

ATHENS TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
7:00 pm Athens Township Government Center  
Minutes of Thursday, 6/21/2018

1. *Pledge of Allegiance:* The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. *Roll Call:* The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Dave Beckstrom. Members present were Dan Woodfill, Marlys Balfany, Dave Henderson, Dave Beckstrom, Cindy Anderson, and Jack Cole. Also present was Zoning Administrator, Ryan Grittman,

Chair Beckstrom introduced new member Jack Cole.

3. *Minutes of 5/17/2018:* A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Henderson, motion seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.
4. *Open Forum:* Beckstrom opened the public forum. Seeing no residents present for the open forum, Beckstrom closed the public forum.
5. *Public Hearings:*

**a. Continued public hearing on home occupations**

Chair Beckstrom reopened the public hearing and asked Planner Grittman for an update on what the Board had requested at their previous meeting.

Planner Grittman stated that the Board was uncomfortable with item number 3 which states "only articles made or originating on the premises shall be sold on the premises unless the articles for sale are incidental to a permitted commercial service." Planner Grittman stated that this is language comes from the County Ordinance so the only two options are to either pass it as is or restrict incidental sales.

Chair Beckstrom stated that he believed that the Board was also concerned about item number 4 which calculates how large the home occupation can be.

*Motion to table action was made by Commissioner Henderson and directed Staff to contact the County on how the 25% floor space is calculated and verify with the Board what they want to see changed and what their concerns are. Motion Seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.*

**b. Continued public hearing on private road easements.**

Planner Grittman stated that this ordinance update is to correct a gap in the zoning ordinance. Currently, "private road easements" are referenced in the Town Code, but not in the definitions. This ordinance update will give a definition

to "private road easements". Planner Gritman also noted that the County does not have a definition for "private road easements".

*Commissioner Henderson made a motion to approve the zoning ordinance amendment as presented. Motion seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.*

6. *Old Business:*

a. **Hopkins wetland filling**

Planner Gritman stated that he completed a site visit of 26080 Rum River Drive along with County Staff. The property owner is in the process of removing some fill that placed in the wetland last summer. The property owner is cooperating with Township and County Staff to correct the problem.

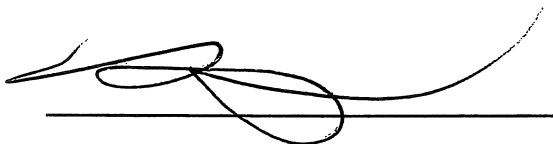
7. *New Business:*

a. **Tar plant IUP**

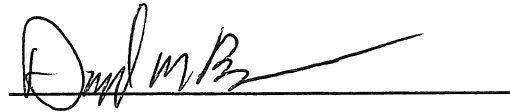
Chair Beckstrom stated that the Planning Commission will be looking at updating the tar plant IUP ordinance that was placed under a one year moratorium last summer.

8. *Adjournment:* Commission Balfany made a motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Minutes approved on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.



Ryan Gritman, Zoning Administrator



Dave Beckstrom, Planning Chair