

ISABELLA COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

May 12, 2011

A Regular Meeting of the Isabella County Planning Commission was held on May 12, 2011 in Room 225 of the Isabella County Building, 200 North Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: William Dailey, Gordon Gilchrist, Jim Kreamsreiter, Jerry Neyer, Christine Alwood, Bob Thompson, Evelyn Kent, Cheryl Jindeel, Kelly Bean

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

SUPPORT STAFF PRESENT: Tim Nieporte, Community Development Director
Mike Zalewski, Planner/Zoning Administrator
Brandy Harger, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Thompson at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Thompson stated that a farmland agreement from Denver Township will need to be added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Kreamsreiter, supported by Mr. Neyer, to approve the agenda as amended.

Yes: Dailey, Gilchrist, Kreamsreiter, Neyer, Alwood, Thompson, Kent, Jindeel, Bean.
No: None.

Motion carried.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the April 14, 2011 regular meeting were circulated to the Commission prior to the meeting for their review.

Ms. Alwood forwarded minor grammatical changes to staff.

A motion was made by Ms. Alwood, supported by Mr. Kreamsreiter, to approve the minutes as amended.

Yes: Dailey, Gilchrist, Kreamsreiter, Neyer, Alwood, Thompson, Kent, Jindeel, Bean.
No: None.

Motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS

Zoning Board of Appeals – Mr. Gilchrist stated there was no meeting last month.

Parks and Recreation – Ms. Alwood stated that the Parks Board will be going on a tour of the Parks on June 1st. They are also updating their park rules.

Board of Commissioners – Mr. Dailey stated that the Board of Commissioners approved a set of fees for enhanced data. He further stated that the Board received the Equalization Report for the County.

TOWNSHIP CONCERNS

None heard.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard.

MICHIGAN MEDICAL MARIHUANA ACT PRESENTATION

Mr. Dave Stoker, Corporate Counsel, was present and gave a presentation on the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act.

A recess was called at 8:54 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:03 p.m.

REVIEW OF ISABELLA TOWNSHIP FARMLAND AGREEMENT

Mr. Zalewski explained that Dale and Mary Wawersik have submitted an application for a farmland agreement in Section 6 of Isabella Township. The request is for a 54 acre parcel that they are purchasing on land contract. The property is zoned Ag-1 and is designated as Agricultural Conservation on the future land use map for Isabella Township. There are several properties in the area already in the PA 116 program. The application appears to be complete and staff has no concerns with the request. If the Commission has no concerns with the request, then it should be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners with the recommendation that they approve the agreement.

A motion was made by Mr. Dailey, supported by Mr. Gilchrist, to recommend approval to the Board of Commissioners.

Yes: Dailey, Gilchrist, Kremsreiter, Neyer, Alwood, Thompson, Kent, Jindeel, Bean.

No: None.

Motion carried.

REVIEW OF DENVER TOWNSHIP FARMLAND AGREEMENT

Mr. Zalewski explained that David and Gretchen Clarke have submitted an application for a farmland agreement in Section 2 of Denver Township. The property is zoned Ag-1 and is designated as Agricultural Conservation on the future land use map for Denver Township. There are several properties in the area already in the PA 116 program. The application appears to be complete and staff has no concerns with the request. Again, if the Commission has no concerns with the request, then it should be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners with the recommendation that they approve the agreement.

A motion was made by Mr. Dailey, supported by Mr. Neyer, to recommend approval to the Board of Commissioners.

Yes: Dailey, Gilchrist, Kremsreiter, Neyer, Alwood, Thompson, Kent, Jindeel, Bean.
No: None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard.

STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Nieporte stated that staff is preparing several items to be discussed at next months meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Dailey stated that the board should be conservative when deciding on zoning for medical marihuana.

Mr. Bean asked if there have been previous discussions at this board about the medical marihuana issue.

Mr. Thompson stated that this presentation was the first formal discussion that the board has had thus far. He also stated that the board should review the information presented tonight and continue the discussion next month on how to proceed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the call of the Chair at 9:14 p.m.

Christine Alwood, Secretary

Brandy Harger, Recording Secretary