

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CLAYTON  
PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER, 26, 2017, 6:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. DePottey called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Mr. Bower led the pledge to the flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Bower, Hyde, Suski, DePottey, Milem

Absent: McCartney, Widigan

Others Present: Ted Henry, Building and Zoning Administrator; Ken Tucker, Attorney; Deanna Turner, Stenographer

**APPROVE PROPOSED AGENDA**

Motion by Milem, supported by Bower to approve the proposed agenda of the September 26, 2017, Planning Commission regular meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AUGUST 29 2017**

Motion by Suski, supported by Milem to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2017 Planning Commission meeting, as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED.

**COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Milem said the issue of people having chickens was sent back to the Planning Commission by the Board of Trustees. Both Swartz Creek city and Flushing Township allow chickens at some extent. You have to have two acres in Flushing and it depends on the lot size in Swart Creek.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident One: I have some friends who live in Burton city and they can have chickens but no roosters.

Resident Two asked how much land is currently required in Clayton Township to own chickens. Mr. Milem said you have to own 10 acres in Clayton Township for domesticated farm animals.

Mr. Henry said 10.01 acres or more is the definition of a farm.

Mr. Suski said chickens roam around in Key West and the roosters crow all night long.

## **OLD BUSINESS/DISCUSSIONS**

### **1. SIGN ORDINANCE**

Mr. DePottey said the biggest thing is the political sign portion. He asked the planning commission if they want to change square footage, height, location, setback, etc. He said digital signs are currently only allowed in non-residential areas.

Mr. Milem asked how big is the American Legion sign. Mr. Henry said maybe 4x5 feet. He said the doctor's sign is larger than that.

A discussion ensued regarding how frequently messages should be able to change on digital signs.

Mr. Henry is going to confirm the height of a few digital signs for the next meeting.

Mr. Milem stated political signs cannot be governed by a time frame.

Mr. Tucker advised to list political signs under temporary signs, which includes garage sale signs, real estate, etc. and have the same rules for each one of them. He said it will take some time to go through the ordinance and clean it up.

Mr. Suski suggested a 60-day time frame for temporary signs and if left up past that point there would be a charge.

Mr. Tucker said you cannot regulate a sign based on its content.

Mr. Henry said a temporary sign doesn't require a permit.

Mr. Milem said they are not going to get it solved that night. He will get with Mr. Tucker and Mr. Henry to work on the definition of temporary signs.

## **CHICKENS**

Mr. Milem said he read about this under communications. He said they have looked at this issue before.

Ms. Hyde suggested leaving people to ask for a variance and leave it alone. Mr. DePottey said to ask for a variance they have to prove a hardship. Mr. Milem said that would be pretty tough, but 4-H could be a hardship.

**NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSIONS**

None.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

None.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Milem, supported by Bower to adjourn the Planning Commission meeting at 8:10 p.m.

**APPROVED BY:**

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Kevin DePottey, Chairperson

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Dennis Milem, Secretary