

APPROVED

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION - February 13, 2017

Minutes (APPROVED)

1 Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 PM EST

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Roll Call: Mr Oakley, Mr Tapio, Mr Richter, Mr Nannestad, Mr Sandbloom, Mr Feldhusen, Mr Kraft (absent), also present Mr Knapp, Zoning Administrator

4 Approval of Agenda: Mr Tapio motioned acceptance and seconded by Mr Nannestad. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

5 Approval of Minutes January 9, 2017: Mr Tapio motioned acceptance as amended and seconded by Mr Nannestad. Approval passed on unanimous voice vote.

6 Public Comments: No public comments.

7 Reports:

Zoning Administrators Report: Motion to accept by Mr Tapio and seconded by Mr Sandbloom. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

Zoning Maps Update: Mr Knapp handed out the updated zoning map as received by Marquette County. After admitting the zoning map was never official, the new map would be updated with current road names instead of Marquette County lettering for roads. The computerized version should be available for the next PC meeting. Mr Nannestad motioned and Mr Sandbloom seconded that a public hearing be held prior to the next PC meeting on March 13, 2017 and include the overhead projector and computerized version of the map is available for public to review the proposed official map. A roll call vote was taken with all voting in favor and none voting against.

Other issues: Mr. Knapp also brought up an issue with another trailer parked on private property and much discussion transpired. Mr Tapio moved to have the Republic Township board deal with the trailer, seconded by Mr. Sandbloom. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

Recreation Committee: Mr Jim Brennan reported there was no February meeting as they did not have a quorum. He also indicated progress was being made on the picnic tables but further work needs to be done. He also indicated that a private party complaint to the DEQ resulted in the dam being shut down and not operated again until the owner secures an operating permit from the DEQ. Neither Jim nor the Sportsman's Club will be able to raise or lower the dam until that time. Currently the dam is in the up position.

PC Chairperson's Report: Mr Oakley handed out the PC Handbook to all members. He also handed Out a report entitled "Old Economy vs New Economy. The significance being Republic's old Economy was based on mining and logging and the new economy is based on tourism and recreation. He asked each member to give it some thought for discussion at the next PC meeting. He also handed Out a handset entitled "Policy and Strategy" for review and discussion at the next PC meeting.

8 Old Business: None

9 New Business: What can we as the PC do to help the township move forward?...Several problems were discussed, the hardware store expansion being held up by property owner between current store and the former care center; brownfield properties. Specifically mentioned were the old shell station and the county garage in South Republic. Mr Feldhusen was asked to talk to the board about what could be done and Mr Brennan indicated he would find out whom to contact at State or County level and report back to the PC. Repeat business at the campground may be a problem once campers find out the nearest gas and grocery purchase place is in South Republic. Also discussed was the potential of the Economic Development Committee being revived. Mr Sandbloom indicated he had served on it before. This revival is to be considered and brought up at the next PC meeting.

Things ahead for 2017 (CIP, Preparation for 2019 update to Masterplan, etc. No action taken.

- 10 **Public Comments:** Mr. Brennan asked about the status of the ordinance update that was completed last June and submitted to the Township Board. The board chose not to act on those recommendations through the remainder of the year nor the new board that has taken over in December. No action on their part either and no response as well.
- 11 **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn was made Mr Tapio and seconded by Mr Nannestad, Mr Sandbloom, Mr Feldhusen, Mr Richter and Mr Oakley. No vote needed.

Respectfully Submitted by:

_____ Date: _____
William Richter
Planning Commission Secretary