

SPRING ARBOR TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013.

The regular meeting of the Spring Arbor Township Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Carl Jacobson at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall.

Members Present: David Herlein, Carl Jacobson, Susan Luplow, Ken Melville, Matt Potter, Mel Rice, and Richard Roth

Members Absent: Mike Archer and Doug Martz

Guests: none

Staff: Jan Gardner - Township Zoning Administrator

Minutes: On a motion by Roth and seconded by Melville the minutes for the January 8, 2013 meeting were accepted. Approved.

Public Comment: none.

New Business

Public Hearing/Text Amendment-Sign Regulations: Jan Gardner distributed a final draft (Draft #3 dated January 21, 2013) of the proposed text amendment that will allow electronic message signs as a permitted use in office, commercial and industrial zoning districts subject to certain limitations. There was no public comment on the proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. A motion was made by Herlein and seconded by Rice to recommend to the Township Board the adoption of the proposed text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance (Article 9 and Article 5.)

Request to Allow Chickens in Residential Zoning District: Jan Gardner shared her research information as to what other communities (cities and townships) have done regarding this issue which was raised by a Township resident at the January meeting. Following discussion, a motion was made by Jacobson and seconded by Luplow to not pursue an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow chickens in Residential zoning districts. Yes - 6, No - 1. Approved.

Reports: Jan Gardner answered questions regarding the Zoning Board of Appeals minutes, for all meetings held in the 2012 calendar year and one held on January 17, 2013, which were mailed to commission members in advance of this meeting.

Jan Gardner informed the commission of a ruling by the Michigan Supreme Court, made on February 8, 2013 impacting medical marijuana dispensaries. She stated that she did not believe that the ruling would require any changes to the proposed text amendment which will likely go to the Township Board for approval in March.

Member Comments: none

Respectfully submitted,

David Herlein, Secretary