

LILLEY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

APRIL 17th, 2025

UNAPPROVED

The April 17th, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Lilley Township Planning Commission, held at the Multi-Purpose Building, was called to order by Chairperson Israels at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the Invocation by Robert Doornbos.

The roll was called with the following members present: Moore, Doornbos, Israels, Bonnett and Hoving

Approval of January 16th Minutes: Motion to approve by Moore, Second by Doornbos

Roll Call: Bonnett Yes, Moore Yes, Israels Yes, Doornbos Yes, Hoving Yes – Motion Carried

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Moore to approve, Second Bonnett, all in favor Aye, Motion Carried.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment on matters not published on the Agenda: None

New Business: None

Old Business:

1. Keeping of Animals – Section 3.21 (B) Page 34 Zoning Ordinance

In light of the Michigan State House of Representatives introducing HB4049 and HB4050 to committee for review, coupled with the ongoing and ever-changing avian bird flu. It is suggested that the work on this ordinance stop until we have a better idea what the state has in mind with this legislation.

Motion by Moore, Second by Hoving to stop work on creating a “Backyard Chicken Ordinance”

Roll Call: Doornbos Yes, Moore Yes, Israels Yes, Bonnett Yes, Hoving Yes – Motion Carried

Follow-up Discussion and Background: Originally requested by a community member in 2023, to look at the current Zoning Ordinance to modify or amend to allow for “Backyard Chickens” which are currently not allowed unless you have 5 acres or more in Agriculture Zone. House Bills HB4049 and HB4050, the stipulations of the Right to Farm Act and the current situation with the spread and mutation of Avian Flu were factors in discussion.

2. Acquisition of Pettibone Park

Discussion: The Planning Commission will review the vision and plan for the park when the paperwork is complete and the Township Board approves. Moore has some questions on the agreement regarding the County’s past neglect. Trustee Hoving said that the pending final agreement was given to the Board Members at the meeting on Monday night for their input and approval. The Township Lawyer has approved the agreement.

3. Rental Agreement for Lilley Township Community Center and other amenities.

Lilley Township Community Center Rental Agreement- Rental agreements for municipal buildings comparable to ours in this area have been pulled from the internet. We are still looking for buildings close to the capacity and amenities that we offer. Merrill and Burt so far are close.

Discussion and Suggestions

Since there are significant costs to the taxpayers for upkeep of the Community Building, it is recommended that Rental funds be used only for that purpose. Some of those expenses include heating and cooling, electricity, septic systems upkeep, winter snowplowing, and repairs to appliances and the building structure. Use of the building facilities and bathrooms should be limited to renters paying rental fees. Improvements to the building are much needed. Rental Fees need to be looked at and adjusted. Inspection after each rental should be required. Should alcohol on the premises be allowed, and is the Township insured? Israels will recommend to the Township Board at the next meeting that the current Rental Agreement, as written, be followed for now. Suggest more transparency and reporting on the rental of the building at the monthly Board Meetings. Should there be someone hired to do deep cleaning periodically? Suggested that the Community Building become self-supporting. Suggested Rental Fees should be deposited and Security Deposits held until final inspection has been completed.

Motion by Moore, Seconded by Bonnett to suggest to the Board that the current Rental Agreement and Rental Schedules be completed, signed, dated, rental fees and security deposits collected, and information made available monthly.

Roll Call: Bonnett Yes, Doornbos Yes, Moore Yes, Hoving Yes, Israels Yes – Motion Carried

The next regular meeting of The Planning Commission will be held on July 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Motion to adjourn by Moore, second by Doornbos – All in Favor - Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith C Hoving

Judith C. Hoving – Recording Secretary