

**OSHTEMO CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING**

**MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION HELD AUGUST 23, 2018**

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**Agenda**

**AGRITOURISM ORDINANCE REVIEW**

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A work session of the Oshtemo Charter Township Planning Commission was held on Thursday, August 23, 2018, commencing at approximately 6:00 p.m. at the Oshtemo Charter Township Hall.

**ALL MEMBERS**

**WERE PRESENT:** Cheri Bell, Chairperson (arrived late)  
Fred Antosz  
Ollie Chambers  
Dusty Farmer, Secretary  
Micki Maxwell  
Mary Smith  
Bruce VanderWeele, Vice Chairperson

Also present were Julie Johnston, Planning Director, Martha Coash, Meeting Transcriptionist and four interested persons.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson VanderWeele at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**Approval of the Agenda**

The Vice Chair determined there were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Vice Chairperson VanderWeele asked if there were any public comments on non-agenda items.

Ms. Laura Bruno expressed her concern about striking regulation of electrical and electro-magnetic issues from the Zoning Ordinance.

Ms. Johnston explained she had not responded to Ms. Bruno's e-mail on this subject because she needed to consult with Attorney Porter who has been out of town.

She indicated the ordinance referenced is actually new language to review special uses that has not yet been approved. After review of that proposed language it was decided to remove the language Ms. Bruno was referencing. Attorney Porter had explained those regulations would not be needed since the Township could not enforce regulation of electrical and electro-magnetic issues; they can be enforced only at a different governmental level. She indicated she would speak with him further for more clarification.

Ms. Bruno felt it would still be worthwhile to include the regulations in the Ordinance as more and more 5G is installed. She is sensitive to Wi-Fi, 5G and would like to see official policy in place to make some kind of statement.

Ms. Maxwell said the regulations are not federal law and evolve over time and that she is also concerned about not including regulations that might be able to be enforced in the future if the opportunity arises. She also felt the ITC lines should be regulated at the local level.

Ms. Farmer noted the Township cannot supersede federal regulations, that Attorney Porter had taken the issue of local control of ITC to the Michigan Supreme Court and the Township did not win that case.

The Board indicated that when the re-organized ordinance was brought back before them, they would discuss the possibility of added this new language again.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 9, 2018**

Vice Chairperson VanderWeele asked if there were additions, deletions or corrections to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 9, 2018.

Hearing none, Vice Chairperson VanderWeele asked for a motion.

Ms. Maxwell made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 9, 2018 as presented. Mr. Chambers supported the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Vice Chairperson VanderWeele moved to the next agenda item.

### **Agritourism Ordinance Review**

Ms. Johnston reminded the group they had last reviewed proposed agritourism ordinance language at the July work session and were in the middle of considering Category 2. She noted the document distributed included revised language recommended by the Planning Commission from past work sessions as well as proposed wording for a Category 3 that would allow special events and activities on properties that don't necessarily generate an agricultural product.

She also said next steps will need to be discussed as they get closer to completing review of the draft language.

Ms. Johnston led the group through discussion of the draft document, beginning with 1. G – Parking, under Special Uses/General Standards. A number of edits were made to the rest of Category 2. Category 3 will be discussed at the next work session.

There was consensus that once the agritourism review is completed, public input will be sought; details of how to provide that will be determined later.

Ms. Dori Beltz noted she had provided a summary of the activities at her barn camp for the year, including her expectation for the coming year. She felt it would be valuable for both the agritourism owner and the Township to require an annual check-in.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

### **PLANNING COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

There were no comments from Commissioners.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having exhausted the agenda, and with there being no further business to discuss, Vice Chairperson VanderWeele adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared:  
August 25, 2018

Minutes approved:  
September 13, 2018