

MINUTES OF THE CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

July 6, 2015

Meeting called to order by Chairman Vichunas at 7:03 p.m. at the Caledonia Township Hall, Spruce, Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Vichunas, Grove, Lehndorff, Preston, Scott, Swinson and Williams.
Absent: None.

MOTION by Grove to approve the **AGENDA** as submitted by email; **SUPPORT** by Preston; Motion carried.

MOTION by Williams to approve the June 1, 2015 **MINUTES** as submitted by email; **SUPPORT** by Grove; Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None.

REPORTS:

Zoning Board of Appeals – Grove signed up for the third session of the online MTA ZBA class and reviewed the second. He requested reimbursement of the \$35 course fee. He will observe a ZBA hearing in Green Township for informational purposes.

Board of Trustees – Scott summarized the Board of Trustee's June 10, 2015 meeting, which was published June 17, 2015. The Planning Commission was requested to develop park use rules for a sign at the North End Park.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ZBA Bylaws – The ZBA met on June 23, 2015 at the Township Hall to review and adopt the ZBA Bylaws. Because their schedules are flexible, they determined that alternates are not needed at this time. The Final Decision Form was amended to include the words, "Form #1", for clarity.

Planning Commission Bylaws – Completed the review of the Bylaws. **MOTION** by Grove to adopt the Bylaws; **SUPPORT** by Preston; Motion carried. The final version of the Bylaws will be forwarded to the members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Caledonia Township Recreation Plan – Vichunas advised that as of January 1, 2014 the DNR requires that a plan include updated demographics, a barrier-free assessment of recreation sites and a follow-up grant review.

Tri-Townships Master Plan – The Alcona Township Planning Commission Chairman, Doug Kuffert, received a bid of approximately \$9,000 from NEMCOG for updating the Tri-Townships Master Plan which will be discussed at the July 23, 2015 Tri-Townships Planning Commissions meeting.

POLL MEMBERS FOR NEW BUSINESS – Discussed the MTA Hot Topics in Planning and Zoning training session to be held on Aug. 26, 2015 at Garland in Lewiston that will address zoning issues facing Townships: medical marijuana, building code enforcement, GAAMPS and oil, gas and gravel extraction. All PC members would like to attend this training. The MTA Chapter picnic will be held in Barton City on July 28, 2015 at 6 p.m.

ISSUES FOR THE TOWNSHIP BOARD AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR --

Tower on US 23 – Construction of a tower was observed near the 6800 block of US 23, on the west side of the highway.

Lodge for rental purposes -- A Lodge recently opened on Cedar Drive.

The Caledonia Township Zoning Ordinance requires Special Land Use Permits for a Lodge and Telecommunications Towers.

Public Comment – None.

Next Planning Commission Meeting – August 3, 2015.

Tri-Townships Planning Commissions Meeting – July 23, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the Caledonia Township Hall. The agenda will include discussion of fireworks and Japanese lantern regulations, updating medical marijuana laws and the Tri-Townships Master Plan. Hawes Township will host the October 8, 2015 meeting at South Shore Fire Station at 7 p.m.

MOTION by Swinson to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.; **SUPPORT** by Scott; Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Lehndorff
Secretary