

I. Call to order:

Mike Griffith, Chairman called the Special Meeting of the Planning Commission to order at 7pm at the Rome

Township Hall – 9344 Forrister Road - Adrian, MI 49221. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

II. Roll call:

Present: Sheri Wilt, Mike Griffith, Robert Apoian, MD, Pat Bournes,, Kevin Fisher, and Jack Griffes

Absent: Leo Oswald

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting:

Motion to approve 19 Nov 2020 minutes by Pat, 2nd by Sheri, motion passed.

IV. Additions/Changes to Agenda: none

Motion to approve agenda by Sheri, 2nd by Rob. Motion carried.

V. Reports:

-Township Board – representative not present to give report nor had report been submitted in writing - nor was notice of intent to not attend given (this same thing was also true in Nov 2020.) It was noted in the meeting that the Rep allegedly reported at the Jan 2021 Board Meeting that he felt the PC meetings were being held in violation of various Michigan Executive Department orders made which allegedly he referred to as “the law.” Jack pointed out to those present that the Michigan Constitution expressly prohibits any member of one branch from exercising powers of another branch and thus any member of the executive branch including any executive department has ZERO constitutional authority to “legislate” and no branch of government may delegate its authority to another branch of government per the Michigan Constitution (as was affirmed by the Michigan Supreme Court in early Fall 2020.) The Planning Commission members along with all Board members have each taken a sacred oath to support both the US Constitution and the Michigan Constitution and this includes interposing when any official is acting in violation of either Constitution. Interposing means to stand between another official and the people to protect the natural Rights of the people - in this case the natural Right of the people to have their constitutional local government continue to operate per the Michigan Constitutional provision which says that local governments are to continue to operate even during times of emergency. Each oath taker is thus a check upon unconstitutional action taken by any oath breaker (above, below, or beside them) - so as to protect the natural Rights of the people from being trampled upon. Many of those present nodded in agreement or voiced vocal support for what Jack expressed. (By way of further explanation - two members of the Planning Commission, one of which is our Chairman, do not have functional email let alone adequate internet connectivity to participate in a virtual meeting and with ALL meetings required to be public meetings and internet not being present in every single household in Rome Township it is not possible to truly and fully abide the Public Meetings requirement of the Michigan Constitution via having a virtual meeting. Additionally it is self-evident that it is far more wise during below freezing weather to hold public meetings inside the heated Township Hall which has been provided by taxes paid by Township residents for said use. -JG-)

-Zoning Officer – Second notice of violation sent to Horst Tire for not storing tires according to agreement made to store tires in enclosed trailers when applying for Special Use Permit. Another resident built a pole barn without obtaining a permit and Bruce has been handling it.

- Zoning Board of Appeals – none
- Planning Board Commission - none

VI. Order of Business:

Review the 3 Sample Ordinances as updated by Twp Attorney (Phil) per voted upon changes by the Planning Commission which were emailed to Phil after the 19 Nov 2020 Special Meeting. These are relative to Medical and Recreational Marihuana facilities and businesses.

Planning Commission members reviewed the updated Sample Ordinances to ensure the voted upon changes were included correctly. Many formatting errors, typographical errors, and a couple of “failures to update per voted upon changes” were noted during this review - some but not all are noted below. Other errors were noted on “markup” copies which members turned in to Jack at the end of the meeting.

Amendment - section 12 b and c Greenbelt buffer (see illustration) but there is no illustration

Section 11 - Security Fencing “The security fencing shall not be located”

Moved by Rob and seconded by Kevin to amend Section 12 d iii to read “The security fencing required in Section A. 11 above with the addition of opaque slatting may be used to fulfill the screening requirement.” Motion Carried

Drop off all places where it says “see illustration” when the Sample Ordinances given to PC by the Twp Attorney have no illustrations.

Noted that in both Recreational and Medical Marihuana Ordinances the “each day is a new infraction” phraseology was not removed per the vote by the Planning Commission. PC members felt it did not allow normal and reasonable time for corrective action (such as a fence repair for example) to occur and voted to remove it at the Nov 2020 meeting.

Jack moves that in order to save repetitive time wasting due to attorney clerical errors that he will take all markup copies and edit the Word Docs then distribute the corrected copies to every PC member to proofread and report back on so that we will enter the Feb 2021 meeting with a reviewed set of ordinances to present for Public Hearing during that meeting. Seconded by Kevin. Motion carried. (The Planning Commission’s objective by this motion is to eliminate the month after month delays which occur when clerical errors have to be submitted to the attorney and then the “updated” copy which the attorney submits back is yet full of clerical errors. This parenthetical explanation is added just in case that objective is not clear by the wording of the motion made during the meeting itself. -JG-)

Time did not allow for PC to resume Review of Ordinances from where we left off 25 June 2020
- Next up for review is Article Ten - Industrial Districts, I pg. 29

VII. Public Comment:

An expression of thanks for the hard work of the Planning Commission regarding the Marihuana Ordinances was made by each of the two members of the Public who were present - both of whom are partners interested in “investing in Rome Township and themselves” via obtaining State licensure and operating a Recreational Marihuana business in Rome Township.

VIII. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn @ 8:27pm by , 2nd by Sheri - motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned

Meeting and Public Hearing to be held 4th Thursday 25 February 2021 @ 7:00 pm

Minutes submitted by: Jack Griffes, Secretary of the Planning Commission

Minutes approved by: Mike Griffith, Chairman _____