

# Milton Township

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## Planning Commission

Members: Jeremy Clanton, Richard Hebard, Ron Jureziz, Sandra Redman, Diane Shields, Kelly Sweeney and Sharon Ward

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### Minutes for March 7, 2011 Meeting

Call to Order: 6:30 P.M.

Roll Call: All present except Diane Shields

Agenda: Accepted as written

Approval of the Minutes: Approved with the addition of the time of adjournment of 8:50 P.M. added

Public Comments: None

Zoning Administrator's Report: Several lot line adjustments and lot divisions are pending. A new Zoning map and a new tax assessment map have been placed on the wall in the Township Hall. It is anticipated that the EPA will be lifting the restriction on building around the landfill in the north-east corner of the Township. Apparently there is still a plume underground present however the levels of contamination in the plume are almost not measurable.

Township Board Members Report: The Board has reduced some of the Planning Commission's requests in their submitted budget request for next year. The Board's public Hearing for next year's budget is scheduled for March 23.

Zoning Board of Appeals: No activity

#### Old Business:

- 1) Private Road Ordinance: After a discussion of the four private road ordinances that the Zoning Administrator had submitted, it was decided that we should focus on the Marathon Township and Ontwa Township Private Road Ordinances. The members were asked to study those in detail and be prepared to develop a Township private Road Ordinance at our next meeting in April. Joe Bellina from the Cass County Road Commission was expected to appear to discuss the Road Commission's approach to private roads but he did not appear. He will be invited for our next meeting.
- 2) Master Plan Update: It was pointed out that the larger foldout maps were removed from our most recent copy of the Master Plan received from Williams and Work and were replaced with smaller single page maps. The

Township News Letter has not yet been sent out, therefore the public announcement of the Master Plan Open House has not occurred. During the meeting a phone call to the Supervisor was made and it was determined that the newsletter would not go for 7-10 days. We felt that was insufficient notice for the public for our open house scheduled for April 2; therefore, it was decided to reschedule the open house for May 14 or 7 pending confirmation with Williams and Works.

- 3) Response to the Niles Township Proposed Master Plan: The only concern noted was that they have listed several businesses in their township which have been closed for several years. The required letter will be prepared and sent to the Zoning Administrator of Niles Township.
- 4) Medical Marihuana: Ron reported on the results of the meeting with the Cass County Marihuana Group. After a length discussion it was determined that establishing an Ordinance dealing with medical marihuana is going to be a very difficult proposition given the way the state Legislature has written the present laws. In addition it was pointed out that multiple cities are presently in litigation over their attempts to establish local ordinances. Because of the complexity of this problem as well as a lack of case law it was decided that the Planning Commission should recommend to the Board that we establish a 6 month moratorium for "caregivers" in Milton Township to give the Planning Commission time to properly draw up an appropriate ordinance. Since it was recognized that even the issue of a moratorium has been litigated over the marihuana issue, it was decided to defer this referral to the Board for one month to research the proper wording and documentation for such a moratorium.

New Business: None

Board Member Comments: None

Announcements: None

Time of adjournment: 8:55 P.M.

Respectively submitted,



Ron Jureziz, Secretary

Approved On: April 4, 2011