

VALLEY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY May 22, 2012

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Garofalo.

Roll Call:

Members present: Brandee Ellis, Harry Smith, Carol Browne, Fred Lewis, Tony Garofalo
Zoning Administrator, Paul Shamblin was absent

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Harry Smith made a motion to approve the minutes supported by Fred Lewis. The April 24, 2012 Planning Commission minutes were approved as read.

Approval of Agenda: Brandee Ellis made a motion supported by Fred Lewis to approve the Agenda of May 22, 2012. Agenda was approved.

Old Business:

A. Wireless Communication Structures and Facilities

Chair Garofalo informed the Commission that an opinion had been obtained from the Township attorney that in the case of wireless communication a franchise fee is not legal because the service travels through the air (not the ground). Therefore, the ordinance stands approved as voted upon in April and will go before the Township Board in June for their review.

B. Ordinance on the Use of Solar Panels

A revised draft of the ordinance was reviewed by the Commission. Two editorial corrections were made to page 4. There was a public comment from Melody Dobbins suggesting that there should not be any restriction on the placement of roof panels. A public hearing on the ordinance will take place at the June Commission meeting. Clerk Ellis will publish an announcement to that effect.

New Business:

None

Zoning Administrator Report

None

Open Discussion on Non-Agenda items

Chair Garofalo informed the Commission about Bill HB1064 that deals with adding satellites to already existing towers. He also informed the Commission about the state of Michigan's efforts to drill oil wells on State Forest land. He will keep the Commission apprised on this topic.

Adjournment

Harry Smith made a motion to adjourn supported by Fred Lewis. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Browne, Secretary

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