

Saline Township Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes, December 5th 2023

Members Present:

Stephen Rothfuss, Darryl Zink, Tom Hammond, Levi Smith

Members Absent:

Laurie Leinbach, Neil Bohnett, Gary Luckhardt

Others Present:

Brandon Guest, Noah Ryder, Steve Ingram, Alec Ingram, Sean Kelleher Emily Alspaw, Amber Kim, Dan Cabage, Jim Marion, Robert Marion

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm

Roll was taken; quorum established

Pledge of Allegiance led by Hammond

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of October 3rd 2023: Motion by Smith, supported by Hammond, to approve minutes; vote minutes approved unanimously.

Approval of Agenda, December 5th, 2023: Motion by Hammond to approve, support by Smith; vote agenda approved unanimously.

Announcements

None

Call to the Public

None

New Business

- A. – We have been informed Laurie Leinbach is stepping down from her position on the planning commission. Eugene Heusel is stepping down from his position on the zoning board of appeals.

- B.** – Mike from Carlisle/Wortman discussed energy storage draft ordinance. The board was informed that the state is putting in affect eminent domain on energy facilities, solar and wind projects, which will be in effect in a year. The township attorney discussed some of the states setbacks which differ from the draft ordinance. He also discussed some of the issues with fire prevention and wether we can require different solutions for fire prevention. At 7:20 p.m a motion was made by Hammond to open the public hearing for battery energy storage ordinance support by Smith. A spokesperson from Jupiter brought up the issue they have with the townships setback and would like us to move forward with a solution that works for them. Public hearing was closed at 7:30 p.m. The planning commission has agreed to make a change in the ordinance about the vegetation around the facility to help with fire prevention.
- C.** – Adelina farms wants an entry sign and some additional landscaping by the US12 entry. The sign will be similar to the sign they have at the Austin entry the only difference is it'll be 2ft taller. The sign area meets all township standards except the height. The planning commission will send a recommendation of approval for the extra height of the monument. Motion by Hammond support by Smith; vote 4-0 in support

Old Business

- A.** None

Public Comments

Doug Lewan with Carlisle/Wortman has announced he will be retiring.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hammond support by Smith at 7:56 p.m

Darryl Zink

Saline Township Planning Commission, Secretary