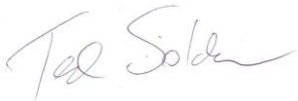


The Portage Township Planning Commission (PC) July 15, 2021 public hearing was called to order at 7:00 PM via Zoom by chair Melanie Watkins. Present were Watkins, Ted Soldan, Jeff Koski, John Ligon, Connie Sherry, and Peggy Anderson. Guests John Ollila, Patrick Carlson, and John Paul Pietila were also present. No signup sheet was available since it was a Zoom meeting, so the chair made a strong effort to make sure everyone was accounted for before the meeting started.

The purpose of this public hearing was to receive input from the public regarding some proposed changes to the zoning ordinance. The suggested changes (see attached memo) were submitted to the commission by Zoning Administrators John Ollila and Bill Bingham, and are based on their experiences in the field.

Chair Watkins went through the attached memo item by item seeking any clarification or input from the public and/or commission members. There being no input, the public hearing was declared concluded by Watkins at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Ted Soldan, Secretary

To: Portage Township Planning Commission

From: Melanie Watkins, Chair; John Ollila, Zoning Administrator

Re: Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Date: June 24, 2021

The following changes to the Portage Township Zoning Ordinance of November 2015 will be discussed by the Portage Township Planning Commission at a Public Hearing on July 15, 2021.

1. Add the following statement as a permitted use in B-1, B-2, LAR, MU, and M-1:

“Any other business or establishment determined by the Planning Commission to be of the same general character as the preceding permitted uses.”

2. Change Sec. 3.12, 5C, Rear lot setback to 35 ft..

3. Remove 'Tiny Houses' in all zoning districts.

4. Permit dwellings less than 900 sq. ft. for substandard lots in R-3.

5. Change the minimum floor area for single family dwellings to 500 sq. ft. in FF, RUR, RER, LAR, B-2, and B-4.

6. Change Sec. 8.2, Item C to read:

“ Residential and privacy fences are permitted on the property lines in residential districts, but shall not exceed ten (10) ft. in height and shall not be closer than two (2) ft. to any public right-of-way.”