

Athens Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2022

Opening

The regular meeting of the Athens Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on June 16, 2022, and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Planning Commissioners Present

Dave Beckstrom, Marlys Balfany, Dean Thompson, Jack Cole, Jason Ross, Mike Jungbauer, Township Clerk Diane Carpenter

Guests Present

Several residents attended

Approval of Minutes

M/S Jason Ross/Dean Thompson to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

None.

Public Hearing

-Yellow Rose West Development.

Mike explained to the board and residents how the land will be divided and provided a map of the area being discussed. Most of the lots will be ten acres and will share driveways that access highway 23. 1 building right will go with each lot. Neighbors Curt Carpenter and Matt Lamb will be adding to the acreage already owned by their current properties.

Resident concerns:

Tom Williams was concerned about the increase in traffic flow and already dangerous intersections in that area. There is not a lot the town

ship can do except request enhanced enforcement of the speed restrictions and stop signs already in place.

Tom Freund was concerned about the lime on part of the land.

Matt Lamb will be purchasing that area and has been sent a letter regarding surveying, disposal, covering etc.

Steve Gilbraith had questions about access to lots, tax values, and lime spreading. These were addressed.

M/S Marlys Balfany/Jason Ross to send resolution to the board recommending approval of the preliminary and final plat of the Yellow Rose West addition. Motion passed unanimously.

-Green Barn Farms Sunflower Festival

Mike explained the event which has been taking place for a few years already in Athens Township. Mike relayed that the event complies with most restrictions in the Rural Tourism Ordinance with a few exceptions.

A discussion was held and since this is a temporary event, the following changes were recommended:

The event should be covered by an IUP and not a CUP because of the nature of the event. It should include hours of operation, maximum occupancy for safety reasons, access by emergency personnel, no parking signs on adjoining streets and roads, only secondary music, handicap parking, no liquor, no overnight parking, temporary event signs down 65 so people approaching know what side of the road it is on, etc.

All residents were in favor of the event, just some concerns about traffic and safety.

M/S Marlys Balfany/Jack Cole for Mike to create a resolution to sent to P&Z members then on to the Board for the July meeting to expedite approval of the event. Motion passed unanimously

New Business

No new business was discussed because of the time taken for the public hearings. All was deferred to July's meeting.

Old Business

None was discussed

Adjournment

M/S Dean Thompson/Jack Cole to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Diane Carpenter