

**Ganges Township Planning Commission  
Special Meeting Minutes FINAL for August 21st, 2008  
Ganges Township Hall  
119<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 64<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fennville, MI, Allegan County**

I. Chairman **Birkes** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Roll Call:** Chairman: Jim **Birkes** – Present  
Asst Chairman: Barry **Gooding** - Present  
Secretary: Jackie **DeZwaan** – Present  
Commissioner: Sally **Howard** – Present  
Commissioner: Ed **Reimink** – Present  
Commissioner: Dawn **Soltysiak** – Present  
Board Trustee: Terry **Looman** – Present

Also present: Zoning Administrator Tasha **Smalley**

II. **General Public Comment - None**

III. **Approval of Agenda**

**Gooding** stated that Township Supervisor Hebert had discussed with him the possibility of having a 9 person Planning Commission, allowing for more participation from ~~residence~~ *residents* of Ganges Township. Add (1.) under “Other Business that may come before the Commission” for additional discussion.

**Howard** noted that she had discussed options with Brenda **Moore** (LSL Planning) and requesting the addition of LSL update to item “Zoning Ordinance Workshop” (1.).

**DeZwaan** added that she had information regarding upcoming workshops, requesting that they be added as item (1.) under VI “Future Meeting Dates”.

Motion by **Howard** to approve the agenda with additions as noted. Seconded by **Looman**. Motion unanimously approved.

IV. **Zoning Ordinance Workshop**

1. **LSL Update**

**Howard** explained that she had talked to **Moore** they discussed that the township might be better served having LSL draft a chart showing the changes that could then be distributed to township ~~residences~~, *residents*, the PC would then be present at the public hearing answering questions from the ~~residences~~ *residents*. **Smalley** added that the township could also make the document part of the information that is published in the paper with the notice for the public hearing.

**Birkes** will check with the Township Board to see how they feel about the proposed change, and **Howard** will draft a request, and have it at the next regular meeting August 26<sup>th</sup> for further discussion.

**Reimink** stated that he would rather have **Moore** present for the public hearing. **Birkes** asked **Howard** to check with **Moore** to see how much more it would cost have LSL put the document together for the public hearing in addition to **Moore’s** attendance at the public hearing.

2. **Zoning Ordinance Workshop**

While continuing to review Supervisor Hebert’s Memo regarding Zoning Ordinance Amendments dated July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the Planning Commission continued reviewing the suggested changes that had been identified and recommended by contracted Principal Planner **Moore**.

Beginning with "General Provisions" Section 3.12 Outdoor Furnaces the PC reviewed suggested changes up through Section 3.26 "Non-Commercial Wind Energy Conversion"

If time permits, the PC hopes to have time at the upcoming Regular Meeting, August 26th, 2008 allowing for continued Zoning Ordinance Review, beginning with Article 12 "Site Plan Review".

## V. Other business that may come before the Commission

### 1. Possible addition to Planning Commission

**Gooding** explained that Township Supervisor Hebert had discussed with him the possibility of adding 2 members to the PC. He requested that it be added to the agenda for the next Regular Meeting, August 26th. For additional thought, **Gooding** added that he feels there should be 2 people added to the ZBA.

## VI. Future Meeting Dates

### 1. Upcoming workshops and classes

**DeZwaan** noted that she had included in the PC's packets information regarding upcoming workshops, however the deadline for registration comes before the next meeting of the Township Board. If any of the PC would like to attend, they are asked to contact Township Clerk Cindy **Yonkers** as soon as possible if they are interested.

### 2. Future Meeting Dates

The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Ganges Township **Hall**  
The next Special Meeting is Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Ganges Township **Hall**

## VII. General Public Comment

**Reimink** asked Recording Secretary Ronda **Hall** how long she was willing to stay on now that she has submitted her resignation. **Hall** replied that she made a commitment to the PC in the past and to the Township Board in her resignation letter that she would be willing to cover meetings until a replacement was found (within reason) adding that she can cover August and September meetings if needed but that her busy time begins the beginning of April.

**Hall** further explained that there was some confusion upon her arrival to tonight's meeting, adding that evidently there was discussion at the recent Board meeting; however she had not received any notice as to the Townships acceptance of her resignation effective immediately or a request to continue until a replacement is found. Trustee **Looman** was asked to contact the Clerk as to the need for **Hall** to continue or not, and contact **Hall** once he has confirmed the intentions of the Board.

Roy **Newman** 6621 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue noted that the technology of Wind Energy is very close to fruition, and soon he understands there will be no need for permits, adding that they will soon have residential models available.

Shirley **Newman** 6621 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue asked if other communities have ordinances why not copy them for our township. It was explained that **Moore** had done many townships in and around Michigan, including neighboring Casco Township, and that she does get most of her information from other townships, but also listens to the PC and the public to add as may be needed. She added that she feels it is very important to have **Moore** at the Public Hearing.

## VIII. Adjournment

Motion by **Looman** and supported by **Howard** to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 pm. Motion carries unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Ronda J. Hall**  
Ganges Township Recording Secretary