



1. Call to Order – 7:00 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call

Members present: _P_Tom Brennan, _P_Jim Ducey, _P_Jere Hinkle, _P_Mark Jewell, _Dale Lucas, _P_Nancy Prindle, _P_Jim Warbritton (P = present Blank = absent). Also also in attendance were; Doug Lammers- Zoning Enforcement Administrator, Jim Stormont Township Supervisor, Deputy Sheriff Rick DeLand and approximately 20 Public members.

Mark Jewell was introduced as a new member of the Commission

4. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Brennan and supported by Ducey to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Brennan and supported by Warbritton that the December 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes be approved with minor modifications added by Hinkle. All ayes. Motion carried. Secretary Ducey stated that all attachments referred to in the minutes were on file in the Township office.

6. New Business

- a. 2020 Meeting Schedule

The presented 2020 meeting schedule, with meetings scheduled on the third Thursday of the month, was reviewed. Because of a potential conflict with a training seminar for Planning Commission members, it was suggested that the March 19th meeting be moved to March 26th. It was moved by Hinkle and supported by Brennan that the 2020 meeting schedule with the March modification be approved. All ayes. Motion carried.

- b. Election of officers

- i. The following members were elected as follows.
Chairman -- Hinkle for Chairman, motion by Warbritton supported by Brennan. All ayes. Motion carried.
- ii. Vice Chairman -- Prindle for Vice Chairman, motion by Ducey supported by Hinkle. All ayes. Motion carried.

iii. Secretary -- Ducey for Secretary, motion by Warbritton supported by Brennan. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. Citizens Wishing to Address the Commission – Five Individuals addressed the commission. Issues presented included the following:
 - a. Waterloo Township loss of maintenance funding attributed to Planning Commission designation of truck routes in the Township
 - b. Citing of mines adjacent to private properties
 - c. Comments from the Michigan Aggregate Association regarding items in the initial draft of the Grass Lake Planning Commission's of proposed mining ordinance modifications.
 - d. Queries regarding Bohne Road gravel pit operator's conformance to use and operating conditions included in the Special Use Permit granted in August 2019.
 - e. A letter read by Bill Lester regarding requirements included the initial draft of the mining ordinance. A copy of this letter is attached to these minutes
8. Township Board Report – Township Board members Brennan and Loveland will meet with Grass Lake Village representatives regarding reimbursement of costs/charges of sewage system and mowing maintenance activities performed by Village staff. The Board will continue to work with the Village to reach a mutually satisfactory regarding this issue.

9. Old Business

- a. Status of Rezoning of Michigan Avenue parcels.

Proposed zoning for five parcels will be submitted to Jackson County Planning Commission for review and comment.

- b. Mining Ordinance Zoning Text amendments.

The following are items in the current version of the draft ordinance that need discussion and resolution:

- i. Setbacks
- ii. Berm grades
- iii. Parcel size, both minimum and maximum limits.
- iv. Grand fathering clause in existing ordinance with respect to existing operators
- v. Road Maintenance funding with regard to mining operations
- vi. Finance issues relating to fines, insurance liability, bonding for reclamations.
- vii. Use of Existing Township Civil infractions ordinance for fine schedules.

- viii. Further clarification entrance dirt/dust control measures including paving and installation of mud mats.

10. Proposed Business for Next Regular Meeting and Meeting Date

- a. Next meeting on February 20, 2020
- b. Conduct Commission sub-committee meeting regarding Item 9.b issues for attorney discussion prior to Commission meeting.
- c. Continue work on mining ordinance

11. General Discussion

None

12. Adjournment

Moved by Brennan and supported by Warbritton to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 pm. All ayes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.

Jim Ducey, Secretary

Grass Lake Charter Township Planning Commission

To planning committee members

My name is Bill Lester, I'm a resident of Grass Lake and a business owner that produces Sand and gravel necessary to build our roads and homes we all live in and have become aware through the Michigan Agg. Association of the proposed zoning Ordinance amendment regarding sand and gravel mining in our township. I agree with and appreciate the township recognizing the importance of aggregate in our Everyday lives and how important it is. However, as noted in the letter sent from the MAA, these proposed ordinance amendments cause alarm as a producer, and as a taxpayer in this Township. At face value these changes seem reasonable enough but ultimately is Suffocating the already depleted access we have to this natural resource, which ultimately is paid for by taxpayers on government projects, contractors and Residential consumers of our products because local market demand can't be met currently.

If I have the permission of the chair and the committee, I would like to add some points in addition to the letter the MAA sent to Mr. Lammers

In section 2.5c, Building Line for Operation Structure I would like to make an additional Comment, regarding portable plants. A portable plant should be allowed closer than 500 feet. Much of the noise and disruption come from moving the material to the plant, one can stand next to a portable plant and talk normally, with no dust from the plant. Why I stress portable plant is Because these plants are 100 percent mobile and can be set up in as little from 30 Minutes while the noise generated from a portable screen plant or wash plant in minuscule as compared to older stationary plants. Grass Lake does not have enough crushable stone in its glacial deposit to profitability warrant moving in a permeant crushing operation/plant. While these new portable plants are smaller, more efficient, enclosed, and designed to operate considerably quitter than aggregate processing plants of the past. If these machines could be placed closer to this area that is minable, less noise from back up alarms will be generated, and less fuel will be consumed.

On another note, in section 2.7 b ii landscaping berms, it states berms shall Not exceed One foot of vertical rise for each four feet of horizontal run. feel this is inadequate, due to the fact this makes it too easy for a trespasser to walk or even drive over this berm. That is one reason why the slope of the berms should be eliminated.

My last point is, in Section 2.5d access/road maintenance agreement, it states the planning commission must approve all haul routes for any vehicle carrying extracted material. The Jackson County Department of Transportation does not enforce this because all Roads in Jackson County are designed for the purpose of commerce traffic in addition to the extra federal and state licensing and use fees paid to operate commercial vehicles on these public roads. In addition, a gravel train pay's up to \$1,900 for a year registration fee in the state of Michigan. If these roads are restricted from commerce traffic, if is possible the township could loss federal and state funding on these roads.

Thank you for time. I would be pleased to answer any questions the chairman or committee members have currently.