

MINUTES OF THE SPARTA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Regular Meeting of July 14, 2020, 7 PM
Sparta Civic Center, 75 N. Union St., Sparta MI
& Virtual Via Zoom Media

Present: Chairperson Terry Hartman; Township Clerk Marcy Savage;
Commissioners Linda Anderson, Don Doyle, Tim Driscoll, Ken Humphreys,
and Mark VanderWerff

Also Present: Township Supervisor Dale Bergman; Associate Planner Emma M. Posillico, AICP,
of Fresh Coast Planning; IT Host Ken Shangle; and Recording Secretary Toni Potes

I. / II. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Hartman called the meeting to order at
7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Additions or Corrections to Agenda: None.

IV. Minutes of June 23, 2020, Special Meeting: Motion by Doyle, second by VanderWerff, to
approve the Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Public Comment: The public may participate in the meeting through Zoom access by computer
using the link <https://zoom.us/j/3220076269?pwd=YTJpeERmZzh0bm9JcG9jb2Z5aU1JZz09> Meeting
ID: 322 007 6269 Password: OT4RgN: No public comment.

VI. Business Items

A. Old Business:

1. Proposed revisions to Section 8.13 (Migrant Farm Labor Housing): Associate
Planner Posillico will check with Attorney Cliff Bloom on 'mobile homes'. Motion by
VanderWerff, second by Driscoll, to proceed to public hearing at the August meeting
and to (1) change the distances in item 8.13.D. first sentence to: ". . . within 150 feet of
a property line not adjacent to a public street and must be at least 75 feet from the
public street right-of-way on which the property fronts."; and (2) the second complete
sentence is to be omitted. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Driscoll, second by
Humphreys, to change the distance in the same section, last sentence to: ". . . which is
within 150 feet." Motion carried unanimously.
2. Discussion of Planning Commission By-Laws (2015, 1995): The following suggested
changes were made: Section 2.A. adding that the commissioner be in good standing
with the Township (i.e., taxes up to date, etc.); Section 2.E. an annual election does not
take place at the present time; Section 3.D. Zoom meetings/attendance options (to be
discussed with Attorney Bloom, and Clerk Savage was asked to contact MTA regarding
technology and meeting attendance); Section 4.C. a majority of the Planning
Commission membership is required to pass a motion, not a majority present;

Section 8. an annual report is not produced at the present time. Attorney Bloom will be asked to attend the August Planning Commission meeting to explain the additions. Associate Planner Posillico will email the two sets of By-Laws to VanderWerff.

B. New Business: None.

VII. Public Comment: None.

VIII. Adjournment: Motion by Driscoll, second by VanderWerff, to adjourn at 7:51 PM. Motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting of the Sparta Township Planning Commission will be Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
—Toni Potes, Recording Secretary