

Vassar Township Planning Commission Meeting Minutes (draft)

Vassar Township Hall

January 12, 2017

Call to order 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Kendall Woodruff

Roll Call:

Present: Erica Aymer, Orv Hartung, Dan Zuzula, Bill Gray, Bob Reil, Kendall Woodruff

Excused: Fred Welsh

December 15, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes – Bill Gray moved to accept minutes, seconded by Orv Hartung. Motion Carried

Reports

Trustee Reports by Bill Gray from Vassar Township Board Meetings

December 13, 2016

- Resolution 28-2016 approved
- Motion passed to absorb cost of Brown Rd fire run on August 13, 2016
- Motion passed to purchase GIS software
- Resolution passed to approve paying Parks and Recreation Committee
- Motion passed to approve Board of Review members and alternates
- Motion passed to post in newspapers looking for Township Attorney
- Parks and Recreation Committee Members and terms outlined
- Supervisor requested Secretary seek bids for surveying east line of Township Park

January 10, 2017

- Resolution passed for structure replacements totaling \$5,000.00

- Zoning Board of appeals members, alternatives, and terms outlined
- Resolution passed to set Board of Review meeting dates
- Resolution passed to adopt 2017 Federal Poverty Guidelines and Asset Test.
- Special Township Board Meeting to be held January 21, 2017 at 9am to discuss Parks and Recreation Grant, digital sign, and new office space options

Parks and Recreation Report – No Report from Don Clinesmith

Cass River Greenway Report – presented by Russ Fall

-Russ Fall attended Subcommittee Meeting of the Cass River Greenway January 5th, 2017, its purpose was the mapping of water trail systems through the national park service for Cass River section from M-46 to Bridgeport. It will involve all site requirement stipulations, launch site layouts, and amenities. Expected preliminary launch sites in City of Vassar, Vassar Township, Tuscola, 2 in Frankenmuth, 2 in Bridgeport. Detailed lists to include layouts, miles, and estimated travel time.

-Next Cass River Greenway Meeting – February 8, 2017 at Vassar City Hall

Old Business

-Kendall Woodruff referenced House Bill 4209

“AN ACT to license and regulate medical marihuana growers, processors, provisioning centers, secure transporters, and safety compliance facilities; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and entities; to create a medical marihuana licensing board; to provide for interaction with the statewide monitoring system for commercial marihuana transactions; to create an advisory panel; to provide immunity from prosecution for marihuana-related offenses for persons engaging in marihuana-related activities in compliance with this act; to prescribe civil fines and sanctions and provide remedies; to provide for forfeiture of contraband; to provide for

taxes, fees, and assessments; and to require the promulgation of rules.”

(<http://komornlaw.com/michigan-medical-marihuana-enrolled-house-bill-no-4209/>)

-Orv Hartung asks “Where’s the incentive for backyard pen growers to seek a permit?”

-Russ Fall asks “Can the Township legally identify the locations of backyard pend growers?” “If backyard pens sell to a dispensary are they then considered a business?”

-Current Zoning Ordinance involving Medical Marijuana in Vassar Township, Article 5, Section 5.01 Principle uses permitted, letter H pg8

Medical marijuana caregivers, subject to the following:

1. Any medical marijuana caregiver shall be in continual compliance with all state laws pertaining to the growing, possession, use or distribution, of medical marijuana.
2. Medical marijuana caregivers shall only be allowed to operate within single family dwellings where they reside. No medical marijuana caregiver shall be allowed to operate in any office building, commercial building, industrial building, apartment building or residential apartment.
3. No more than one (1) caregiver shall operate out of any single location. In no event shall more than one caregiver conduct operations on a single parcel of land.
4. Any medical marijuana dispensary shall be at least one thousand (1,000) feet from any school property line or from any church, library, or licensed day-care center.

-Topic of a Craft Beer Facility was brought up, discussion mentions Vassar Township has 2 liquor licenses held by One Stop Party Store on M-15 towards Millington and Colosky’s Market on M-38 towards Mayville.

New Ordinance Discussion

-Kendall Woodruff references Pg 5. Article 3, Section 3.02 Zoning Permits

-Ben Partridge brings attention to Pg 14. Article 8

-Planning Commission Board will continue exploring new wording to clarify existing Ordinances.

- Suggestion Made: Vassar Township be notified when business ownership changes hands
- Don Clinesmith mentions home based businesses that do not seek permits. The Township only discovers these businesses after personal complaints are made.
- Continue researching proper enforcement practices.

New Business

- Vikki Sherry did not attend meeting as expected.
- New Zoning Administrator and Township Attorney will be appointed February 14, 2017
- Don Clinesmith asks if any changes have been made to signage ordinances
 - See Zoning Ordinance Article 12, Section 12.06, pg22
- Schedule Special Meeting: Vikki Sherry & Training
 - January 26, 2017 at 7pm at Vassar Township Hall

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Bob Reil motioned to adjourn, seconded by Bill Gray

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

Next Meeting February 9, 2017 at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted

Erica Aymer

Acting Secretary in excused absence of Fred Welsh