

**CHARLESTON TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission was held at the Township Hall on July 19, 2016.

CALL TO ORDER: Kramer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll was called and members present were: Sue Balkema, Walt Kohnke, Don Kramer, Brian Moravek, Joan Orman, Art Samson and Tim Vosburg. Also present: Township Supervisor Jerry VanderRoest

CITIZENS PRESENT: George Waller

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Samson moved to approve the agenda. Balkema seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Balkema shared that the mysterious exclamation points found in her minutes of May 17, 2016 were not a part of her original minutes. Something occurred in translation of the minutes to the Clerk. Balkema offered an original copy to submit for the record. Orman moved to adopt the minutes of the May 17, 2016 Planning Commission meeting with corrections. Vosburg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION WITH VFW CONCERNING ACCESSORY STRUCTURE: George Waller, representing the VFW, provided an explanation of the VFW's desire to erect a 24x32' pavilion behind the VFW building. The structure would provide refuge from sun or rain during outdoor summer events such as picnics, memorials and charity fundraisers. Discussion ensued regarding the fact that the VFW building is a lawful non-conforming use in the R1 zoning district, thus an "expansion" is not allowed. Any possible resolution will take some time for investigation of available options to allow the project while staying within the zoning ordinance, if that option is even possible. Meanwhile, Mr. Waller will check with AGS to see if he can lawfully put down a cement pad and a tent of sorts as a temporary solution.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ACCESSORY BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES ON WATERFRONT LOTS: Samson shared his findings regarding exploration of the topic at hand. Discussion ensued. Moravek stated that the ordinance is unreasonable in regards to a river waterway (often located far behind the main structure on the property). Vosburg asked if there is anything wrong with how the ordinance currently reads. Discussion ensued. Samson moved to table the topic for future discussion. Balkema seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS' TIME: No comments.

MEMBERS' TIME: Samson provided a bit more discussion on the agenda item above regarding waterfront lots.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm upon motion by Samson. Support by Vosburg. Motion passed unanimously.

Prepared 7/19/16 by Joan Orman, secretary