

JIM KIPPOLA, Chairman
JACKIE KOSKI, Commissioner

JEANNIE CARLISLE, Vice Chairman

JOSEPH O. WASIE, Secretary
DAN ETELAMAKI, Commissioner

Humboldt Township Planning Commission

Phone 906-339-2927 Fax 906-339-4431

Regular Meeting
Monday, April 25, 2016 – 7:00 PM
Humboldt Township Hall

Chairman Kippola called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Kippola, Dan Etelamaki, Jackie Koski
MEMBERS ABSENT: Joseph Wasie, Jeannie Carlisle
STAFF PRESENT: Howard Robare, Zoning Administrator; Jackie Solomon, Recording Secretary;
Thomas Prophet, Supervisor
STAFF ABSENT: None
PUBLIC PRESENT: Lowell Hintsala, Greg Hintsala, Jim Brennan, Fred Nannestad, Tom St. Aubin, Bob Brandt

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion: To approve the agenda with addition of Old Business F. Humboldt/Republic Rail Agreement. Jackie Koski, Moved; Dan Etelamaki, Supported; 3 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent; Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: To approve the March 28, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as read. Jackie Koski, Moved; Dan Etelamaki, Supported; 3 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent; Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A) 4/17/2016 Memo from Supervisor, Tom Prophet to Jim Kippola
Re: Fence Ordinance
- B) Notice of Decision CUP2016-01

OLD BUSINESS:

- A) **Cemetery Records Update and Proposed Cemetery Ordinance.** We are working towards phase 2 of the cemetery records update, where the data from the field survey is included with the digital map.
- B) **Capital Improvements Programming.** Chairman Kippola and the staff are working towards creating a draft set of standards for a capital improvements program to present to the Commission.
- C) **Zoning Ordinance Review – Agricultural Production.** The Commission discussed the issues our current ordinance poses with regards to allowing minimal agricultural use in the Residential, Town Development, and Recreational Structure-1 districts.
Motion: To craft language eliminating agricultural use by right in the Residential (R), Town Development (TD) and Recreational Structure-1 (RS-1) districts.
Jackie Koski, Moved; Dan Etelamaki, Supported; 3 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent; Motion Carried.
- D) **Bylaws.**

Motion: To approve the by laws dated 4-25-2016 and send a copy to the Township Board.

Dan Etelamaki, Moved; Jackie Koski, Supported; 3 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent; Motion Carried.

- E) **Eagle Mine Tour.** The Commission is awaiting word from Eagle Mine on a date to schedule the mine tour.
- F) **Humboldt/Republic Rail Agreement.** The Commission discussed the proposed Rail Agreement and invited the public present to comment as well. It is the opinion of the Commission and the majority of public present that while they would encourage the concept, a stipulation of support would be a replacement of the trail that currently serves in the rail corridor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A) **ZA2016-01: Applicant Lowell & Greg Hintsala.** The Commission reviewed the application for the Zoning Amendment, ZA2016-01. To summarize, the applicants are requesting a re-zoning of their 40 acre property zoned TP-40 (Timber Production – 40) with the intention of splitting their property into two twenty acre parcels. The Commission scheduled the public hearing for May 23, 2016 where they will discuss rezoning of Sections 25 & 36 of T46N R29W to RP-20 (Resource Production – 20)
- B) **Fence Ordinance.** The Township Board requested the Commission create a fence ordinance, or amendment to the Zoning Ordinance with fencing regulations. The Commission discussed the potential of adding an overlay to the existing Zoning Ordinance with fencing regulations to the more densely populated zoning districts. Chairman Kippola and Zoning Administrator Robare are going to research some existing fencing regulations and report back to the Commission for further discussion.

REPORTS:

- A) **Zoning Administrator Update.** No update.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jackie Koski announced that the MCTA banquet scheduled for May 7 has been cancelled due to poor response. Dan Etelamaki has been named officer of the year of the Marquette Branch Prison.

PUBLIC COMMENT: **Fred Nennestad** suggested Chairman Kippola speak with the Republic Zoning Administrator regarding their fence ordinance as it works well.

Bob Brandt stated that the culvert allowing access to Tower Lake on trail 5 has been washed out by beavers. He suggested the Planning Commission consider selling the Tower Lake property if there are no intentions to develop the property.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To Adjourn meeting 8:43 PM

Jackie Koski, Moved; Dan Etelamaki, Supported; 3Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent; Motion Carried.

Joseph O. Wasie, Secretary