

Hopkins Township Planning Commission
Special Meeting Minutes 8/23/2016

Planning Commission Members: Chair Mike Timmer; Mark Forbes; Tadd Heft; Ken Rutgers; Chuck Wamhoff; Steve Wamhoff; Fred Morley

Members Present: Tadd Heft; Ken Rutgers; Mike Timmer; Chuck Wamhoff; Steve Wamhoff; Fred Morley

Meeting Called to Order at: 7:05 PM

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:00 PM

Location: Hopkins Township Hall

+ Commission attendance noted above.

+ Kirk Scharphorn Zoning Administrator present.

Minutes of the 7/26/2016 Meeting: These were previously emailed to commissioners and briefly discussed.

MOTION: A motion was made and supported to approve the 7/26/2016 meeting minutes. This motion was approved.

- **Agenda:** Wind Energy Systems
- **Zoning Administrator Updates:**
 - **Flood Plains and Flood Insurance:** Administrator Scharphorn attended a FEMA meeting at the county regarding these issues. There should be no building in a flood plain. Maps are available to determine the extent of a flood plain.
 - **Blight Issues:** The cleanup of a long running blight issue in the Township is proceeding.
 - **Wind Energy Systems:** Wind Energy System Ordinances from Monterey and Gun Plain Townships were handed out. Our proposed ordinance followed much of these two ordinances. Zoning Administrator Scharphorn will tweak our proposed Ordinance. One item in particular should be the decommissioning of the towers. Discussion included other energy systems, solar and wood-burners; making wind, solar, wood-burners all separate ordinances. We will do wind first then solar. We will need to have public hearings on all of these ordinances.
 - **Other Ordinances:** Cell and internet towers in the public right-of-way are becoming a trend and we should deal with this sooner than later. A handout was distributed regarding this issue. Zoning Administrator Scharphorn will draft an ordinance for our review.
- **Note on Responding to Emails:** We should be careful when replying to emails from members of Township boards and commissions. Replying to a group could be a Township meeting and as such may fall under the Open Meetings Act.

MOTION: A motion to adjourn was made and supported at 8:00 PM. This motion was approved.

Submitted by:

Fred Morley, Secretary
Hopkins Township Planning Commission

Minutes approved: