

GARDEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
~~MEETING MINUTES~~
PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 24, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Chairperson Frank Williams.

Members Present: Jodi Durance, Frank Williams, Tom Lang and Janet Daasch

Members Absent: Tracy Waeghe

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Planning commission members and Public attending.

In changes to the Agenda, Frank added Joe Maki to go over the code of conduct and procedures for the Public Hearing on the request for zoning changes.

There was no public comment on the agenda.

Joe Maki introduced himself as the Garden Township Zoning Administrator and explained the procedures for the public hearing for rezoning. The two individuals for the zoning change each spoke for three minutes (Richard Bartos and Mike Thomas) and two individuals against the rezoning spoke for three minutes (Kay Cousineau and the attorney Russell Lewis for Mr. Todd). The Planning Commission discussed the issue and a motion was made by Frank Williams to deny the change in zoning from Commercial-1 to Residential-3. Tom Lang seconded the motion. The two adjoining parcels would lose their class A nonconforming use which allowed both commercial and residential on their parcels. The motion passed. It was suggested that the township attorney be contacted to look into mixed zoning for the three parcels.

The hearing closed and the commission continued their special meeting. Janet made the motion to accept the October 6 minutes and Tom Lang seconded. The motion passed. The commission discussed the solar ordinance with the changes made at the last meeting and accepted the changes. Tom wanted the commission to review the Escanaba township's solar Ordinance and compare to our draft and bring any desired changes to the next special meeting on Nov. 3.

Jodi Durance made a motion to ratify the Planning Commission's August 9, 2022 Recommendation to adopt Interim Zoning Ordinance Amendment to the Township Board. Janet seconded it and Tom abstained as he was not on the commission at the time. Motion passed.

Frank made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Tom seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes submitted by Janet Daasch in absence of secretary.