

November 30, 2016

The Portage Township Planning Commission November 30, 2016 meeting was called to order by chair Melanie Watkins at 7:05 PM. Present were Watkins, Ted Soldan, Dean Latendresse, Connie Sherry, Dave Rulison, and Peggy Anderson. Guests Bruce Petersen, and Bill Fink were also present.

The minutes from the October 5, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion by Peggy, seconded by Dean, and passed.

Peggy said that "tiny homes" were discussed at the township budget meeting.

The commission then began discussion of civil infractions, and the challenges of enforcing current zoning. Bill Fink, on behalf of the board of trustees, said that during budget discussions, he recommended setting aside \$10,000 for civil infraction enforcement. Bill suggested that our current zoning ordinance could be interpreted to allow no students at all. He felt the best thing to do is to follow the City of Houghton's rental and civil infractions ordinance.

Bill said he would like to see the planning commission put forth a civil infraction, rental ordinance, and an inspection form.

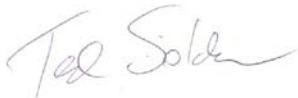
Melanie said she had been working on the rental ordinance, and requested that Ted take a look at it and that they work together on it before the next meeting. Ted agreed.

Bill said it is important to get the word out to the community that the township plans to enforce its zoning ordinance. Some ideas were to visit the local monthly realtor's meeting, provide press releases and legal notifications to the Gazette.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 28, 2016 (later changed to December 29.) One item on the agenda is to review the civil infractions and rental ordinance.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:12 pm by Peggy, seconded by Connie, and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted Soldan".

Ted Soldan, Secretary

Planning Commission 11/30/16

1. TED SOZDAN
2. Dean Latendresse
3. Constance Sherry
4. DE Puliser
5. Peggy Lu Amb
6. Bruce Peterson
7. Tsia Fink
8. Melaine Vothris