

**Exeter Township  
Planning Commission Minutes  
October 3, 2023**

Exeter Township Planning Commission chairperson, David Schafer, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Present: Roger Bezek, David Schafer, Robert Post, and Amee Runyan  
Excused: Philip Bruck, Kyle Preston

Note: there were five (5) township residents in attendance.

**Correction / Approval of Agenda:**

The Planning Commission members reviewed the meeting agenda. There were no corrections or additions.

❖ **Motion: Amee Runyan, 2<sup>nd</sup> David Schafer:** To accept the meeting agenda as presented.  
**Motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

The Planning Commission meeting minutes from September 5, 2023 were presented and read. There were no corrections.

❖ **Motion: Robert Post, 2<sup>nd</sup> Amee Runyan:** To accept the September 5, 2023 Exeter Township Planning Commission meeting minutes as presented.  
**Motion carried.**

**First Public Comment:**

Gwen Giznski (11480 Finzel Rd. Carleton Michigan 48117) addressed the planning commission members. She asked what the current Exeter Township ordinance were concerning private / hobby kennels. She had downloaded the ordinance from the township website and was confused between "commercial" and "hobby" dog kennel classifications. She stated that at one time they held a kennel license but it had expired. Her family has approximately 12-14 dogs which are owned by her and family members. All dogs are licensed (with Monroe County Animal Control) and are current on their vaccinations.

Planning Committee chairperson David Schafer read from both the definitions (of Hobby Kennels) on page 3-10 and the Special Land Use requirements for Hobby Kennels (page 18-6). The process of applying for, permit application fees, required documentation, and the public hearing procedure was explained. Discussion followed concerning what is a “dog rescue” operation vs. a dog shelter operation (aka: “forever home”).

Since the dogs are “living” (housed) in the residence, it was stated that the existing kennel facilities and exercise yard would need to be upgraded per the Special Land Use provisions and the dogs be housed in the kennel under normal humane conditions.

**Old Business:**

1). The Exeter Township Board’s review (and adoption of) of the proposed revisions of the township Solar / Wind Energy ordinance(s) were tabled by the board at their September meeting.

**New Business:**

1). Planning Commission discussed possible new zoning ordinance language, concerning the raising and keeping of poultry on small acreage parcels, that was presented in the 2021 Zoning Handbook review. The language that was proposed in 2021 review was read. Without input from the Township Manager, it was felt the issue could not be fully discussed.

- ❖ **Motion: David Schafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Amee Runyan:** To table further discussion on amending the “raising and keeping of poultry (and similar animals) on small acre parcels” ordinance until input from the Exeter Township manager can be offered.

**Motion carried.**

2). The regularly schedule November Planning Commission meeting falls on an local election day which means the township hall meeting room will be unavailable.

- ❖ **Motion: David Schafer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Amee Runyan:** To reschedule the next Exeter Township Planning Commission meeting to Wednesday November 8, 2023 beginning at 7:00 PM at the Exeter Township hall.

**Motion carried.**

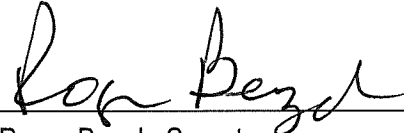
**Second Public Comment:**

1). The next meeting of the Exeter Township Planning Committee will be held (rescheduled to) Wednesday November 8, 2023 beginning at 7:00pm.

~~Un~~-approved minutes

- ❖ **Motion:** Anee Runyan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Robert Post: To adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger Bezek, Secretary

Exeter Township Planning Commission