

Milton Township
Planning Commission
Approved Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2010

Members present: Stilson, Lockett, Cole, Kopkau, Hefferan, Kingon, and Merillat.

Also present: Weinzapfel and three audience members.

Stilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of past minutes dated October 12, 2010:

Motion by Kingon to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Lockett. Motion carried.

Meetings and Announcements:

December 6th meeting in Charlevoix for Planning for the New Economy by the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments.

ZBA Update:

Lockett said ZBA is scheduled to have a meeting on Thursday.

Hefferan asked if the Planning Commission should consider setting meetings every other month, rather than monthly. Weinzapfel said there is a lot going on right now and it might not be conducive to that.

Agenda adjustment:

Remove #1 - Ordinance Review.

Motion to approve agenda as amended by Lockett. Seconded by Kingon. Motion carried.

Point of Sale Septic

As presented by Kingon. Kingon discussed three meetings with Health Department members in Charlevoix. At first, they were reluctant. During the second meeting, there was more cooperation and support. At the third meeting, during a work session, there was a lot of productive work. In addition to testing septic systems, they suggest testing wells or water systems. In the past, they did assessments for mortgage lenders. In terms of the burden for the home owner, the price was around \$268 and they feel this is reasonable. That price included the well inspection. Definitions were agreed upon from their code book. A new change is that if systems are 10 years old or older, they should be inspected, rather than 20 years. If a system was inspected under this ordinance in the last five years, it would be exempt. If a system has been pumped in the last five years, it would not have to be pumped as a part of the inspection. Lockett asked if there was any consideration for year round or part time use. Kingon said if someone misuses a system, it will fail, regardless. Kingon said health department would take over the certification of systems and inspectors. Lockett asked regarding the timelines. How would that be enforced? Health department would be responsible for the enforcement. What is the mechanism for making sure

they are inspected? Kingon said once we educate the public, it should become common practice.

Termaat said they would like the ordinance to have a complaint based system. Kingon said the Health Department already does this.

Termaat said he would like to see the ordinance make sure that all waste is treated rather than land disposal. Kingon said he would check on costs for this.

Kingon said next steps would be to report back to the township as the township was the one which initiated the informational search. Kingon said they are getting closer to this.

Cole discussed timelines and going from 20 years to 10 years.

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Merillat
Secretary