

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING

August 7, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Patrick Kline.

The members in attendance: Patrick Kline, Mark Scott, Joe Hafer, Sally Storad and Roxanne Kane. Robert Eddy, ZC alternate, was also present. Trustee Don Ackerman and Zoning Inspector Ron Weekley were present. Bill Woodward of the BZA, present.

Public Speaks: A resident couple attended the meeting with concern for AirBNB's. They currently live next to an AirBNB and have had a lot of issues with noise consistently every weekend. Dee Grossman, with the Tuscarawas County Visitor's Center, attended to inform the ZC of the potential benefits of vacation rental homes. Dee was able to provide the disgruntled couple some recommendations, mainly to contact the sheriff when issues arise. Dee presented the Zoning Commission some statistics in the county consisting of revenue that is brought in because of these types of structures. She also informed that the Township has right to obtain lodging tax from each location with 5 rooms or more. Lawrence Township does have the ability to make a change to improve our lodging tax income by adjusting the room number to 1 instead of the 5. This would also help with our concern of safety of visitors of the township. These locations, of even 1 bedroom, would have to be treated just as a hotel and be inspected by the fire marshal, the water department and septic, and ECOBA. Weekley stated that legislation is coming from ECOBA. Another resident who attended the meeting showed interest in purchasing a property in the township to use for this same purpose. Their question is in regards to the process and the plans that the township has for future regulation. The ZC needs to decide if an AirBNB should be a business entity and be permitted in a residential district.

Kane made a motion to approve July 10, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Scott, all approved with the change of adding Mark Scott's request adding to all future minutes any approved permits since the last meeting.

Noise in the township and lighting at the intersection of St Rt 212 and Cty Rd 103 were discussed. Monument signs to be discussed at the next meeting.

JULY - APPROVED LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP ZONING PERMITS	
Location	Item
10874 Madlyn St NE, Bolivar	Awning over existing patio, rear of home, shade purposes, 16' x 30'
8586 Sandstone Rd NE, Dover	Detached garage 20'H x 50'W x 30'D, pole barn style, 1500 sf
10736 Buehler Rd NE, Bolivar	12'W x 16'D Storage shed, 192 sf
10686 Wilkshire Blvd NE, Bolivar	Permanent sign, LED digital & brick 50 sf, 9' x 8' high2
Same, 2 more permits	Driveway entrance and Driveway exit
11029 Welton Rd NE, Bolivar	Driveway 50', Access management approved
1358 Melrose Cir NE, Bolivar	24 Above ground pool
7017 St. Peters Church Rd NW, Dover	40' x 60' Pole building, Ag use, 14' high, 2400 sf
1161 Bimeler St NE, Bolivar	24' x 32' Pole building w/a 12' porch, 768 sf
12201 Sherman Church Rd NE, Bolivar	10' x 12' x 8' shed on skids, 120 sf
9829 Welton Rd NE, Bolivar	32' x 48' x 16' Pole building

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10748 Wilkshire Blvd NE, Bolivar	Fence, metal
753 Holly St NE, Bolivar	White 6' Privacy vinyl fence, back yard w/25% up sidewall of home
815 Kingwood Dr NE, Bolivar	12' x 16' x 10' accessory storage building, 192 sf
7905 Dover Zoar Rd NE, Dover	74' x 120' Pole building, steel & metal detached garage, 8880 sf

Kane motion to adjourn at 9:03 p.m., Hafer 2nd, all approved.

The Zoning Commission decided the remainder of the year's meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at the Lawrence Township Building at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully,

Martina Mann