

Comins Township Planning Commission Elections Meeting
March 11th 2021

Call to order: 7:04

Roll Call: John McConnell, Dan Swartzendruber, Merianne Tappan, Arisa Handrich
Jerry Kunnath -absent

Invited Rob Murphy, Zoning Administrator, to the table

Approval of minutes:

February minutes approval will be tabled until next meeting.

Special Hearing minutes from March 8th. Two corrections, names spelled wrong. John M. made motion to accept, Arisa H. seconded. All in favor

Public Comment: No public in attendance

Guest Liz From ECT to answer any questions we may have regarding the Solar Panel project. Introduction and discussion on Pine Gates project.

Comins Twp is still working on the solar Power ordinance. The community needs more information. Some questions we have:

- Taxable benefit
- Structures and Layouts
- How long is the contract? (30 years)
- What happens to the structure once contract is over? (it is either refurbished or taken down)
- What if the next generation does not want the structure on the property if the original owner passes away before contract is up?
- How are buffer zones established?
- Do any other Twp have solar ordinances? (No.)
- Are there any solar farms that have completed the 30 year life? (not yet)
- Where are the solar panels made?
- Where does the power go? Where are the towers?
- Concern for the land after structure is gone (some steps are made to assure land is still agricultural after the panels are gone.)
- Why this particular piece of property? (It is ideal as it is flat and open.)
- Where is the nearest solar farm?

Liz answered what she could and made notes to take back of the questions and concerns she could not answer tonight. There are plans for another meeting with the representatives of Pine Gates in the future.

New Business:

none

Old Business:

Review of Master Plan– tabled until Jerry K made could be here. Review of Capital Improvement Plan. Work session to update. Draft was made. Some items to add:

- Pictures (before and after)
- New records vault
- Side walks
- Town square
- Welcome sign
- Maintenance vehicle
- Township hall parking lot and lighting
- Cemetery updates
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Adjournment: John M made motion, Arisa H 2nd 9:23 pm

Next meeting: April 8th, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Merianne Tappan