PAW PAW TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 28, 2015

Chairman Peat called the Paw Paw Township Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. on May 28, 2015 at the Township Hall.

PRESENT: Randall Peat, Donald Stull, Kip Kerby, Bill Johnson, Phillip Arbanas, Ivan Olsen, and James Tapper

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: John Lohrstorfer (Township Attorney), Bert Gale (Zoning Administrator), Linda Jordan (Township Clerk), Kevin Christensen, Mike Christensen, Rebecca Harvey, and Kelly Largent (Zoning Administrator)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion by Olsen, supported by Kerby to approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 26, 2015: Motion by Arbanas, supported by Stull to approve the March 26, 2015 minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Board introduced themselves to all present. Linda Jordan and Rebecca Harvey introduced themselves.

Kevin Christensen introduced himself. Mr. Christensen addressed the Board about placing a brewery production facility at his residence located at 71691 42nd St. This parcel is located in the AGR- Agricultural (Farmland Preservation) Zoning District. Mr. Christensen explained what the use of the existing pole building would be.

Chairman Peat stated Mr. Christensen would need to work with Associated Government Services for submitting the necessary applications and that he was open to any special use that is good for
the area. Mr. Lohrstorfer stated the Planning Commission would need to look for a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to begin the process since the use Mr. Christensen is proposing is not currently allowed in the zoning district where the parcel is located.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Peat provided copies of the contract submitted by Rebecca Harvey to the Board members for review. A copy was also provided to Mr. Lohrstorfer, Township Attorney. The Board discussed several items listed in the contract and asked questions. Ms. Harvey responded to the Board questions. Motion by Kerby, supported by Tapper to approve the contract submitted by Rebecca Harvey. The motion was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The issue of needing a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for the Micro-Brewery Production Facility was discussed by the Board. Mr. Lohrstorfer stated that the public notice could be published while work on the text amendment proceeded. The Board asked Ms. Harvey if amendments to Zoning Ordinances were part of the services listed in the previously approved contract. Ms. Harvey stated that the submitted contract was strictly for services dealing with the Master Plan update. However, she does offer such services and would be willing to amend the contract to provide other services to the Township.

Mr. Stull was asked when the Township Board’s next meeting was. He stated it was in 2 weeks.

Motion by Olsen, supported by Kerby to have Mr. Stull present the Planning Commission’s request to employ Rebecca Harvey for other items beyond the scope of the Master Plan commitment, as deemed necessary and to include the entailed financial responsibility at the June 11, 2015 Township Board meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Lohrstorfer stated he will start working on the text amendment and, subject to the Township Board approval, Ms. Harvey can join in at a later date with the text amendment.

Motion by Kerby, supported by Tapper directing Mr. Lohrstorfer to create the notice for the text amendment for a Micro-Brewery Facility special use permit in the AGR- Agricultural (Farmland Preservation) Zoning District. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next meeting June 25, 2015. This will be the kick off meeting for the master plan. The text amendment for a Micro-Brewery Facility as a special use permit public hearing will also be on the agenda.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Arbanas, supported by Kerby to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 pm. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Largent
Zoning Administrator