

ELY TOWNSHIP
Planning Commission
June 13, 2022 - 6:30pm
Meeting Taped and In-Person

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ruppel called the meeting to order at 6:23 pm.

ROLL CALL

Randy Ruppel, Steven Bertucci Jr. and Aaron Carr – Present. Dustin Kennedy - Absent. Also, present Erin Bertucci, Recording Secretary and Fred VanLuven, Zoning Administrator.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was in order.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion was made by Carr to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Bertucci Jr. Aye - 3, Nays - 0, Absent - 1. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

Two letters were received from the State of Michigan. The first was about a proposed culvert repair on County Road 496. The second was a denied application from Edward Young to divert water into a pond on his property.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Carr made a motion to approve, with support from Bertucci Jr. Ayes - 3, Nays - 0, Absent - 1. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

- A. DNR grant discussion- Carr expressed concern putting the time and effort into applying for any of the grants, as Ely Township does not belong to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail Network. He discussed the point system and not being part of that system puts the Township at the

lowest totals possible. He asked how many times the Township voted joining down, and Bertucci Jr. said two.

- B. Carr clarified that it was decided to buy two to three picnic tables as budget would allow. He also stated he would get prices on the gravel, and that it would be a volunteer effort to spread. Bertucci stated that the Clarksburg field would be used the last weekend of August for the Sesquicentennial celebration. Carr stated he would approach the Board for purchase.
- C. The two corridor meeting minutes were discussed.
- D. Bertucci stated she would retype the Master Plan so it would be an editable document in Microsoft Works.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

VanLuven stated that property adjoining to the Harsila junk yard is also zoned Industrial, and property owners may be asking for re-zoning in the future. He also mentioned an altercation near the property by Jerzi's when photos were taken. The property has been cleaned up, including some junk that was left by a previous tenant. Bertucci Jr. asked for clarification on chainsaw noise complaints, and VanLuven verbally asked Mr. Berry, the business owner to cut after 9 am and stop before 8pm. He added that the chainsaw cutting is not all day, every day.

VanLuven then informed the Planning Commission that he sent two letters to the Quinnell family regarding issues with Mineral Extraction and Gravel Pits. Ken Quinnell Sr., who owns and operates a Gravel Pit on County Road CD, has piles of used and new asphalt, which is a violation of his permit. Ken Quinnell Jr. was observed hauling sand and gravel from his property on County Road CH, without a permit. The property in question is currently zoned Timber Production, and Mineral Extraction is allowed under a Conditional Use, but must go through the permit process. He noted that there is more progress at the Harsila junk yard involving clean-up.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Ruppel at 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Bertucci, Recording Secretary