

MINUTES OF THE COOPER CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2018

A meeting of the Planning Commission of Cooper Charter Township was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at the Cooper Charter Township Hall, 1590 West D. Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Members Present: Boekhoven, Bricker, Corke, Frederick, and Reynolds.

Members Absent: Asselmeier, Crosby.

Also Present: Michael Homier of Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, attorneys for Cooper Charter Township; Russ Wicklund, Township Planning Consultant.

Acting Chairman Boekhoven called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Comm. Frederick, supported by Comm. Corke. Motion carried 5-0-2, with two members absent.

Review and Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the Minutes of the May 8, 2018, meeting of the Planning Commission was made by Comm. Bricker, supported by Comm. Corke. Motion carried 5-0-2, with two members absent.

Citizen Comments

No public comment.

Discussion of draft shooting range ordinance

Attorney Homier reviewed the proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance regarding shooting ranges. The proposed amendments include adding shooting ranges as a special exception use to the A Agricultural District, C-2 and C-3 Commercial Districts. Section 6 of the Ordinance states that nonconforming uses, lots and structures shall not be extended, added to or altered unless such extensions, alterations or additions are in conformity with the provisions of this Ordinance. However, the Planning Commission would have the authority to wave conformity with the nonconforming use, lot or structure if such extension, addition, alteration or improvement does not increase the nonconformity and does not have a negative impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

Mr. Wicklund stated that the new definition for shooting ranges differentiates between indoor and outdoor ranges. The indoor ranges are being provided for in commercial zones and the outdoor ranges are being provided in the AG zone, which is necessary because of the large tracts of land.

Comm. Corke asked whether the noise issue is being addressed tonight. Attorney Homier stated that the issues being discussed tonight are setbacks and minimum acreage, which are intended to deal with a lot of issues, including noise. The Township is trying to clarify the definitions,

determine where shooting ranges should be located in the township, determine the criteria that will apply and provide some flexibility of the planning commission to consider permits or approvals that do not increase the nonconformity so as not to have additional adverse impact on anybody.

The Planning Commission determined to take the proposed amendments under advisement and revisit the proposed amendments at a future meeting.

New Business.

Comm. Reynolds stated that the outdoor storage area behind Adams Heating and Cooling needs some type of screening or fence. They have also set up a commercial enterprise selling hot dogs from a food truck, which is not an accepted use on that property.

Comm. Reynolds also addressed the status of the Master Plan and briefly reviewed planning and zoning information he assembled for the township.

Old Business.

None.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Comm. Frederick, supported by Comm. Corke. Motion carried 5-0-2, with two members absent.

79620:00001:3804311-1