

**Pennfield Charter Township**

**Planning Commission Meeting**

**Minutes of January 7, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by Recording Secretary Sandra Cummings at 6:33 pm at the Pennfield Middle School cafeteria. Members present were Paul Anderson, Jon Bartlett, Elaine Walter, Jack Pooler, Curtis Whitaker, Tammi Damerow and Brad Messenger. A quorum was met. The members Brad Messenger, Paul Anderson, Tammi Damerow and Jon Bartlett were sworn in by Clerk Kathy Case prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Others present: Supervisor Rob Behnke; Deputy Supervisor Barbara Darlington, Recording Secretary Sandra Cummings and two residents.

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2013.**

**a) Chairperson:**

Nominations were made for the position of Chairperson of the Planning Commission. Both Paul Anderson and Jon Bartlett were nominated to the position. Voice vote follows:

Vote for Paul Anderson for Chairperson:

Paul Anderson	yes	Jon Bartlett	no
---------------	-----	--------------	----

Brad Messenger	yes	Curtis Whitaker	no
----------------	-----	-----------------	----

Jack Pooler	no	Tammi Damerow	no
-------------	----	---------------	----

Elaine Walter	yes		
---------------	-----	--	--

Vote for Jon Bartlett for Chairperson:

Paul Anderson	no	Jon Bartlett	yes
---------------	----	--------------	-----

Brad Messenger	no	Curtis Whitaker	yes
----------------	----	-----------------	-----

Jack Pooler                      yes

Tammi Damerow                      yes

Elaine Walter                      no

Jon Bartlett was elected Chairperson by majority vote.

**b) Vice-Chairperson:**

Paul Anderson was nominated to the position of Vice-Chairperson. Voice vote to elect Paul Anderson was unanimous. Paul Anderson will be the Vice-Chairperson for 2013.

**c) Secretary:**

Brad Messenger was nominated to the position of Secretary. Voice vote to elect Brad Messenger was unanimous. Brad Messenger will be the Secretary for 2013.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Paul Anderson made a motion to add section (b) to #9 New Business, to address Charity Boxes. Brad Messenger seconded the motion. The motion carried to add 9(b) Charity Boxes to the Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2012**

Brad Messenger made a motion, seconded by Curtis Whitaker to approve the Minutes of October 1, 2012. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was addressed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a) General Discussion/Updates and Goals for 2013**

Supervisor Behnke covered various items of discussion with the Board members. He stated that the township is submitting requests for grant money in conjunction with the Calhoun County Land Bank for demolition costs for eight houses on the Pennfield Dangerous Building list. Also, a proposal was submitted to the Firekeepers Casino for unallocated funds to be used to purchase emergency sirens throughout the community.

Supervisor Behnke indicated that several Ordinances will be addressed at the January 8, 2013 Board Meeting. These will include the Fireworks Ordinance, the Pawn Shop Ordinance, and the Super Drunk Ordinance. Also, the township will be looking at a Rental Property Ordinance in the future.

One important goal will be the completion of the Township Master Plan. The township Planner Russ Wicklund has indicated that it is nearly done. The Board members discussed a few other items of interest. Paul Anderson mentioned the unfortunate closing of the Community Recreation Center located in the Pennfield High School. Jon Bartlett would like updated manuals, and is pleased that the Code of Ordinances and Zoning manuals will be accessible on our website. Curtis Whitaker is pleased with the township website also, and feels that it will draw more interest to the township from younger residents, as it is widely used by the younger generation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **b) Charity Boxes**

Paul Anderson prepared a handout regarding the recent appearance of many Charity Boxes throughout the township. He feels that they should be classified as a Billboard and regulated as such. The Board discussed several issues related to these boxes, including the abuse of them and zoning violations related to their placement. Mr. Behnke indicated that this issue will need to be presented to the township attorney.

## **EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

## **COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS**

Jack Pooler asked if Convis Township has erected the 300 foot test Wind Turbine yet. Brad Messenger and Jon Bartlett welcomed new member Tammi Damerow. Curtis Whitaker commented that he is pleased to have two ladies on the commission.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2013.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Brad Messenger made a motion to adjourn at 7:42 pm, seconded by Paul Anderson. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Sandra Cummings

Recording Secretary