

**BROOKS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
July 25, 2016
APPROVED MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Matt Arthur, Pat Baker, Mike Bouwer, Phil Knape, Cheryl Rosen, Ryan Schultz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Pitzer

STAFF PRESENT: Zoning Official Joe Selzer, Supervisor Cory Nelson

Vice Chairman Knapp called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. This meeting was properly posted and a quorum of the Brooks Township Planning Commission was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Bouwer, **Seconded** by Schultz to accept the agenda as presented.
Approved Unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Bouwer, **Seconded** by Rosen to accept the minutes of the June 27, 2016 Meeting as written.
Approved Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments received.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PUBLIC HEARING: Sec. 3.04c Clearing of Land

Moved by Baker, **Seconded** by Bouwer to close the regular PC meeting and open the public hearing.

Approved Unanimously

ZO Selzer said we received a letter from Attorney Cliff Bloom saying we could do two things, either remove this ordinance or amend it by clarifying the language. The PC voted to remove it last month which required the PH to receive public comment.

Comments were received.

Moved by Schultz, **Seconded** by Arthur to close the Public Hearing and reconvene the regular PC meeting.

Approved Unanimously

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Sec. 3.04c Clearing of Land: Knape asked if anyone had talked to Ryan Coffey, Land Use Expert for Newaygo County from Michigan State Extension, to see if Coffey had any opinions regarding this. No one had. There was discussion on getting more input or not before we send it to the Township Board. It was brought up that we need to keep with the Master Plan that has given us direction. The PC will be working on the Master Plan soon.

There was more discussion whether to keep this ordinance or remove it. The PC can look at this and other rules when we work on the Master Plan. Selzer said we use the planner not the attorney when we work on the Master Plan and get input from them if needed. The ZO said Attorney Bloom said we could remove Sec. 3.04c or amend it.

Moved by Baker, **Seconded** by Rosen to send of Sec. 3.04c Clearing of Land to the Township Board for removal.

Approved Unanimously

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion on Patio Paver Definition:

Selzer said a resident poured a 17' x 17' concrete slab in the LD greenbelt area without a permit. He was told he could use pavers. However, the resident ended up cutting 24" x 24" sections in the concrete slab. We needed a definition for paver's and he wanted to be sure this is okay. The definition of a paver states; brick, tile, stone or block used for paving.

There was discussion on the different types of pavers, and can a concrete slab that is cut into paver size be used as pavers are made from concrete. It was decided if someone wants to make their own pavers, they can. However, if they are in the greenbelt they have to do the restoration of natural vegetation.

Selzer read through the ordinance section on this and it was decided no paver definition is needed.

STAFF UPDATE: (see attached)

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Baker, **Seconded** by Bower to adjourn.
Knapp adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Baker
Planning Commission Secretary

Maureen Dutkiewicz
Recording Secretary