

**Athens Township Planning Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2023**

**Opening**

The regular meeting of the Athens Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on March 16, 2023 and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Planning Commissioners Present**

Todd Christensen, Marlys Balfany (Remote), Jack Cole, Jason Ross, AJ Ondrey, Township Clerk Diane Carpenter and Mike Jungbauer

**Guests Present**

Several residents attended.

**Approval of Minutes**

M/S Jason Ross/Jack Cole to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Open Forum**

None

The Public Hearing for Dennis Sharp CUP for storage facility was opened. Mike explained what the project was and read the staff recommendations on the last page of the report. Lyle Reynolds represented Dennis Sharp as he was unable to attend.

Several residents had questions – see following:

Gary Oman asked about ground pollution.

Tim Swanson asked about noise.

Kelly Robyn asked about tree removal.

Greg Eiffler asked about barriers.

Greg Hanson asked if outdoor storage was allowed.  
Todd Robyn asked about mandating security requirements.  
Dave Henderson asked if fencing can be taller than six feet.  
Chris Vogt asked about road signage.  
Other issues that arose included oak wilt, limiting hours of operation, and tarring the road.

Mike explained that many of these issues are controlled by state statute such as pollution, noise etc. Others will be addressed in the site plan which is being prepared. Lyle explained the site plan which addressed issues like tree removal and property lines. Mike also stated that some things like outdoor storage are prohibited by our ordinances. Operating hours were discussed and a consensus was 5AM to 11 PM.  
The public hearing was closed.

Discussion was held by the P&Z members.  
M/S Jason Ross/AJ Ondrey to proceed with CUP. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

Mike will work on the dog ordinance, creating a resolution adding language for the March Board meeting.  
M/S Jack Cole/Jason Ross to send this to the Board for approval.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Mike discussed work sessions with P&Z. We will set up a schedule after Mike's surgery and when Marlys is back from AZ.

A discussion was held about the road access near George's greenhouse. AJ will research the issue with MNDOT.

Mike will retitle the ADU ordinance to ADU and secondary dwellings because of the larger size ADU. He also discussed separate well and septic. He also said that if a garage is converted to an ADU, the resident is not required to replace the garage as we have no garage ordinance in the township.

Tom Heinen is helping get docs ready for scanning.

M/S Jack Cole/Marlyns Balfany to adjourn the meeting at 9:00.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Diane Carpenter