

CHARLESTON TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
(November 20, 2018)

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission was held at the Township Hall on November 20, 2018.

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

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS: Roll was called and members present were: Tim Vosburg, Walt Kohnke, Sue Balkema, Don Kramer, Art Samson and Brian Moravek. Also present Hunter Dodge, Mark Klebba, Terry Crater, Jared Vanderwheele, Brendan Ragotzy and Jerry VanderRoest (Supervisor).

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

DISPOSITION OF OCTOBER 16, 2018 MEETING MINUTES: Kohnke moved to approve the minutes. Samson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ABOUT POTENTIAL BREWERY/MEADERY: Hunter Dodge, President and Director of Norse Nectar Meadery (LLC) indicated they had purchased the property on Michigan Avenue across from the Time Out Lounge and intends on constructing a brewery/meadery production and tasting room. Dodge provided a hand out that included photos of a planned facility and indicated that once the facility was up and running it could employ 10 (plus) people and that there should be no concern about noise, odor or waste caused by the operation. Dodge indicated they would like to have the facility open by April 2019. Dodge stated that the next step is to apply for a state and federal licenses.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF LAND USE PLAN UPDATE: Kohnke provided the Commission a presentation that comprised of maps that depicts the tentative changes to the Land Use Plan that have been agreed on by the Commission as part of the Land Use Plan update process.

CITIZENS' TIME: Brendan Ragotzy who owns/operates the Barn Theater indicated that he was looking for advice on how to expedite the rezoning process so that he can have the Barn Theater bar remodeled which he stated is essential to success of his operation. Kramer indicated that the normal process (revise the Land Use Plan then apply for rezoning) takes time and suggested that he talk with the Township Attorney Rolfe to determine if there was a more expedient approach that he might want to pursue. Kramer offered to participate in the meeting but was clear that attorney expenses would not be borne by the Township but would need to be covered by Ragotzy. Ragotzy agreed to the meeting and covering of expenses.

MEMBERS' TIME: No member comments.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm upon motion by Vosburg. Seconded by Samson. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared 11/21/20/18 by Brian Moravek, secretary