

WORTH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 5, 2023

6903 S. LAKESHORE RD., LEXINGTON, MI 48450

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairman Lessard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Members Present: Stan Lessard, Barbara Millsap, Boni Lillibridge.

Members Absent: Byron Wilson(excused), John Cuppen(excused)

Also present: 1 person in the audience

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Millsap, supported by Lessard to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Lessard, supported by Millsap to approve the minutes as written for March 1, 2023. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items only): Comment from audience member concerning discussion from March 1, 2023, about Solar Energy Farms in small, medium, and large. He stated that he likes the idea of limiting the size to small and medium farms.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Solar Energy**

Vice-Chair Lessard cited a study from the Heritage Foundation that states that China runs 90% of the world market in battery storage and 66% of all solar panels are made in China. Ms. Lillibridge referenced an article from the EPA that said by the year 2030, the United States would have one million tons of solar panel waste and by 2050, there will be ten million tons of solar waste in the United States. By 2050, the United States is expected to have the second largest number of end-of-life panels in the world.

Ms. Lillibridge questioned if the Planning Commission should table the Solar Energy Ordinance for now. Mr. Lessard and Ms. Millsap agreed to table the Ordinance until the Master Plan is completed.

- **Wind Energy**

Ms. Millsap explained to the Planning Commission the reasoning for the Board of Trustees to table the Wind Energy ordinance that was presented. The Board of Trustees was that the proposed ordinance had too much wording and might get the Township in trouble. The Township thought a simpler ordinance would be better. The Planning Commission discussed height restrictions and setbacks for the turbines. The Planning Commission agreed to send the Wind Energy Ordinance back to the Board with changes to the height restriction from 500 feet to 300 feet. The Planning Commission also decided to change the Performance Guarantee surety bond to read that the Surety Bond is to be one million dollars for each Wind Energy turbine.

- **Master Plan**

The Planning Commission has a meeting with Adam Young/Wade Trim on April 17, 2023. We will ask Adam Young to update the census information and we will get the information sent to the insurance company.

NEW BUSINESS: None

TRUSTEE REPORTS: None

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Millsap, supported by Lessard to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: May 3, 2023

Worth Township Planning Commission

Boni Lillibridge, Secretary

