2014 Minutes of Ellsworth Zoning Meeting September 17, 2014

On Wednesday, September 17, 2014 the Ellsworth Township Zoning Commission regular meeting began at 6:00PM at the Town Hall.

Chairman Fred Schrock opened the meeting leading with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for our service personnel.

Members present were Chairman Fred Schrock, Ishraq Hafiz, Janine Goddard, Jim Tripp and alternate Ron Niemiec who filled in for Frank Marra. Excused tonight is Frank Marra.

One (1) guest was present – Dee Tripp.

Tonight's meeting is being recorded.

Chairman Fred Schrock made an announcement that former Zoning Inspector, Rick Durkin's father-in-law passed away. Fred also noted that Frank Marra was absent and alternate Ron Niemiec is filling in for him.

August 20, 2014 minutes were read by Secretary Janine Goddard, motion to approve was made by Ron Niemiec, seconded by Jim Tripp. Motion carried.

September 03, 2014 minutes were previously read by the commission. Jim Tripp had an amendment to the minutes. Motion was made to approve the minutes with the amendments by Jim Tripp, seconded by Ron Niemiec. Motion carried.

Fred Schrock asked if anyone has heard anything from the public regarding the Land Use and Policy Plan (LUP). There have been no comments.

Janine Goddard mentioned that so far 63 people have accessed the zoning website and that Ace Hardware ran out of their copies of the LUP and more were made to replace them.

Chrystaline McArdle from Mahoning County Planning Commission met with Fred Schrock and Jim Tripp over the LUP. She said it does not conform to the other maps that are on file with Mahoning County Planning Commission. Also the planning commission would like Ellsworth to use the same format as previously on file with the County.

Fred Schrock contacted Consultant George Smerigan and George contacted the Mahoning County Planning Commission. Mahoning County Planning Commission said that we do not have go thru this process at this time. George Smerigan said our map is an aid to support our resolution.

George Smerigan said we will submit the LUP with the Zoning Resolution as agreed upon with Mike O'Shaughnessy with Mahoning County Planning Commission.

Ishraq Hafiz commented that Green Township's map is a Land Use Map, not a Land Use Plan. She said that the terms refer to future vs current and that we should let George know this regarding the terms – use/plan.

At the previous meeting we had resumed working on the Zoning Resolution and are now continuing to work on the signs in the resolution.

A comment was made that Boardman Township is still fighting over signs. Ron Niemiec said while at Worthington, their zoning was also arguing about a sign, that their township is very tough.

OLD BUSINESS

Ishraq Hafiz discussed the reply from a letter dated March 27, 2014 from Prosecuting Attorney Gain's office in regards to James McDonald's (letter dated October 24, 2012) concerns on shooting and ATV's. The township is very limited in controlling the matter.

Also Ishraq commented that we are working on updating our current zoning map.

NEW BUSINESS

Wayne Sarna was contacted by the ATF (Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms) in regards to if our zoning permits the manufacture of guns on an individual's property. It is zoned residential. Wayne said his opinion is no. Wayne has not been contacted by the owner; he just wanted the commission to be aware since there might be further contact in regards to this matter.

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Jim Tripp thought that a zone change would be required for the individual to operate a business from his house.

Jim Tripp said that he thought the individual would need a sound proof area inside his home.

Ishraq Hafiz read that under Business (B-2) it is not allowed, but it is allowed under Industrial (I).

Chairman Fred Schrock opens the meeting to questions or comments from the public. Dee Tripp said she was under the impression that the owner wanted to build a manufacturing company, not use his own home

Ron Niemiec commented that he would think that the ATF would come and check it out and make their own decision.

Motion is made to adjourn at 6:54PM by Ron Niemiec, seconded by Jim Tripp. Motion carried.

Janine Goddard Secretary