

Pine Grove Township

Planning Commission

Regular Meeting

26520 CR 388, Gobles, MI 49055

June 15, 2020 7:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Kehoe
2. **Roll Call: Present:** Kehoe, Hill, Marculis, D, Brown, Marculis, K, Yaple
Absent: Richardson

Others Present: Tim Smith, Ordinance Enforcement Officer

Chair Kehoe welcomed new Planning Commission member Katie Marculis who was appointed by the Board and at this time has replaced Connie Miller who has resigned her position on the Planning Commission after many years of service.

3. **Approval of Agenda:** *Motion made by Brown, supported by Hill, to approve the Agenda with item #3 under New Business tabled until the next meeting July 20, 2020. All yes, motion carried.*
4. **Approval of Minutes:** *Motion made by Brown, supported by Yaple to approve the Minutes of the Meeting for January 20, 2020 with the correction of #3 Approval of Agenda: support was made by Richardson, not Yaple. All yes, motion carried.*
5. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Tim Smith stated that he found three separate areas in Pine Grove where person(s) are living in sheds or travel/camper trailers. One has a house on it and in the backyard, there is a gentleman living in the travel/camper trailer for approx. 3 weeks. Tim was advised that in the ordinance there is a time frame that a travel camper can be used at a home believed to be 3 months **After checking, Section 9.20, C. Recreational Vehicles: a permit may be secured from the Zoning Administrator for the occupancy of a recreational vehicle located on the site of a permanent residence by guests or relatives of the occupant of the permanent residence for a period not to exceed 30 continuous days in a calendar year...** Another one is where a property was split three years ago. One side of the split there is no running water and the residents are using an outhouse at a public access. There is a small building there that doesn't have an occupancy permit and the other side has a house on it. Another one is where a person is living in a shed. Tim was asked what his purpose of bringing this to the PC is, for information or direction. Tim stated that he was hired for Blight ordinance enforcement only and believes that Bear Priest, KABA would be handling this type of violations, however, he has not been able to get Bear Priest to return any phone calls. Tim was advised that the PC has no enforcement authority as well. Tim was advised that he and Jesse Richardson should contact the Board, Bear Priest and perhaps the attorney's office for direction.
6. **New Business:**
 1. **Election of Officers:**
 - A. **Chair:** Marculis, D nominated **Jim Kehoe**, supported by Hill. No other nominations were made.
Roll Call: Hill – yes, Marculis, D – yes, Brown – yes, Yaple – yes, Marculis, K. – yes.

Vice-Chair: Brown nominated **Ed Hill**, supported by Kehoe. No other nominations were made.
Roll Call: Yaple – yes, Marculis, K – yes, Kehoe – yes, Marculis, D – yes, Brown – yes.

Secretary: Kehoe nominated **Deb Marculis**, supported by Yaple. No other nominations were made.
Roll Call: Brown – yes, Yaple – yes, Marculis, K – yes, Kehoe – yes, Hill – yes.
 2. **Ordinance #37 Anti-Blight:** Original Ordinance was effective 02-22-1987. Ordinance #90, adopted 09-13-2012 amended #37 and pertains to outdoor burning. Ordinance 94 was adopted 12-10-2015 amending #37 and pertains to making violations punishable as municipal civil infractions. Tim Smith stated that he believes that the Blight Ordinance is not specific enough for good enforcement in some areas. There also does not

seem to be anything in the Ordinances that covers year-round yard sales, i.e.: Arnie DeMann. Marculis, D stated that he was given a Special Use Permit a few years ago for small automotive repair at 20655 M-40. If he is running anything else that perhaps the Special Use Permit can be revoked. Marculis,D pulled the file and has made copies for PC members and Chair Jim Kehoe will contact Rebecca Harvey to see what direction the PC should take to revoke a Special Use Permit for Arnie DeMann. In regards to the Blight Ordinance, Tim was asked for him and Jesse to get together and develop the changes that they would like to see in the Blight Ordinance for the next meeting July 20, 2020 and Rebecca Harvey will be here to give her advice and expertise for this ordinance.

7. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None
8. **Old Business:** Marculis will give the Clerk the Revised Planning Commission By-Laws and make sure everyone gets a copy. Hill and Kehoe were able to attend training prior to the Covid -19 lockdown.
9. **Commission Member Comments:** Yaple asked if it would be beneficial if the Planning Commission got copies of the issues that the Zoning Board of Appeals deal. Chair Kehoe stated that he would speak with Supervisor Scott Hess to see if the Planning Commission could get this information. **NOTE: The Minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals in in a Binder in the Clerks Office and is available to anyone who would like to read them. They are in a blue binder labeled Pine Grove Twp. Zoning Board of Appeals 2019 – Present. There is a white binder labeled 2003-2018 as well.**
10. **Adjournment:** *Motion made by Marculis, D., supported by Brown to adjourn. All yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.*

Next Meeting(s): For 2020: Regular Meetings: July 20, 2020 Oct 19, 2020

Respectfully,

Deborah Marculis

Deborah Marculis

Secretary, Pine Grove Twp. Planning Commission