

Douglass Township
Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2022

1. Call to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Recite Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
 - a. Jack Jeppessen – present
 - b. Tammy Sweeris – present
 - c. Becky Sowles – present
 - d. Rick Baldwin – present
 - e. Patrick Althoff – present
 - f. Paul Olson – present
 - g. Also attending: Ron Redick and Paul LeBlanc
4. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve by Pat
 - b. Supported by Tammy
 - c. Voice vote unanimous, motion carried
5. Public Comments
 - a. Laura Engle – Douglass Twp
 - b. Robert Scott – Sidney Twp
 - c. Keith Phelps – Douglass Twp (was removed from meeting by Chair after outbursts)
 - d. Kellie Jeppessen – Douglass Twp
 - e. Rick Harris – Douglass Twp
 - f. Chris Johnson – Pine Twp
 - g. Christy Williams – Douglass Twp
 - h. Cindy Schick – Douglass Twp
 - i. Eric Tester – Douglass Twp
 - j. Kay Scott – Sidney Twp
 - k. Melissa Bannen – Douglass Twp
 - l. Rick Baldwin – Douglass Twp
6. WECS Discussion/Debate
 - a. Rick Baldwin upset at receiving text messages about PC issues due to possibility of OMA violations or being FOIA'd. Ron explained rules regarding personal communications. Rick also voice concern about conflicts of interest and recusal processes. Per Ron members only need to recuse if they directly benefit from any ordinance. If member has to recuse themselves they must leave the table but it is an OMA violation to make them leave the room.
 - b. Discussion regarding LMax/ LEQ definitions. Per Ron Isabella County courts upheld LMax in ordinance as non-exclusionary.

- c. Discussion regarding seaplane base info for Clifford Lake
 - i. Ron gave research, law says no structures over 200 ft within 1.89 mile radius of runway, outside that area no height restrictions. This is assuming that the FAA approves the designation.
 - ii. FAA regulations do not override zoning ordinances, township could adopt a regulatory ordinance to prohibit seaplane activity as determined appropriate.
 - d. Section G.2, Tammy requested to have changed to “will be held in a large space”
 - e. Section G.4.e shall be changed to at least \$5 million
 - f. Sections G.4.e.3 and G.4.e.4 shall be changed to \$2 million
 - g. Section G.6.j.2.ii shall be changed to use previous 2 year cumulative rate
 - h. Section G.7.b.1 shall add that parts may be retained for use by submitting request to township
7. Discussion of sending Principle WECS ordinance to board for adoption
- a. Motion by Becky
 - b. Supported by Pat
 - c. Voice vote:
 - i. Rick – no
 - ii. Pat – yes
 - iii. Tammy – yes
 - iv. Becky – yes
 - d. Motion Carried, ordinance to be sent to board for approval after above changes
8. Secondary Ordinance Discussion
- a. Explanation by Ron about why the savings clause for the 2017 ordinance should be replaced in this ordinance. It allows the public the chance to referendum it and have it removed, giving the legal right they were denied before.
 - b. Motion by Tammy to submit with savings clause replaced
 - c. Supported by Becky
 - d. Voice vote
 - i. Rick – no
 - ii. Pat – yes
 - iii. Tammy – yes
 - iv. Becky – yes
 - e. Motion carried to send Secondary Ordinance to board for approval with savings clause inserted.
9. Discussion about options for rescinding the 2017 ordinance versus waiting for potential referendum of new ordinances
- a. Motion by Becky to hold public hearing at next PC meeting to rescind 2017 ordinance
 - b. Supported by Rick
 - c. Voice vote:
 - i. Rick – yes
 - ii. Pat – yes
 - iii. Tammy – yes
 - iv. Becky – yes
 - d. Motion carried, will hold public hearing at July 2022 PC meeting

10. Will go over master plan and ordinances at July PC meeting

11. Public Comments

- a. Christy Williams – Douglass Twp
- b. Rick Harris – Douglass Twp
- c. Cathy Craig – Douglass Twp
- d. Linda Reynolds – Douglass Twp
- e. Melissa Bannen – Douglass Twp
- f. Robert Scott – Sidney Twp
- g. Harvey Schick – Douglass Twp
- h. Robin Paulsen – Maple Valley Twp
- i. Brandy Bunting – Douglass Twp
- j. Kevin Murphy – Winfield Twp
- k. Eric Tester – Douglass Twp
- l. Holly Huff – Douglass Twp
- m. Kay Scott – Sidney Twp
- n. Kellie Jeppessen – Douglass Twp
- o. Cindy Schick – Douglass Twp
- p. Sheila Crooks – Douglass Twp
- q. Wendy Switala – Douglass Twp

12. Adjourn meeting

- a. Motion by Pat
- b. Supported by Becky
- c. Voice vote unanimous
- d. Meeting adjourned 9:05 p.m.

13. Next Meeting July 27, 2022 7:00 p.m. at Douglass Township Hall, will include public hearing

Submitted respectfully by Becky Sowles, secretary 5/28/22