

WHITEFISH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Public Hearing Minutes
May 21, 2019, Whitefish Township Community Center, 7 PM

The public hearing was called to order 7:06 PM by Richard Jarnagin, Chairman. Commission members Richard Jarnagin, Richard Gratopp, Terry Humphrey and Nikki Craig were in attendance. David Heyboer was absent with notice. There were eight members of the general public in attendance.

Nikki Craig reported that the required public notice of the hearing was published in the Sault Newspaper, May 4, 2019 and that notices of the public hearing were posted in the required Whitefish Township policy locations as well as the township website. As of this date, the commission received no letters or statements from the general public. The copies of proposed amendments and ordinance recommendations left in the township office and library for public review offered no public comments. The Whitefish Township Planning Commission did receive a memo from the Zoning Administrator sharing his opposition to the proposed Article 6.10, paragraph i, limiting short term rentals to 60 days citing enforcement concerns.

The planning commission proceeded to accept public comment regarding the proposed zoning ordinance amendments for the current 2018 Whitefish Township Zoning Ordinances.

Scott Erickson, WT property owner questioned the proposed amendment to Article 8.08. He brought forward concerns as to a mobile home park development limited to a 10 year special use permit.

Jim Disney, WT property owner opposed proposed amendment Article 6.10 paragraph i. and questioned proposed amendment Article 6.10 paragraph j. As a short term rental special use permit recipient, his family does not use the property; they live elsewhere in the township and the proposed amendment Article 6.10 i would be a hardship on the family.

Paul Quinn, WT property owner and short term rental special use permit recipient is opposed to proposed amendment Article 6.10 paragraph i. This proposed amendment would be a hardship to his family. They own and reside on a separate property in the township.

Joel Hall, WT property owner expressed opposition to the proposed amendment Article 6.10 i.

Janeen Hall, WT property owner expressed opposition to the proposed amendment Article 6.10 i.

Scott Erickson, WT property owner expressed opposition to the proposed amendment Article 6.10 i.

Nikki Craig brought forward to the attention of the commission members and the general public an error in the 2018 Whitefish Township Zoning Ordinance, Article 6.08 subsection b, paragraph 6, p. 47. She proposed the paragraph be removed as it references a building a wind turbine within the vicinity of Manistique, Michigan. She asked if anyone was opposed to this paragraph being deleted. There was no comment received.

The planning commission proceeded to accept public comment regarding the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance

Pastor Dave Holden, WT property owner, opposes the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance; citing the possibilities of a negative impact on the community.

Janeen Hall, WT property owner, opposes the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance; citing environmental impact concerns, specifically ground water. Whitefish Township voters voted no on Michigan's proposal 1 permitting recreational marijuana use in the last election.

Jim Disney, WT property owner, opposes the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance.

Melody Berg, WT property owner opposes the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance; citing the possibilities of a negative impact on the community.

Joel Hall, WT property owner opposes the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance.

Scott Erickson, WT property owner expressed concerns that the commission should be dealing with both medical and recreational marijuana at this time.

Paul Quinn, WT property owner expressed opposition to the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance citing a gap in infrastructure, police and medical services to support the proposed changes in the community.

Janeen Hall, WT property owner, expressed opposition to the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities citing the lack of a police presence in the community and that there is no advance life support in the community.

Loretta Holden, WT property owner, expressed opposition to the proposed Medical Marijuana Facilities.

Nikki Craig moved to close the public hearing at 8:00 PM and to reconvene the general meeting at 8:10 PM. Terry Humphrey supported. Motion carried.

Minutes provided by Nikki Craig, 5/29/2019