

Grant Township Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2016

Opening

The regular meeting of the Grant Township Planning Committee was called to order at 7:08 on May 19, 2016 by Chairman, Doug Berends..

Present

Doug Berends, Diana Ludlow, Tim Martis, Edith Elsenheimer, Kim Martens, Pat Collins and Jason Campbell.

Visitor

Mike Toth from Green Energy Company

Approval of Minutes

Commission members read the minutes of the April 21, 2016 meeting among themselves.

Diana Ludlow made motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Tim Martis. All were in favor and motion carried to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2016 minutes as read.

Zoning Administrator Updates

Kim Martens provided an update to the property split request for North Bound Lane off 22 Mile Rd. Currently is 2 parcels with hopes to split into 5. PC reviewed current survey for possible legal split solutions and will also need to review the private road maintenance agreement.

John Brink has requested and 80 x 80 addition request to his building.

Open Issues

1). Mike Toth provided an informative presentation on residential and commercial alternative energy including wind, solar and led lighting. PC interested in what setbacks should be for units which will largely depend on the size of the units to be installed, the lot size, location of power source, and size of clearing. One consideration brought up for setback is the possibility of a glare from panels posed to the road dependent on angle and set up. Angles are changed in spring and fall.

At this time there are many state and federal incentives for alternative energy installations. (Possible \$6300 refund of initial price). Panels are not intended for home roof installation as MI roofs are built with high snow load. They can be built for use as a carport and any large snow accumulation would easily melt and slide off. Most utility companies will only allow a maximum of a 20KW system, which consists of 81 panels, 39" x 65" each. A typical residential install is a 6KW grid system (40ft) which is 24 panels usually set up in 2 rows of 12. This size would produce approx. \$250 per month in cash revenue or supply the energy for a 2500 – 3000 sq. ft. home. Pay off / Return on investment for self-installed units is 3.9 years and 4.75 years for installed units. Units are low maintenance and come with a 25 yr. warranty. Estimated cost for this size is \$20,000 and \$14,700 after rebate. Unused energy can be sold back to electric companies. (Great Lakes, Consumers/Wolverine).

Mike did leave a price sheet for review and encouraged attendees to think about change over to LED lighting in Township building. There are many programs available right now on replacement and shared savings.

Contact information for Mike Toth is mike@thegreenenergygroup.net - 616-889-4092

Next Meeting

The next general meeting is undetermined at this time.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 by Doug Berends..

Minutes submitted by: Gladys VeltKamp