

MINUTES OF THE 489TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WEBSTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2018

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Zamansky in the Township Hall. The members stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

WTPC Members Present: John Westman, Charles Estleman, Andrea Zamansky, George Goodman, Kay Stremmler, Paul Zalucha, Tammy Koch

WTPC Members Absent: None

Also Present: Martha Zeeb, John Kingsley, Randy Raiford, John Scharf, Barb Calleja, Brant Savander, John Enos, and 5 citizens

I. Approval of Agenda: John Westman moved, 2nd by Charles Estleman, to accept tonight's agenda as presented. Motion carried.

II. Approval of Minutes: Charles Estleman moved, 2nd by George Goodman, to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

III. Township Board Report: John Westman reported that Andrea Zamansky, Charles Estleman, Tammy Koch and Kay Stremmler have been appointed to the Planning Commission for the term ending in 2021. Charles Estleman was appointed to the ZBA for the term ending in 2021.

IV. Zoning Administrator Report: Randy Raiford reviewed his "Zoning, Property Inspection & Code Enforcement Activity Report" dated December 19, 2018 (attached).

V. PDR Report: John Westman said they hope to close on a 145 acre property early next year.

VI. Comments from the Public: None

VII Recreational Marijuana Facilities

A. Andrea Zamansky said this issue is for the Township Board to act on and they can change their decision later. The State will come up with regulations that will preempt the Township. She read highlights from the many survey comments received from Township Residents- the majority was against facilities.

B. Call to Public for Recreational Marijuana Facilities

1. Donna Lipka wanted the Township to approve the facilities as the Township would get revenue we could use for streets. She has gone to other States that have it and it is fine.

2. Emma Zamansky did not want to legalize marijuana as it hurts children.

3. Steven Zamansky said the tax dollars to the Township would be minimal and the odor would be a nuisance for neighbors. There is not a test for drivers. It is illegal under Federal law and we don't know what rules the State will make. If we allow it facilities could be grandfathered.

4. Brant Savander went to a MTA training class and those he talked to plan to opt out to see what the State will do.

5. Steve West went to drug counseling as his son had issues. He lived in Colorado and it is now skid row there due to the marijuana distribution. He asked to keep it far away from our kids.

C. Andrea Zamansky said the Township would only receive 15% of the 10% tax from retail sales – after the State has been reimbursed for their costs. . The State has a year to make regulations, and if none the Township will need to provide regulations until the State makes some. The maximum fine is \$500.00. If we opt out we can later opt in, after we see

the State regulations. The Federal Government could step in and not allow it. She referenced the SRSly resolution memo received today (attached) which stated that Marijuana is the forerunner to other drug use, restrictive signage is unconstitutional, and recreational marijuana cannot be restricted to a particular zoning district.

- D. John Enos, Planner, said this is the only use that can be excluded by opting out with a Township Board Ordinance. He recommended opting out until we see the State law as the revenue will help the State but not Webster Township. Ann Arbor is a major facility and it will be large scale operations and not a local guy. Medical marijuana operations will fade away after large facilities come.
- E. Charles Estleman said the MTA says to not over ride Federal Law so we should opt out as we can change in the future.
- F. John Westman said most citizen responses liked the positive revenue flow, but the Township's share would be so small it would have zero impact. It would decrease property value and residents don't want industrial enterprises. He suggested we opt out.
- G. Paul Zalucha said the State Licensing Regulations Dept has 24 months. There are 5 dispensaries where he grew up and rich people moved in to raise it so the money doesn't stay in the Township. He wants to opt out.
- H. George Goodman said to opt out for more study and to wait for State guidelines because we must take applications if we don't opt out before 365 days. He knows a legal local grower who doesn't want large scale operations next to them due to the smell.
- I. Tammy Koch said it was good to opt out to wait for State regulations as the Township doesn't need large scale operations. Medical Marijuana helps people's pain.
- J. Kay Stremmer suggested we not wait to opt out. Andrea Zamansky said the State will be accepting applications which will be granted as soon as the State is ready if we don't opt out. John Enos said the Township could allow 1 dispensary and 1 processing facility but there is not much revenue, there could be crime, and a nuisance odor.
- K. Andrea Zamansky moved, 2nd by Charles Estleman, that the Planning Commission advise the Board of Trustees of Webster Township to opt out of allowing any recreational marijuana facilities of any nature in Webster Township immediately. A roll call vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

VIII: Public Participation: Steve West thanked the Commissioners.

IX. Information/Correspondence: None

X. Paul Zalucha moved, 2nd by Kay Stremmer, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Regular Meeting: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Koch, Secretary

TK:mlz

Copy to: J. Kingsley

B. Calleja

R. Raiford

