

Mikado Township Planning Commission Meeting

September 28, 2022

Present: Lary Holland, Carrie Mullins, Steve Sanderson, James Ostby

Absent: Ken Griffin

Quorum Present

Guest: Ordinance Enforcement Officer, Regina Waszkiewicz

Call to Order: 6:02 PM

Pledge

Public Comment: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

- 1) Zoning admin update: Regina contacted Rick Deuell (formerly of NEMCOG, now an outside contractor) in regards to the Master Plan and got an estimate of a little under \$7,000. NEMCOG is more expensive.
- 2) Solar Farms: The energy companies are hunting for land to build on. People in Gustin are already signing contracts. Lary Holland brought a Solar Energy Facilities ordinance from Kochville, MI that he found online. The commission thought this was a great starting point. **Motion** to take a rough draft to the Board made by Carrie Mullins, seconded by James Ostby, motion passes. Carrie will bring a copy of the first draft of the ordinance to the Board at the October 10 meeting.
- 3) Update the Wind Turbine Ordinance: Perhaps we should have a separate ordinance for Alternative Energy. **Motion:** When working on the Zoning Ordinance we should consider the potential for one ordinance dedicated to Alternative Energy. Made by Carrie Mullins, seconded by James Ostby, motion passes.
- 4) Changes to the Zoning Ordinance: Regina is integral to this process. As the Ordinance Enforcement Officer she is tasked with implementing these ordinances. The current zoning ordinance does not encompass the qualities of Mikado Township. Denise Cline was contacted as she helped us in the past and is currently working on Hawes and Caledonia. Denise Cline did an estimate of about \$17,000 for an entire rework. We are looking to make the Zoning Ordinance less restrictive and easier to enforce.

Topics of Discussion:

- It's recommended that we start an email thread.
Lary Holland laryholland@icloud.com
Carrie Mullins mikado.twp@gmail.com
Steve Sanderson ssanderson@kalittaair.com
James Ostby 23ostby23@gmail.com
Ken Griffin ken48745@gmail.com
Cc to Regina Waszkiewicz mikadotwpzoning@gmail.com
- We should have 2 work sessions prior to the December 7th (possible change) Planning Commission meeting, one in October and one in November.
- Key words as we move forward: Research, Downsize, Compare, Uniformity with surrounding townships; Public Interest, Health and Safety, Equal Application of the Law (civil infraction versus misdemeanor), Enforceable; Land Use, Rural, Agricultural, Commercial, Blight, Property Rights, Animal Welfare, Recreation

Adjournment: 7:12 PM (**Motion** by Carrie Mullins, seconded by James Ostby, motion passes.)

Next Meeting: December 7, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Mikado Civic Center

- **Workshop: October TBD**
- **Workshop: November TBD**