

**ALAMO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Held at the
Alamo Township Hall
April 1, 2014

Present: Belden Smith, Newt Covault, Dick Bennett, Pauline Keiser, David Veenstra, Michael Lisak, and Dawn Potter-Williams.

Others present: Kevin Cardiff as consultant and 4 residents

Meeting Call to Order: Chair Covault called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call of Commissioners: Belden Smith - present, Newt Covault - present, Dick Bennett - present, Pauline Keiser – present, Michael Lisak – present, David Veenstra – came late, and Dawn Potter-Williams – present.

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** to approve the minutes of March 4, 2014 as written, by Member Bennett and supported by Member Smith. Carried.

Budget Update: Chair Covault presented to Trustee Board as \$26,600 for 2014-2015. Included increases in expenses for site plans, ordinance changes and attorney fees.

Land Use Plan: Attorney has inquired which update we were doing: review or amending. Member Potter-Williams will contact attorney as to the least expensive and quickest way.

Zoning Changes Discussion: Kevin Cardiff reviewed with the Planning Commission the changes/additions and clarifications made. In the future the Planning Commission should look at R-3 and commercial for houses in the zones and the non-conforming use.

Resident requested definition of “park”. Discussion on “park” took place. Resident was reminded that attorney provided a definition July 18, 2013. Kevin Cardiff was given a copy.

Chair Covault will give changes to Trustee Board in May for further direction. Planning Commission will review updated changes at May meeting.

Citizen Comment: Resident inquired why someone could not live in a basement while they were building their house. Discussion of safety and not a thing of the times took place.

Commissioner Comment: Member Smith stated there is a meeting of the committee reviewing roads for recommendation of repairs on Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

Chair Covault brought the article “*Outside the Classroom, Into Real Research*”, in the *Otsego Public Schools Connection*, March addition, to the attention of the Planning Commission. The article was of the classes at the Kalamazoo Nature Center that the Otsego students, Willow Hassel and Ryan Jubenville, attend. In the future more than two (2) students from Otsego will have the opportunity to attend.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Member Smith and supported by Member Veenstra. Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Dawn Potter-Williams, Secretary