

These are the minutes of the September 20, 2007 Planning Commission meeting.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Shields.

Present: Shields, Parmelee, Myers, Heasley, Oosterink, Blakeslee and Berens. Bob Jones and Mark Sisson were also present.

New Member: Welcome Boyd Berens. Coffey stepped down and is now on the ZBA.

Absent: None

Oosterink made a motion to approve the August 16, 2007 minutes as presented, Myers seconded, motion carried.

Public comment: none

Conflict of interest: none

Special Use Permit request - Jeff Lenhart for a corn maze/pumpkin patch/haunted woods on property at 4516 24th St., Dorr, MI, property zoned A-1, section 5A.03 (A and C) of the zoning ordinance.

Jeff presented an overall view of the project. He has had the fire department/emergency vehicles review the area and it is satisfactory with them. Small animals/petting zoo has been vet checked. He carries liability insurance.

Public Comment:

Jim Pitsch: Ag tourism will bring people in to the township. This will benefit the community.

Steve Zacker: doesn't see traffic as an issue.

Diane Jones: good idea, something around here for kids to do, closer to home.

PC:

Berens: benefits the community

Blakeslee: great idea

Oosterink: great for community, require liability insurance

Myers: fine idea

Parmelee: great idea, require liability insurance

Heasley: great idea, nice layout.

Oosterink made a motion to approve the permit with the following conditions:

1. Liability insurance required
2. Farm related service
3. Special Use Permit to operate August 1 - November 15 of each year
4. Annual review beginning in May 2008

Myers seconded, motion carried.

Smith sand mine bids:

Bob Jones received letter from the Brenner family. They still want the mine closed and do not want gravel taken out of driveway.

Bids received:

Arnsman dated 9/17/07

Weick Bros. Dated 9/20/07

Steve's Excavating dated 9/20/07

Oetman Excavating dated 9/20/07

Shields, Parmelee, Jones & Berens will meet on September 25, 2007 to review the bids.

Demaray/Miller Preliminary Site Plan:

Jeff Brinks of DCI Engineering, P.C. presented an overall review of the proposed site plan for land located on the corner of 26th & 142nd zoned I-1 and C-1. These are larger lots to accommodate expanding businesses. It encourages limited drives. Possibly move drive off 142nd to 26th for lots 5 & 6. Rear easement for emergency vehicles discussed. Not sure if this will fall under land division or site condo plan yet. If it is defined as site condo and the plan is substantially the same, this meeting serves as a preliminary site plan review.

Other:

Mark Sisson handed out the PC ordinance drafts to review before the next meeting:

Street Access Standards

C-1 General Business District
I-1 Industrial District
Landscaping Draft

Inasmuch as Coffey has stepped down from the PC a Vice-Chairman needs to be appointed. Heasley made a motion to appoint Myers, Blakeslee seconded, motion carried. Congratulations John.

Oosterink motion to adjourn, Parmelee seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

Cris Heasley, Secretary
Salem Township Planning Commission