

Minutes of the Sparta Township Planning Commission  
Regular Meeting of February 9, 2021  
Conducted via Zoom Media

Present: Chairperson Terry Hartman, Commissioners Linda Anderson , Don Doyle, Tim Driscoll, Ken Humphreys, Barb Johnson and Mark VanderWerff.

Also Present: Township Supervisor Dale Bergman, Clerk Marcy Savage, Attorney Bloom, Planner Lindsay Mohr of Fresh Coast Planning, and IT Specialist Ken Shangle, Recording Secretary Jan Redding

**I./II. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairperson Hartman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**III. Additions or Corrections to Agenda:** None

**IV. Minutes of January 12, 2021 Regular Meeting:** motion by Johnson to approve minutes as presented. Support by Anderson. Motion carries with unanimous roll call vote. .

**V. Public Comment:** None

**VI. Business Items**

**Public Hearing-none**

**New Business-none**

**Old Business**

**1. Proposed Text Amendments to Zoning Ordinance Sections 2.2 and 8.13**

Amendments to regulations of Migrant Farm Labor Housing were discussed. Motion by Johnson to recommend approval of the draft by the Township Board. Two drafts had been presented and it was the alternative number two that was chosen for recommendation. That version is less restrictive in regards to where the farm laborers live. Support by Doyle. Motion carries unanimously. Supervisor Bergman stated the Township Board would plan to review the recommendation at their March 11 meeting.

**2. Discussion of Article 11 and 12**

Regulations related to Planned Unit Developments and Open Space Planned Unit Developments were discussed. Standards used in neighboring communities were reviewed. Commissioners concluded that changes to the minimum lot size, setbacks and the requirements for open space should be amended to require larger lots, increased setbacks and standards for land to be designated as Open Space. Attorney Bloom and Planner Mohr will draft amendments for review at the next meeting.

Attorney Bloom updated the Commissioners on a lawsuit that has been filed in connection with the Hidden Prairie Development and potential referendum.

**Public Comment**

Supervisor Bergman discussed current rules regarding in person meetings. It is expected at this time that the March 9 Planning Commission meeting will be held virtually.

**VII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Redding, Recording Secretary