

Porter Towhship
Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2019

Start Time : Meeting began at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Doug Noble, Jr., Heather Smith, Andrew Nesbitt, David Kindt, Dennis Owen, Steve Cornish, Tanya Blanchard

Members Absent: Tim Seppala, John Miller

Zoning Administrator : Rich McGrew, not present

Approval of Agenda : Dennis Owen approves, Steve Cornish seconds, all in favor, agenda approved as written.

Approval of Minutes : Steve Cornish motions to approve the December Regular Meeting Minutes as written, Heather Smith seconds. December Regular Meeting Minutes approved as written.

Additions to Agenda : None

Correspondence : None.

Citizens Comments : No citizens present

Board Report : Andy Nesbitt, township treasurer and liaison to the Planning Commission, stated that the township attorney, Harold Schuitmaker, delivered some information regarding small homes. Will need some wording in our ordinance regarding RV's and "tiny" homes.

A discussion followed regarding what our existing ordinance says and what is allowed. It is evident after reviewing our ordinances that the minimum requirements are clearly stated for all residences.

The following requirements regarding temporary dwellings are already clearly identified in our ordinances:

4.06

(5) Application for a permit for the erection, movement, alteration, occupancy and use of such mobile home, garage, basement, cellar or other similar structure intended for temporary occupancy shall be made to the township on an appropriate form signed by by the applicant which shall indicate that the applicant has read, understands and agrees to abide by all applicable provisions of this ordinance. A

permit under this section may be revoked if construction of the permanent dwelling is not commenced within six months after issuance of the temporary permit.

(6) In the case of recreational vehicles providing temporary housing of guests or visitors on the premises, such use shall be permitted for a period of time not to exceed 30 days in any 12 consecutive month period, provided, that the occupants of the recreational vehicle shall have unrestricted use of sewerage disposal and water supply facilities of the principal building.

Andy also reported that there are a few citizens in the township who are selling firearms, due to federal regulations, this is not supported by the township. They are operating as a home occupancy.

Nothing was ever put in writing in the ordinance, we need to recognize FFL's and whether it should be regulated. Ordinance must concern the excessive traffic. The opinion of the planning commission was to leave the current wording alone and ask the attorney what would be the most effective, efficient plan the township should do. Due to BATF regulations, what do you recommend?

Old Business : A. Future of ORV Ordinance - The planning commission determined that a few corrections are necessary in order to be implemented. Andy recommended that we can make a recommendation to the board to adopt with corrections - the motion will need to include this language. The discussion centered around excluding the map and we can adopt the map later if situations arise. It removes a potential deadline.

Motion:

Heather Smith makes a Motion that the planning commission recommends to the township board to adopt the ORV ordinance with corrections as presented, second by Dennis Owen. Motion carries, unanimous.

New Business : A. No new business.

Zoning Administrator report: No report, Rich McGrew not present. No new action.

Adjournment : Dennis Owen motions to adjourn, Steve Cornish seconds, meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Next Meeting : February 5th, 2020