

## **Planning Commission Meeting Minutes August 20, 2019**

The Empire Township Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Tom Kaldunski at 8:00 p.m.

Present were: Tom Kaldunski, Trent Larson, Jared Sachs, Chris Williamson, Bob Bjerke, Charles Seipel, Jane Kansier and liaison Ed Gerten.

Representatives for Maxim Litvinov auto sales at 20485 Chippendale Avenue West were present to discuss the Planning Commission's concerns regarding violations of their IUP. The Planning Commission pointed out that there were still boats stored on the property and vehicles were parked off of the hard surface area as well as outside the fenced in area. Jeff Barrett stated that he will have the boats removed from the property by October 31st of this year.

Mr. Litvinov asked if the IUP could be amended to allow more space for vehicles. Jane Kansier reported that the current IUP is up for renewal in November. It may be possible to incorporate modifications to the IUP if they begin the process of applying for the amendments in October. The Planning Commission advised that everything on the property needs to be brought into compliance before an amendment is applied for. Mr. Litvinov stated that he will work to bring the property into compliance as soon as possible.

The Planning Commission asked Mr. Barrett about the status of boats parked on his property at 21690 Blaine Ave. Mr. Barrett stated that the boats will be removed in preparation for the upcoming sale of his home. He plans to begin marking the sale of his home and property this coming spring.

Julie Feehan, a resident at 3562 194th Street West, was present to request information on what options are available to construct a living space for her parents on her property. She owns the parcel at which her home is located and an adjacent parcel behind her home. She inquired about the options of constructing a separate unit behind her home or a unit onto her existing home. The Planning Commission advised that a separate living unit could not be constructed, but it may be possible to construct dwelling space into her existing home as long as the living unit shares access with the primary dwelling so that it cannot be used as a separate rental unit in the future. Space may also be added to the garage. Jane Kansier asked Ms. Feehan to come up with a plan for adding onto the existing home. The Planning Commission stated that they would like to work with Ms. Feehan on coming up with a solution and welcomed her to bring her plans to the Commission for further recommendations.

The Planning Commission reviewed the list of existing IUP's and CUP's. Jane Kansier asked for assistance in filling out some of the blanks on the list, relating to addresses and dates associated with these permits. The permits are being added into a GIS database.

It was reported that the Town Board has decided that the nuisance ordinance will be enforced on a complaint basis. If the Planning Commission has concerns about a property, they should be discussed and brought forward as a formal complaint. It was recommended that a letter be sent to Jeff Barrett to make sure that he is aware that his property cannot be sold as a boat repair business. It was recommended that property owners of the solar farm property be advised that grass and weeds need to continuously be mowed. It was also requested that Seipel check with the City of Farmington to see who is responsible for trimming grass and weeds in and around the Fairhill Development.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.