

Hope Township Planning Commission

Regular Meeting Unapproved Minutes

May 1, 2024

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

Members Present Wendy Faber, Nicole Kelley, Diane Vaughan, Rita Goul, Jennifer Salisbury and Kelly Eddy.

In Attendance Dan Mieske, John Ruddy and Dennis Goul

The minutes were read from the March 6, 2024, meeting. Nicole noted the error that the next meeting was written as June 5, 2024. Next meeting was scheduled for May 1, 2024. Rita made a motion to accept the minutes and Kelly seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Old Business: Keep Renewable Energy on the agenda to keep in the for-front for future meetings.

New Business:

Rita said Kenny Bradfield has one year of a five-year lease left on his property with the Solar Farm Company.

He is considering selling the property after the lease is up.

Property owned by Spectrum at Stark Road and Schaffer Road is for sale. The property was previously owned by Parish Communications. There is an inquiry by an Electrical Company about purchasing the property. They wanted to know what the setbacks are. They want to put up a storage building, a bigger driveway, and use it for office space.

The property is Zoned Commercial. There was a quick claim deed in 2009 from Michigan Cable Partners to Parish Communications.

Diane will call Ron Thompson to find out when the property went from the zoning of Forested to Commercial. And to check that the property is being taxed at the Commercial property rate.

A resident complained about a neighbor's chickens. They stated that there are 200 chickens, and they are coming onto their property. The resident is concerned about Bird Flu. Bob Wolf from the Midland County Health Department called the State Department of Agriculture. The AG department went out. Rita sent a letter to the owners on Bombay and told them they have too many and they need to stay in the property owners' yard. The Department of AG told Hope Township to call them if there is another problem. This could save the Township Attorney's fees.

Opinion from Attorney General Dana Nessel regarding County Regulation of Keeping of livestock and poultry on residential land was looked at by members. It states in the opinion that County Commissioners cannot control townships ordinances.

The Township Attorney wrote the Civil Infractions Ordinance. This will cover violations of the enforcement of the Hope Township Ordinances by collecting and retaining civil fines/costs for violations after violations notices. This Ordinance will be voted on at the next Township Board meeting.

Rita asked members if we wanted to change the meeting times starting next year to 6pm. All members agreed that 6 pm would be a better time for everyone. Meeting dates will be set for next year at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Next meeting is June 5, 2024

DRAFT