

CLYDE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes May 14th, 2024

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m

Roll Call:

Present: John Dennis, Franz Neruda, Leigh Grimes – Fill in Recording Secretary, Nick Weaver – Vice Chair, Stephen Sullivan

Absent: Mike McGriff, Colleen Skrypkun – Recording Secretary,

Additions to the Agenda: Ranger Power to be removed from the agenda per their request. New Business Add State Representative Andrew Beeler.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion Made Leigh Grimes

Motion Seconded John Dennis

Motion Approved

Approval of Minutes:

February 13, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting

Motion Made Leigh Grimes

Motion Seconded Franz Neruda

Motion Approved

March 11th, 2024 Planning Commission Public Hearing

Motion Made Franz Neruda

Motion Seconded Leigh Grimes

Motion Approved

April 9th, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting

Tabled To June Meeting

Franz

John

Public Comment (On Agenda Items):

Chris Barto 4607 Metcalf:(Topic Ranger Power) Reread John Borkovich affecting wildlife from solar polar. It was also read and noted from public hearing comments. He has 27 Years with the DNR

Andrea Heering: 4490 Cole Rd Ft Gratiot (Topic Ranger Power) If they have come up with a solution to our wells with the water run-off. Do not see it in any minutes. She also discussed The new law giving the mspc control has been passed and signed by Whitmer but doesn't go into effect until the end of Nov 2024...the ballot initiative to restore local control will be on the ballot the 1st part of November and when its passed it will repeal the law giving the control back to the local governments...IF... for some reason the mspc retains control and the local government had previously denied the Solar companies application then a new application has to be submitted to the local government again and the local government has 4 months to make their determination before the applicant can go to the mspc for them to force it in an area...if the local government says yes to the applicant and before the law is repealed then they CAN'T revoke that yes once the law is repealed.

Billie Nugent 4980 McIntyre Rd: (Topic Ranger Power) Andrea hit it on the head. I was talking to Tobey at the convention center, in regard to our well water. Advise to have wells tested 6 months before they start and continue after every 6 months (Franz mentioned he would make a phone call to the county)

Angela Defrain 5045 Parker Rd – If they were here I would have more to say. I am against the project. I do have the petition for cities for local choice

Jill Barto 4607 Metcalf:– Still against this project. It will affect our real-estate values and moving

Shane Richarson 3775 Pollina Ave: – Thank you very much for all the time you guys have put into and the research.

Strongly oppose solar along Clyde township agricultural land. Does not offer health and wellness. Bold and fine state that addresses your ordinance. Will expand 30-

Sandy Richardson 4126 Cole Rd: Thank Mr. Beeler for taking the time to come to the township to listen to the residents. This is not for the community. We have put tons of money into our farms to raise our kids. Not fair that the state has just decided this is ok. This is a disgrace to see this taken out underneath us with no notice. Senior Citizens on her road have no idea how to sell their homes and move on. So thank you again for being here.

Vance Richardson 4126 Cole Rd: Attended numerous meetings, opposed to the solar that has been pushed upon us. Take over 1000 acres of privately owned land. Clyde plus Fort Gratiot. Solar projects result in the loss of agricultural land. This is the beginning; they will keep asking for more. Port Side Solar says that it does not. It will be tied up for 40 years. They said it will give part-time jobs but not think of all the farming jobs that will be eliminated. Who wants to buy land like that? Also aware that Chris Barto has circulated petitions with 400 signatures in our township. Please do diligence to help turn this thing down.

Tom Nutt 4481 North Rd: Concerned about the roundabout with all the plastic in the ditches. It has been over a year, when are they going to take it out?

Austin Richardson 4126 Cole Rd: Stress that I do not support the solar project. It is not 1.2 acre or 1 it is 100s. Not harmonious for the landowners. Please, do your due diligence in representing your residences.

Zoning Administrator Comments/Reports: N/A

Old Business:

Ranger Power – Removed per their request

Zoning Ordinance Section 15.18 Keeping of Pets and Livestock

Bonnie asked if the planning commission would look into this for the next meeting.

Blight Ordinance #66 Junk Vehicles

Pulled ordinances from adjoining townships for reference. Recently took a residence to court.

Our ordinance was questioned by the court. Would like to see the township

Next month's agenda See highlighted area. John asked if it needed to be deleted. Bonnie stated it needs more teeth.

Motion Leigh

Franz seconded

Motion Moved

New Business:

State Representative Andrew Beeler started by saying “thank you to the Planning Commission members for a thankless job.” He grew up in Grant Twp on 20 acres that his father still owns in a non-industrial location. He went on to talk about the Solar Bill that the Governor had on the table, that he was opposed to. The States main focus is Green Energy, and the Planning Commission is in an uncomfortable position. If locally it is decided to not allow Solar, it will then go to the MPSC after the first of the year. There are so many unanswered questions as to how this will all play out. And Mr. Beeler offered himself to be a resource to the township and the residents.

Announcements & Correspondence: NA

Public Comments

Austin Rich: Look back through history and events, look at people who held their ground. Sports team, army. It is recognized. The community wants representation. You are doing your due diligence, are you able to contract third-party research? To verify the information.

Sandra Richardson: agree with Austin if all this went south our board and representatives fought for us. Legal question with someone who deals with this, not a township lawyer. Specialty, the horrible gray area, go ahead and pass this to keep control. Would like legal advice and not be passed because you are nervous. Do not be shy. You have citizens pushing like you

are. Second what they said. You have Morales, even if it gets worse. People think that you did everything you could. You should have faith in the citizens. This is not Republican or Democrat and is opposed by both sides. Have faith in us. Wales Township put a moratorium. Did Ranger Power go to the MPSC to push it through? We need a hold on ours to lower decibels. Big decision If the board says yes, they follow ours. Put an ordinance side by side with ours It is signed into law, just not in effect Group of us in Fort Gratiot, we hired a lawyer. Yes it passed, yes she signed it not effect until November 29th. The vote is before the law goes into effect. People can help have a choice. Our vote is before this goes into effect. They are not allowed to apply to MPSC until February 2025. If a community has a moratorium they can straight to the MPSC. The township will turn it down twice before they can apply.

Susan Sniegocki: I was reading our constitution and Bill of rights. A lot of people do not know that the people in power had led the Chinese government to buy a lot of land out west. So now we are trying to ruin the only good land we have left. We cannot let it go to that. We will be overturned by inside voices. We will not have the Untied States of America and the Chinese will own us. These females, the great witches of Lansing take away our rights just to be in charge. We need to overturn these fools. That is what I vote for in our nation stop voter fraud.

Rick Janereski: How did they acquire the land? Is it emanate domain? On to that lease can the township put a clause? Environmental fee later down the road.

News and Views NA

Meeting Adjourned: 8:05

Leigh Grimes, Recording Secretary