

Zoning Commission
Regular Meeting
November 5th, 2015
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Ch. Nehrenz called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Roll found: Nehrenz, Kman, Powell, Spellman, and Dermody present. Alternates Kamps and Schneider were present. Zoning Inspector Schaefer was in the audience.

Ch. Nehrenz asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the September 3rd, 2015 Zoning Commission meeting.

Ch. Nehrenz asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 3rd, 2015 Zoning Commission meeting. Mr. Powell motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Dermody seconded. No further discussion held.

Vote: Nehrenz – yes, Kman – yes, Powell – yes, Spellman – yes, Dermody – yes

Old Business:

An information package was provided to each member containing examples of ordinances for outdoor wood burning furnaces.

Mr. Powell inquired as to the purpose of this package. Ch. Nehrenz explained this, along with alternative energy for solar and wind, was a carryover from the zoning revamp (2013). Text for these specific items had been tabled during that revamp.

Regarding outdoor furnaces, Mr. Powell inquired as to whether or not a county permit is required to install an outdoor furnace. Mr. Schaefer informed the commission that a permit is required if electricity is run to the furnace, or if a building to house the furnace is to be built. Mr. Schaefer informed the commission that a handful of these outdoor furnaces currently exist within Hinckley. Mr. Schneider shared his research and concerns with the wording and stack sizes. Additionally, he suggested more simplistic wording.

Regarding wind energy, Mr. Schneider expressed concerns of the proposed wording being too restrictive. For instance, some residents may be inclined to use experimental kits; which would be prevented under the current proposed wording.

After further discussion, Ch. Nehrenz recommended the Zoning Commission table the discussion and resume in 2016.

A brief discussion took place inquiring if things like outdoor pizza ovens, grills, and outdoor kitchens would be affected by this. Ch. Nehrenz clarified by stating our intent is not to regulate these.

Mr. Schaefer shared his observations in regards to outdoor furnaces. The outdoor furnaces he's observed in Hinckley appear to be run clean. Mr. Schaefer noted other townships have run into issues with smoke, small stacks, and the burning of fuels which violate EPA regulations. He suggested adding language to specify what can/can't be burnt, or alternately add a reference to the EPA regulation.

Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business:

None

Vice Chairman's Report:

Vice Ch. Kman reported on the October 27th Zoning Basics workshop attended by Dermody, Schneider, and Kman. Due to the amount of discussion and dialogue at the work shop, the full agenda was not able to be completed. A Zoning Basics Part 2 will be scheduled.

Chairman's Report:

Ch. Nehrenz expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve on Hinckley Township's Zoning Commission, for which Ch. Nehrenz has been a member for the past 8 years. Effective 12/31/2015, Ch. Nehrenz will be resigning from the Zoning Commission.

Board Members Reports:

The board members expressed their appreciation and thanks to Ch. Nehrenz.

Mr. Kamps reported on the October Township Administrative meeting held at Hinckley Elementary School. He, along with Mr. Kman attended on behalf of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Kamps shared his enjoyment of the meeting, commenting on how sharp the kids were along with the good questions they came prepared to ask!

Other Business:

The commission discussed setting the date of the next Zoning Commission meeting.

Mr. Spellman made a motion to skip the December 3rd, 2015 meeting, and reconvene at 7pm on January 7th, 2016 for the Zoning Commission Organizational meeting, with the regular Zoning Commission meeting to follow. Mr. Powel seconded. Roll found all members in agreement.

Vote: Nehrenz – yes, Kman – yes, Powell – yes, Spellman – yes, Dermody – yes

From the Floor:

None

Ch. Nehrenz asked for the meeting to be adjourned. Dermody motioned and Nehrenz seconded. All were in favor.

The November 5th, 2015 Zoning Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:29pm.

Minutes Approved: _____, 2015

John Nehrenz, Chairman

Mel Kman, Vice-Chairman

William Spellman, Member

Calvin Powell, Member

Diane Dermody, Member