

**LINCOLN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting
March 4, 2019

Chairman Mike Freehling called the regular meeting of the Planning Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2019 in the meeting room of the Lincoln Charter Township Municipal Building, 2055 West John Beers Road, Stevensville, Michigan 49127.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Freehling, Charlie Olszewski, Chris Miller, Andy Barbott, Marc Florian and Glenn Youngstedt.
Absent: Tony Korican.
Also present: Building Official Jim Pheifer and Recorder, Judy Dunlap.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Olszewski, seconded by **Youngstedt** motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting minutes of December 3, 2018 as e-mailed. No discussion. All Ayes. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

None.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY

The Department of Building Safety, year to date has issued 2 permits for single family dwellings, last year there were 2. For the month of February there were 2 permits issued for single family dwellings. For the month of February 2018 there were 0 permits issued for single family dwellings.

At this time last year, house construction values alone totaled \$745,000. This year they are at \$722,000.

In 2019, total construction (building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing) permits for Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural and Residential districts estimated total values are at \$1,720,110. In 2018, total construction values were at \$2,613,622.

In the month of February there were 200 inspections made on (building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and rentals).

NEW BUSINESS

Review Tru-Hilton site plan. **Pheifer** noted the hotel has four floors with 95 rooms and 100 parking spaces. He and **Planner Lynee Wells** approved the plans and he is ready to issue the building permit. No other approvals are needed.

Review Williams Storage building site plan. **Pheifer** noted that the plans are all in order and no other approvals are needed.

Discussion on marijuana.

The Planning Commission held a general discussion regarding recreational marijuana.

Without taking a position on whether the township should opt in or out, the members of the Planning Commission concluded they were not in a position to craft an ordinance without some guidance or administrative-type rules from the state. Conceptually speaking, if the will of the township board was to opt in, they would recommend pursuing an approach to zoning similar to what was exercised for sexually-oriented businesses.

Notwithstanding the above, three members of the PC expressed their personal opinions as to this matter, while four maintain this is a decision for the township board and that their opinions are immaterial, particularly in the absence of state-issued guidance or administrative rules relevant to zoning of facilities allowed under the Recreational Marihuana Act.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The sign ordinance sub-committee will meet next Monday night to move forward and have a draft ready for the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tom Norbey – 6124 Washington Ave – Read the law on marijuana. It is very detailed. The Township Attorney did not discuss the fact that it only takes 5% of voters to sign a petition to opt back in. That is approximately 300 signatures in this Township. If you opt in the zoning for one category of marijuana then any category of marijuana is allowed. He also noted that some municipalities have reduced or eliminated Millages by opting in.

David Ratajik – 5002 Notre Dame Path – Being a retired elementary school teacher and retired from 30 years in the army I am against opting in. The Michigan State Medical Society which represents 15,000 Physicians across Michigan wants to educate the public on Marijuana. Just because it is legal doesn't mean it is safe and healthy. Ratajik is concerned with children ages 11-14 who think they are invincible and bulletproof. They are self-centered. Their brains are incapable of making critical decisions. They cannot analyze situations properly. What would the reaction be of a child when they find out the Township approves of Marijuana. From my standpoint I am against it.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled planning commission meeting will be held on April 1, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.