

April 09, 2007
Bridgewater Twp Planning Commission
Minutes and Regular Meeting and Public Hearing
Call to Order 7:30PM

Role Call: Mike Bisco, Glenn Burkhardt, Deb Corwin, David Faust, Mark Iwanicki, Randy Klager, John Porter

Also Present: Amy Riley, John Jacovetty, Ron Bonner, Carol Peacock, Earl Carver, Cindy Carver

Review the Agenda: Mike Bisco added the Scio Township Ordinance document to the Planning schedule.

Motion: To approve the agenda by Burkhardt, seconded by Faust. Unanimously passed.

Review the Minutes: No corrections or discussion, Motion by Burkhardt and seconded by Faust to accept. Unanimously passed.

Public Comments: Bill Lockwood of 20/20 Communications, the selected vendor for Wireless Washtenaw, gave information on how it works. The Manchester Water Tower has numerous antennae installed, each 120 degrees of service, for a capability of 154megs. He explained a couple of locations are needed in Bridgewater Twp. In order to place antennae on existing barns or silo an ordinance would be needed. The more lengthy option would be a special use permit. Bisco explained the time frame for a new ordinance would be lengthy also. Another option being considered is the use of ITC poles. He explained the MCI tower is the primary super highway to Ann Arbor but would also cover surrounding areas. Freedom Twp felt they could rule on existing structures and will be on line soon. The question was asked if a tower would be needed. His answer was yes as the terrain varies. Mr. Lockwood offered his assistance on these issues. Porter felt the township property would best serve our ordinance. Carol Peacock spoke on Farm Land Preservation stating we had been ranked seventh, the top 6 received grants. She stated there was a small chance we might still get a grant if someone backed out. Nancy Hebb is organizing a fund raiser.

Enzer Special Land Use: This has been put on hold pending litigation. Porter questioned if this can be done. Burkhardt cited section 1401 which states there is nothing to prohibit the applicant requesting a hold. Motion by Iwanicki and seconded by Porter to put Enzer Special Land Use on hold. Passed, Bisco abstained. He will be notified.

Bridgewater Farms: No information

T-Mobile: No information.

LIAA-SWWCOG: Burkhardt commented on the March 14, 2007 meeting. There was further discussion on the alternatives this area could consider for planning. All agreed with the exception of Sharon Twp.

By-Laws and procedures: Burkhardt expressed he felt a copy of the By-Laws, Zoning Ordinance and SMR documents should be given to all on the Planning Commission so they have a reference. He felt the current By-Laws compared to others. He also felt the minutes of the meeting were where they should be. Burkhardt has notified the supervisor the township needs to decide on land divisions. As the zoning administrator refuses to do land divisions Burkhardt has been doing them. He has agreed to continue for a time but not indefinitely. Burkhardt cited the Board feels the fee for Land Divisions should be less. He stated he can not and will not do these for less. He cited his license and time as reasons. Notes on duties is being held over for suggestions from the Planning Commission.

Budget: Bisco pointed out the increase for the Planning Consultant. Consultants are currently under review. He felt we need a consultant present at our meetings as we face the possibility of changes in zoning or the ordinance. Burkhardt felt everyone wants Wireless Washtenaw and a professional planner would be advantageous. We will contact Jolie to see who we can use to help mend the ordinance. This is not a final budget.

Planning schedule: Bisco felt there was no way to do what Wireless ~~Washtenaw~~ Master Plan entails. He felt we could possibly meld Scio Twp ordinance into ours. Towers in the corner of farmers fields were discussed. He felt we should not change the tower review. Silos he felt were a better option. To co locate on a tower a full site plan review would be needed. Burkhardt felt we needed professional planner for this issue. We await to see who we can use.

Other Business: none

Public Comments: Township residents stated Enzer is still manufacturing.. A resident stated Enzer has no intention of stopping . Burkhardt told a resident that we can not do anything more. A question was raised on what would happen if he was to take of the hold. If he had not put it on hold we could have denied and he wouldn't be allowed to reapply for one year. If he was to reapply, and made changes, the process would start over. One resident stated he has worked with Wireless Washtenaw and is excited to get it . He sees five towers from his house.

Adjourn: Motion by Burkhardt and seconded by Iwanicki. Passed unanimously

