission decided to wait until next month to call for a public hearing on the recent amendments to hopefully complete this one and combine the accessory, cemetery, and antenna amendments together.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1) Other Business: Chairman Meisel commented that, after some additional research, residential wind turbines may not be an issue in our area. He felt we do not receive enough constant wind for them to produce enough energy to be worth the investment.

Gonzalez commented that there are energy grants available and the efficiency of them has improved. That might encourage residents to get them. Hodges noted that even if they do not provide a good financial return, someone will want to put one in and we may want to address them just in case.

2) Township Board Actions: The Board will be discussing and possibly adopting the PIRO amendments at their next meeting. Chairman Meisel will attend.

3) Future Items: The Commission will try to work on clarifying nonconforming building expansions next month.

Zoning Administrator Bader will ask the Township Board for a joint meeting to discuss the Master Plan.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm

NEXT MEETING:

February 12, 2013 - Regular Meeting

Vanessa Bader, Recording Secretary
Tyrone Township Planning Commission