

# LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION MEETING

April 7, 2014

The members in attendance: Stan Koehlinger, Eric McGovern, John Walsh, Frank Bachman.

Additional attendance: Trustee Don Ackerman. There were no members of the public at this meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Stan Koehlinger.

Motion made by Frank Bachman and seconded by Eric McGovern to approve the March 3, 2014 meeting minutes, motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Ackerman advised the Zoning Commission that the Trustees approved to have the proposed changes to the zoning regulations reviewed by McKenna Associates. They have the proposed changes and the signed contract will be sent this week.

Trustee Ackerman stated that he was very pleased with the zoning seminar put on by McKenna Associates and the Zoning Commission members agreed. Trustee Ackerman would like to have several workshops a year provided by different speakers regarding Zoning. Zoning Commission members were all in agreement with Trustee Ackerman. Trustee Ackerman advised that the zoning commission should work on a Comprehensive Plan and asked if the Board of Zoning Appeals and Regional Planning should have some input. Trustee Ackerman also asked for a wider range of opinion on what direction the Zoning wants to head.

Trustee Ackerman reported that the employees of the township were cleaning some ditches to prevent water from accumulating on St. Rt. 212 and was advised by the Army Corp of Engineers that that area is a Wetland Area where they were working. John Walsh provided Trustee Ackerman with a contact that could provide him more information on the rules governing Wetlands.

Zoning Commission members were made aware of the Kinsey Appeals Hearing for a Use Variance and an Area Variance was scheduled for April 14, 2014.

Zoning Commission member asked about a small building constructed in Bolivar and even though Bolivar is in Lawrence Township, Lawrence Township Zoning Regulations do not apply in city limits.

Trustee Ackerman stated that the Trustees would like to have seven members of the Zoning Commission, five regular members and two alternates and the same with the Board of Zoning Appeals. Trustee Ackerman asked if Joe Rinehart, who attended the McKenna Zoning seminar was interested in an open seat on the Commission. Stan Koehlinger will contact him.

Zoning Commission discussed proposed changes and wants to proceed. McKenna Associates and Regional Planning will review proposed changes. Zoning Commission will review any recommendations and want to hold a public hearing as required. Eric McGovern made a motion and it was seconded by Frank Bachman to hold a public hearing on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Lawrence Township office. The motion passed unanimously. The hearing will be published in the Times Reporter on Sunday, April 13, 2014 and a court reporter will be present at the hearing. Possible locations for public viewing of proposed changes were discussed. Lawrence Township building and the Tuscarawas County Public Library – Bolivar were proposed locations. The proposed changes will then be presented to the Lawrence Township Trustees for approval. The Trustees will then hold a public hearing.

Zoning Commission members reviewed the letter to Tedd Finlayson thanking him for his years of service and dedication to the zoning code. All members signed and letter will be sent to Tedd Finlayson.

John Walsh requested a copy of all zoning forms currently used. It is the desire of the Commission to update all forms.

John Walsh made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Frank Bachman, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2014.

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Respectfully, Ann Ackerman