

**Whitefish Township Planning Commission Minutes - unapproved  
Special Meeting - February 17 2022**

**Attendance:** Scott Erickson, Bill West, Richard Gratopp, Jack Grimes, Jon Jasinski  
Absent: **None**

**Public Attendees:** Paul Quinn, Greg Lee

**The Meeting was called to order by Chair Scott Erickson at 7:00 p.m.**

**Roll call:** Gratopp **Present**, West **Present**, Jasinski **Present**, Grimes **Present**. Erickson **Present** Absent: **None**

**Review of 1/26/2022 General Meeting Minutes:** Gratopp contended the Minutes were missing a second to Grimes Motion under **Old Business**. Upon West's and Erickson's review of notes it was determined that Erickson seconded and the addition was hand written on the Minutes. Gratopp moved to accept the Special Meeting Minutes of **1/26/2022** as amended, West supported. Discussion: none. Roll call vote: Gratopp **yes**, Grimes **yes**, Erickson **yes**, West **yes.**, (Jasinski: no vote - not present at January 26 Special Meeting) **Motion passed.**

Looking closer, Commissioners determined that the Minutes did include the second by Erickson. Gratopp retracted his Motion to approve the Minutes as amended, West retracted his second.

Grimes moved to accept the Minutes as presented, West seconded. Discussion: none. All in favor: four yes, no nays. (Jasinski: no vote - not present at January 26 Special Meeting) **Motion passed.**

**Public Comment:** Greg Lee commented on the subject of Short term Rentals and queried the Commission about the particulars of the Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment. He also commented on legislation pending at the state level (House Bill 4722) and the implications of it's potential passage on Whitefish Township. Commissioner Jasinski suggested the Planning Commission should become more familiar with the particulars and develop a plan to salvage whatever local control can be kept should the pending legislation become Statute.

**New Business:** Review of the proposed wording change within a Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment and for the Planning Commission to consider it's recommendation to the Whitefish Township Board of Trustees on the matter of an

Ordinance to impose a Moratorium on the issuance of Permits, Licenses, or Approvals for Short Term Rentals.

Commissioners reviewed and discussed the February 4, 2022 amendment to the Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment. (STR Moratorium) West noted that the original Draft of same document was already approved in the October 13, 2021 General Meeting and that the stated purpose of this Special Meeting was specifically to approve or not the February 4<sup>th</sup> amendment as prepared by the Township legal counsel, underlined in the Draft being considered, which clarifies that Renewals of any existing Approved Special Land Use / Short Term Rental Permit of record are not prohibited by the Proposed STR Moratorium Zoning Amendment.

Grimes moved to accept the amended wording as presented in it's entirety. West seconded. Discussion: Erickson expressed reservations about the added wording regarding Renewals of STRs to an obviously flawed Zoning use should the STR Moratorium go into effect.

West noted that the motion should include accepting the amended wording as presented in it's entirety. Grimes suggested proceeding with the present motion. No further discussion. Roll call vote: Gratopp **yes**, Grimes **yes**, Jasinski **yes**, West **yes**, Erickson **yes**. **Motion passed.**

West moved to direct the Chair to send a letter to the Board of Trustees announcing the decision and recommending it to the Board. After some discussion West retracted his motion. West moved to direct the chair to send a letter to the Board of Trustees announcing Planning Commission approval of the amended wording. Grimes seconded. Discussion: none. Roll cal vote: Gratopp **no**, Grimes **yes**, West **yes**, Jasinski **yes**, Erickson **no**. **Motion passed.**