

Hope Township Planning Commission

Regular Meeting Unapproved Minutes

April 5, 2023

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

Members Present Wendy Faber, Nicole Kelly, Diane Vaughan, Kelly Eddy, Rita Goul

Minutes were read from the January 4, 2023, meeting. Wendy made a motion to accept the minutes and Kelly seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Also, present Jennifer Salisbury, and Todd and Pamela Pointe, and Matthew and Jennifer Jevne.

Old Business:

Township Board approved to accept the Master Plan for Planning with no changes. Spicer Group will send updated pages for the Ordinance.

Nicole reported that another sale of property in the Forested District did not go through because of setbacks. Property owners can apply for a variance to build closer to set back lines because of low lying area of property where planning to build.

New Business:

Jennifer Salisbury will serve as alternate on the Planning Board. She will not vote unless another member is absent. She will be sworn in at the Township meeting on April 11, 2023

Matthew and Jennifer Jenve were present to inquire about a Marijuana Grow business. Their property is in the Agriculture District. Their plan is to grow marijuana to sell to dispensaries for both medicinal and recreational use. They would be using an existing horse barn. They have been researching and have a business plan. They would also like to give back to the community by helping with roads, schools, or other needed areas of the Township. They would have no employees. And would not be selling the product directly to consumers. Their plan is to start with 100 plants and get to a point where they would have 500 plants maximum. All Planning board members are agreeable with the proposed plan. A Special Use Permit would need to be issued, which would call for a Public hearing.

Neighbors Todd and Pamela Ponte were present at the Planning meeting, and they have no objections to the proposed indoor grow facility.

Dangerous Building Ordinance would need to be discussed. The Planning Board will inquire with Spicer Group.

Waterfront lot clarification in Ordinance. Spicer Group left out of the pages, they are re-doing, and it will be put back in.

Seasonal roads are not in Planning. November through April they are not maintained. Township residents can apply to Midland County to get a permit to clean themselves.

Members decided to wait until other possible amendments are needed and do all at once. Planning board can combine items at a Public Hearing.

Rita Goul can stay on Planning Board, as one member from the Township Board has to be on Planning Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 Next meeting June 7, 2023