

ISABELLA COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

December 8, 2011

A Regular Meeting of the Isabella County Planning Commission was held on December 8, 2011 in Room 225 of the Isabella County Building, 200 North Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jerry Neyer, Christine Alwood

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

A motion was made by Ms. Kent, supported by Ms. Jindeel, to approve the agenda as amended.

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

Motion carried.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the November 10, 2011 regular meeting were circulated to the Commission prior to the meeting for their review.

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

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

Motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS

Zoning Board of Appeals – Mr. Gilchrist stated that the meeting last month was cancelled, but there will be a special meeting this month.

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Thompson stated that on Saturday, January 14, 2011 Parks and Recreation would be hosting the Disc Golf 3rd Annual Frigid Dough Ice Bowl at Deerfield Park disc golf course. The opening day for camping reservations for this coming season is set for Friday, January 6, 2011. Lastly, board appointments will be made at the December 20, 2011

Board of Commissioners meeting, applicants should have their information turned in by December 15th.

Board of Commissioners – Mr. Dailey stated that the Zoning Ad Hoc Committee will meet again on Tuesday, January 10, ~~2011~~ 2012 at 5:00 pm. in order to recommend something a bit more concrete to the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners decided to increase fees for Animal Control at their last meeting.

TOWNSHIP CONCERNS

Jackie Curtis, Denver Township, stated that Mike Zalewski has been handling our township very well.

Bob Neeland, Isabella Township, none heard.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING AMENDMENT #11-03

Mr. Thompson stated that this amendment is an ordinance to amend the Isabella County Zoning Ordinance to define and regulate signs.

Mr. Nieporte stated that this language was reviewed by the Commission previously and set for public hearing at the last meeting. The amendment reformatted, modified setbacks, and added definitions to the zoning ordinance under the section for signs.

The public hearing was opened at 7:07 p.m.

None heard.

The public hearing was closed at 7:07 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Gilchrist, supported by Ms. Kent, to recommend approval of Zoning Amendment #11-03 as submitted to the Isabella County Board of Commissioners.

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

No: None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING AMENDMENT #11-04

Mr. Thompson stated that this amendment is an ordinance to amend the Isabella County Zoning Ordinance sections on the implementation for subdividing land in the ag-1 and ag-2 districts.

Mr. Nieporte stated that this language was reviewed by the Commission previously and set for public hearing at the last meeting. This amendment will clear up a conflicting part of the ordinance in

regards to dividing lands for non-farm dwellings. The amendment also eliminates some repetitive language in the ordinance.

The public hearing was opened at 7:10 p.m.
None heard.

The public hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Dailey, supported by Ms. Jindeel, to recommend approval of Zoning Amendment #11-04 as submitted to the Isabella County Board of Commissioners.

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

Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING AMENDMENT #11-05

Mr. Thompson stated that this amendment is an ordinance to amend the Isabella County Zoning Ordinance to define agricultural tourism and to allow for agricultural tourism related businesses.

Mr. Nieporte stated that this language was reviewed by the Commission previously and set for public hearing at the last meeting. This amendment defines Agricultural Tourism and specifically allows for agricultural tourism related businesses.

The public hearing was opened at 7:12 p.m.

None heard.

The public hearing was closed at 7:12 p.m.

A motion was made by Ms. Kent, supported by Mr. Gilchrist, to recommend approval of Zoning Amendment #11-05 as submitted to the Isabella County Board of Commissioners.

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

Motion carried.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Medical Marijuana Subcommittee – Mr. Nieporte explained that The Subcommittee is not recommending any changes to the ordinance at this time. This decision was based upon recent court cases, opinions from legal counsel and an extensive review of information relative to medical marihuana. He stated that he met with Mr. Tony Kulick, Sherman Township Zoning Administrator, and Sherman Township will be adding language to their ordinance stating that nothing is allowed, in regards to medical marijuana, that is not already allowed under federal law. Mr. Nieporte also explained that if someone comes in with an application regarding medical marijuana, it will be sent

to the prosecutor for review. Also we have language that can be put into place fairly quickly if needed.

Mr. Thompson stated that now staff will need to go to the Board of Commissioners to report what the Planning Commission has decided to do.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard.

STAFF COMMENTS

None heard.

PLANNING COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Thompson apologized to Mr. Gilchrist for being harsh at the last meeting.

Mr. Gilchrist stated that Federal law is the law for Medical Marijuana.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the call of the Chair at 7:23 p.m.

Christine Alwood, Secretary

Brandy Harger, Recording Secretary