

Gerrish Township Planning Commission

Regular Meeting June 1, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Barbara Polisei.

Members present: Case, Boyle, Link, Polisei, Tucker, Hoffman, Wansa

Members absent: None

Also present: Jason Janson, Chief Hill

Motion by Link, seconded by Polisei, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2017, meeting. Motion carried.

Agenda change – Chief Hill to speak.

Chief Hill explained the action necessary in order that a Police Power Ordinance to regulate Commercial Noise may be enacted. The Planning Commission must hold a Public Hearing to amend Section 7.22, B 3 to read as follows:

No outdoor entertainment shall be permitted unless a permit is obtained pursuant to the Gerrish Township Commercial Noise and Amplified Sound Ordinance. This limitation shall not apply in the case of recorded music that is not audible at any property line.

Motion by Polisei, second by Wansa, that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, July 6, at 6:30 p.m. to amend Section 7.22 Outdoor Eating Area, B 3 to read as stated above. Such Amendment to become effective thirty (30) days after approval. Motion carried.

The Planning Commission recommends that the Township Board contact Mark Eidelson, AICP, Landplan, Inc. regarding the proposed change to the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to Houses in Areas currently zoned commercial and consult him if the Township Board has the authority to grant an exception to the Zoning Ordinance thus negating the need for the proposed Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. It was noted that the Township attorney was 'somewhat hesitant to recommend the Township adopt the proposed changes' as were the members of the Planning Commission with the possible outcome of establishing precedents. Mr. Eidelson is very familiar with Zoning and Townships and could possibly offer a more expedient solution to this problem.

The proposed meeting with the owners of property on Treasure Island for July 6th has been postponed. The speaker who was to give information regarding septic system alternatives is not available on that date. Education of the owners is mandatory. Contact with Bonnie Vinn will be made.

Education of all property owners was discussed. It was strongly suggested that each Gerrish Gaze tte should contain reminders that's residents should have their water tested and septic systems pumped periodically. Information on proper procedures is available through the health department.

Motion by Wansa, support by Hoffman, that a one page letter be inserted in each tax bill reminding residents to have their water tested and septic systems pumped. Health Department contact information to be included.

Extensive discussion followed regarding the lack of movement that has taken place on the Septic Ordinance. The Planning Commission would like the authority to consult Mark Eidelson for his suggestions as to how to move this issue forward.

The Planning Commission needs feedback from the Township Board as to which, if any, of the five proposed licenses regarding marijuana usage/distribution they wish to be allowed in the Township in order that the Planning Commission can proceed in the development of an appropriate Ordinance , if any, in a timely manner.

Jim Tucker informed us that he will be moving in the near future.

Motion by Polisei, seconded by Wansa, to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried.

Norma Lee Boyle, Secretary