

Porter Township
Planning Commission
June Regular Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2022

Start Time: 7:00

Members Present: Doug Noble, Jr, Andrew Nesbitt, Steve Cornish, Tim Seppala, Tonya Willis, Bob Angle, Heather Smith

Members Not Present: John Miller, Jeff Stull

Zoning Administrator: Rich McGrew, present

Approval of Agenda: Motion to accept agenda as written made by Heather Smith. Steve Cornish second and agenda approved as written.

Approval of Minutes: Steve Cornish motions to approve the May Regular meeting minutes, Tim Seppala seconds, May regular meeting minutes are approved as written.

Correspondence: None.

Citizens Comments: Kalli Marshall from Van Buren County Conservation District discussed and gave handouts for upcoming events.

Zoning Admin Report Per Rich McGrew, Zoning Administrator, has several permits for new constructions, 3 marijuana license renewals.

Board Liaison Report: Per Andrew Nesbitt, Jeff Stull was appointed to the Planning Commission.

ZBOA report: Per Robert Angle, no meetings currently scheduled.

Old Business: Solar Farms Ordinance, updates after Planning Commission members attended webinar last month. Motion by Tonya Willis, second by Steve Cornish to send Large Solar Energy System Ordinance to Attorney Schuitmaker and recommend ordinance to Township Board, with the following updates:

- A. Page 4, Item L – noise – changed wording from “as measured at exterior property boundary...” to “as measured within 20 feet from the source of noise.”
- B. Page 3, Item D – Application Fee – for Township Board to determine
- C. Page 8, Item Z - Fees – for Township Board to determine fees, request attorney review wording
- D. Page 6, Item R clarify - If visual screening is required “by Township Board or Designee”
- E. Page 5, Item O Decommissioning – Note – this is Planning Commissions biggest area of concern. Planning Commission recommends a review to be conducted every 5 years to adjust for inflation, rising costs, etc. Request attorney to review and update wording as necessary.

Motion passed.

New Business: No new business.

Adjournment- Tim Seppala motions, Heather Smith seconds, meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

Next meeting: June 29, 2022 at 7 pm.
