

SALEM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes, February 2, 2023

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance – 7 pm

**Roll Call of Members – Present – Coupe, Striegle, Pitsch, Oosterink (chairperson), Berens, Wagner
Absent with notice – Myers**

Recognition of Visitors – none

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes – Motion by Pitsch, Second by Berens – Motion carried.

Comments from the Public – none

Approval of the Agenda for the Meeting – Motion by Coupe, Second by Wagner – Motion carried.

Inquiry of Conflict of Interest – None noted

New Business

Reminder: Workshop for PC/ZBA on February 16, 6 – 9 pm at Township Hall. Berens unable to attend.

Old Business

Solar Energy Ordinance – discussion toward update. Study packets compiled by Jason (PCI) were picked up by members from Township Hall as well as MSU Extension publication “Planning and Zoning for Solar Energy System”. Members began by listing concerns to address, including unsightliness, size of parcels, setbacks, loss of farmland/habitat, and parcel coverage limits.

Members covered purpose and definitions with consensus and began discussion of minimum and maximum parcel sizes for private systems. Members were directed to give this thought before next meeting in order to continue discussion and move forward.

Areas of concern to address in Master Plan update – no new areas noted.

Correspondence received – In reference to TKN Farms (mineral extraction SUP) a letter was received by Township Supervisor from neighbor regarding lack of communication for sound test on soil screener and hoping that stone crusher has not nor will not be approved.

Reports and Comments

Township Board – by Striegle – Appointments to ZBA, PC, and Tax Review Board were approved. Application of gravel on drive to transfer station was approved. Roadwork and dust control for 2023 was approved.

PCI = issues and concerns – Control question regarding utilities was clarified, that they are basically exempt from PC review as essential services.

Other/Roundtable

Berens had question regarding screening a house next to private road. Oosterink as if house next to Fantasy twirl which was moved, had satisfied all inspections and permits.

NEXT MEETING – MARCH 2, 2023

Adjournment – Motion by Wagner, Second by Berens to adjourn. Motion carried. 8:51 pm.