

Exeter Township Planning Commission Minutes June 4, 2024

Exeter Township Planning Commission Chairperson, Tim DeBorde called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Roger Bezek, Philip Bruck, Tim DeBorde, Dave Mathewson,
Julie Murphy, and Ameer Runyan
Absent: Anthony Thrasher
Excused:
Guests: Lucie Fortin, Exeter Township planner (Mannik & Smith Group)
Note: There were 4 township residents in attendance.

Correction / Approval of Agenda:

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

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

Approval of Minutes:

Copies of the May 7, 2024 Planning Commission meeting minutes were provided to Planning Commission members. There were no corrections to the meeting minutes.

- ❖ **Motion: Ameer Runyan, 2nd Tim DeBorde:** To approve the May 7, 2024 Planning Commission minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

First Public Comment:

None

Old Business:

1). The Planning Commission secretary sent photos (via email) of a nearby Consumers Energy wind energy installation located near Jonesville MI (Hillsdale county). This installation contains 60 turbines. A YouTube video link was also included which showed wind turbines (located in Illinois) being destroyed by a powerful tornado (date of storm May 4, 2024). The video demonstrated "catastrophic" failure and potential distance in which turbine parts could be thrown. The worksheet created to summarize ongoing discussion concerning wind turbine was also discussed. This worksheet will be updated after each Planning Commission meeting to include items discussed at the meeting.

~~UN~~-approved minutes

Planning Commission member Julie Murphy provided copies of Sanilac Township (Sanilac county Michigan) Wind Energy (commercial scale) zoning ordinance. Specific items that could be included in our proposed Wind Energy such as set-back distances was discussed. Members discussed hosting a local workshop for surrounding Planning Commission to create a "uniform" Wind Energy ordinance as commercial scale installation could be sited in multiple townships. Since each township creates zoning ordinances to address the need specific to their township, any coordinated zoning uniformity is not warranted.

Planning Commission members were asked to review other township zoning ordinance for additional information which may be applied in Exeter Township.

- ❖ **Motion: Ameer Runyan, 2nd Tim DeBorde:** To table further discussion concerning the proposed Exeter Township Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) and commercial scale battery storage ordinances until the regularly scheduled July 2024 Planning Commission meeting. **Motion carried.**

New Business:

None

Second Public Comment:

1). The residents in attendance thanked the planning commission for their work on the proposed amendments to the current wind energy generating systems ordinance.

2. Township resident, Fred Montelone spoke on his negative personal experience with large commercial scale wind turbine and encouraged Planning Commission members to also research studies which indicate the negative health impacts of living near such wind turbine

- ❖ **Motion: Ameer Runyan, 2nd Philip Bruck:** To adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**
The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger Bezer, Secretary
Exeter Township Planning Commission