

Exeter Township Planning Commission Minutes March 5, 2024

Exeter Township Planning Commission Chairperson, Tim DeBorde called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. ZBA Chairperson Robert Strimple opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed all the residents and members of the Planning Commission for attending this joint meeting.

Roll Call: Present: Roger Bezek, Philip Bruck, Tim DeBorde, Dave Mathewson, Julie Murphy, Ameer Runyan, and Anthony Thrasher

Excused:
Guests: Lucie Fortin, Exeter Township planner (Mannik & Smith Group)
Exeter Township ZBA members (Anthony Bruck, Don Miller, June Olson, Robert Strimple)

Note: There were 8 township residents in attendance.

Correction / Approval of Agenda:

Old Business item #3 (Combined meeting with Exeter Township ZBA), was moved to First Public Comment

- ❖ **Motion: Ameer Runyan, 2nd Philip Bruck:** To adopt the meeting agenda as amended. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes:

The February 6, 2024 Planning Commission meeting minutes were read and presented. The following correction were made;

- Correct date from February 2, 2024 to February 6, 2024 in both meeting minutes heading and header.
- In Approval of Minutes, correct second sentence in opening paragraph to read "She was excused from the meeting" (not "present for").
- In First Public Comment, item #3, correct spelling of "roll" to "role".
- In New Business, item #1, correct spelling of "secretary".

- ❖ **Motion: Philip Bruck, 2nd Ameer Runyan:** To approve the February 6, 2024 Planning Commission minutes as corrected. **Motion carried.**

First Public Comment:

1). Exeter Township Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) chairperson, Robert Strimple, thanked the Planning Commission for inviting the ZBA committee members to this joint meeting. He commented that such meetings are recommended between township committees to better

Un-approved minutes

understand the current issues within the township and to improve communication between committees.

Exeter Township Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) chairperson, Robert Strimple, provided an overview of the roles and function of the ZBA. He stated that the ZBA role was to provide relief (known as a variance) to current township Zoning Ordinances. Request must be made to the ZBA and meet certain criteria to be considered. All discussion is conducted under the public hearing format. After hearing all comments, the ZBA is empowered to grant or deny any variances requested by a property owner. This differs from the Planning Commission who will make a recommendation to the Exeter Township Board to review, approve, modify or reject the Planning Commission recommendation(s). Rezoning request are discussed and processed through the Township Planning Commission

Chairperson Strimple stated that the ZBA meets quarterly or may conduct a special meeting if called for. All meeting are open to the public and are announced by the clerk.

Chairperson Strimple took a few question from the residents in attendance concerning the Exeter Township Master Plan

Old Business:

1).Planning Commission member reviews slight changes made to the proposed amendments to the "Keeping of Livestock" ordinances.

2) Discussion concerning the proposed amendment to the township ordinance concerning "Wind Energy Systems" was tabled until the April meeting to allow members time to review the changes.

New Business:

- ❖ **Motion: Amee Runyan, 2nd Philip Bruck;** To set a public hearing to consider amendments to Exeter Township Zoning Ordinances Article 5 General Provisions, concerning the "Keeping and Raising of Livestock on Small Acreage Parcels" and Article 18, Special Land Uses and Provisions concerning the establishment of a new acceptable land use titled "Home Business" and all other impacted paragraphs.

Motion carried.

Second Public Comment:

1). The next scheduled meeting of the Exeter Township Planning Commission will be held on April 2, 2024 beginning at 7:00 pm at the Exeter Township Hall. A Public Hearing will be conducted during this meeting

- ❖ **Motion: Amee Runyan, 2nd Philip Bruck:** To adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, _____
Roger Bezek, Secretary
Exeter Township Planning Commission