

**White Oak Township Planning Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
August 22, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Planning Commission Members John Kemler, Missy Noll, and Megan Willis-Redfern. and Katrina Griffith-Zoning Administrator. Also in attendance were Chris Khorey from McKenna, and several residents of the Township (see attached list). Also in attendance was Captain Andy Daenzer and Brandon Doerr, Ingham County Sheriff's Office, CO John "Rusty" Byars, DNR.

Introduction of the Board: Introductions were made of the Board.

Approval of Agenda: John made a motion to accept the Agenda; Meg seconded. Agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes: John made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2023, meeting as written; Meg seconded. Minutes approved.

Special Meeting – Discussion of Gun Ordinance:

We began the discussion with the Captain and Conservation Officer Byars indicating that if there were complaints by citizens of the Township and we did not have a gun ordinance, they would still come out and investigate as it could fall under a State or Federal law.

Public Hearing on Gun Ordinance:

Missy opened the Public Hearing on the gun ordinance. Citizens made known their concerns known to the Board. John Kemler read into the record a note from a concerned citizen, Corey Post. This is attached and made a part of these minutes.

As we did not have a quorum, the Planning Commission members make the following suggestions to the Gun Ordinance:

1. Backstop be from the shoot slope.
2. The setback and backstop height should be equivalent to the 4H safety measures.
3. The minimum lot size for a commercial-scale outdoor gun range shall be changed to 40 acres rather than 10 acres (E)(1).

Chris is going to make the discussed changes, and this will be reviewed when we have a quorum of the Planning Commission.

Special Meeting – Discussion of Noise Ordinance:

Citizens made known their concerns known to the Board.

Public Hearing on Noise Ordinance:

Missy opened the Public Hearing on the noise ordinance. The citizens who spoke up do not understand why it is necessary. Also, they would like the decibels to not exceed 85 decibels (instead of 75). Want the time changed from midnight and 7 a.m. (from 6:00 a.m.).

The public requests something simpler in the noise ordinance. Chris is going to work on this and get an updated version to the Planning Commission.

Special Meeting – Allen Baker’s Request for a Renewal of his Special Use Permit:

Received an application from Allen Baker to renew his special use permit to allow for a dog training facility for the purpose of training dogs to track/hunt coyotes on his properties 33-12-12-17-200-002 and 33-12-12-17-200-004.

Public Hearing on Baker’s Renewal of Special Use Permit: Missy opened the Public Hearing on the renewal of the special use permit.

Mr. and Mrs. Crandall were present to discuss their concerns They are asking for the following changes:

1. Monday through Friday beginning at 6:30 a.m.
2. Saturday and Sunday beginning at 7:00 a.m.
3. Preferably, they would like the business to be closed on Sundays.

Mr. Baker indicated that he would try and comply with their requests.

As the Planning Commission did not have a quorum, nothing was voted on, just discussed.

Other Township Business:

A citizen asked about the process of getting the roads fixed in the Township. John explained that it is a 50%/50% split with the County Road Commission and the Township. This type of matter is discussed at the regular Board meetings.

Next Meeting:

The next Planning Commission meeting is not scheduled at this time.

Adjournment:

John Kemler made a motion to adjourn; Megan Willis-Redfern seconded. Motion passed. Meeting closed at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Missy Noll
Planning Commission Chair