Hope Township Planning Commission

Regular Meeting

Unapproved Minutes

November 2, 2016

Meeting was called to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:00pm

Members Present Diane Vaughan, Marge Kobisa, Bob Davis, Wendy Faber, Nicole Kelly

Rodney Nanney was also present.

Minutes were read from August 3, 2016 meeting. Marge made a motion to accept the minutes from August, Bob seconded the motion.

Previous Business

Marge reported that Edwin Wirbel's property is for sale. Rodney said that the property owner could have built a pole barn on the property, but that the side setback was close. Planning commission will not look into changing setbacks. They were updated at last ordinance update.

New Business

Rodney presented information written on the new updates for the medical marijuana act from 2008, allowing commercial medical marijuana facilities, licensing and taxing them. Townships may choose to allow these commercial businesses or not. Townships have the right to adopt ordinances, charge fees and receive a portion of taxes from these businesses.

The board went over updates to the Master Plan that Rodney prepared. He still has a few sections to finish up. When a final draft is finished a copy will be presented to the Township Board and also to surrounding communities. New section is #3, general goals and policy priorities.

Certain roads could be identified for blight conditions and clean up. Planning commission will identify and consider adding to the Master Plan.

The planning commission looked over new maps and information on the maps. Hamlet area is added where the township hall and fire department are located. Where forested property is now needs to be updated to coordinate with the ordinance for anticipate dwellings in the future. Commercial development needs to be added to the ordinance also.

Rural economic development policies section will add wording that the township supports the farming community and would encourage farmers with farm based recreational activities such as petting farm or corn mazes for examples. Also open space for residential developments would be preserved.

Manufactured housing designation would not be provided for because there is already manufactured housing in the Midland County area. Some new language would be added to the existing master plan.

Transportation plan section would add the consideration of Act 51 from 2010 from the state of Michigan. The section takes into consideration all users of roads such as bikers and pedestrians who use the road also along with motor vehicles. The updated master plan should also include roads in the

township that could use improvement. Someone from planning commission will get with the road commission to update this section.

Rodney will have other sections ready for February meeting.

Meeting dates for next year are February 1, May 3, August 2 and November 1st.

Meeting adjourned 8:33pm