

Licking Township Zoning Commission

c/o Andrea M. Lynch, Zoning Clerk

Paul Matthews, Interim Chairman;

Dale Ours; Guy Zierk; Terry Clark

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Minutes from the Licking Township Zoning Commission, January 22, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Dale Wise at 6:31 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commission Members present at roll call: Dale Wise; Terry Clark; Paul Matthews; Guy Zierk; Dale Ours.

Absent: N/A

Others in Attendance: Doug Howell; Andrea Lynch

Mr. Zierk made a motion to approve the minutes

Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Wise, yes; Clark, yes; Matthews, yes; Zierk, yes; Ours, yes.

Mr. Zierk led a conversation concerning the recent decision made by the Licking Township Trustees pursuant to an application from Performance Training Solutions requesting a text amendment to add a heavy equipment training school to the conditional uses in the IB district. A discussion took place. Several commission members voiced concern about the merit of their role based on the Trustees non-support of the commission recommendations recently. A commission member said that they feel as though their concerns are falling on deaf ears at the Trustee level, that they are frustrated, and it appears that a few “bullies” are taking over the community.

Mr. Zierk requested that that communication between Boards be improved. Mrs. Lynch offered to make a concerted effort to include the commission members on communications instead of just the chairperson.

A discussion took place regarding ways to strengthen the zoning regulations as it relates to violations/fines. Mrs. Lynch will contact the Licking County Prosecutor’s Office (LCPO) for assistance with verbiage.

A discussion took place regarding the need to evaluate the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Wise indicated that this has to be driven by the Licking Township Trustees.

Mr. Wise presented and read his letter of resignation effective 1/22/24. A discussion took place. Mrs. Lynch thanked Mr. Wise for his 20+ years of service to the community and expressed her appreciation for having had the opportunity to work alongside Mr. Wise. The Commission expressed their appreciation to Mr. Wise for his service and expertise.

Mrs. Lynch advised the Zoning Commission that Mr. Paul Matthews has accepted appointment to the LTZC effective 01/01/24-12/31/27 however this will be voted on at the next regular Trustees meeting. A discussion took place.

Mr. Zierk made a motion to not appoint a 2024 LTZC Chairperson until after the LTWP Board of Trustees next regular meeting.

There was no second.

Motion Died.

Mr. Wise moved that the LTZC vote for an interim Chairperson who will serve temporarily until the LTWP Board of Trustees have finalized their appointments to the ZC to be conducted at their next regular board meeting.

Mr. Matthews seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Clark, yes; Zierk, yes; Matthews, yes; Ours, yes; Wise, yes.

Mr. Ours nominated Ms. Clark to serve as the interim Chairperson.

Mr. Wise nominated Mr. Matthews to serve as the interim Chairperson.

Mr. Zierk made a motion that Mr. Matthews serve as the interim Chairperson for the LTZC until the LTWP Board of Trustees finalize their appointments and re-assignments to the zoning boards for 2024.

Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ours, abstain; Clark, yes; Matthews, yes; Zierk, yes; Wise, yes.

A discussion took place regarding meeting times and conflicts with the timeline for applying for non-binding recommendations with the LCPC.

Mr. Matthews made a motion that the 2024 Zoning Commission meetings will be held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Licking Township Fire Station #600 unless otherwise noted on the LTWP website calendar.

Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Zierk, yes; Clark, yes; Wise, yes; Ours, yes; Matthews, yes.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, February 01, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Lynch reported that there will be a variance hearing on 1/25/24 for applicant PTS for both a Conditional Use Permit and Variance to the Conditional Use Permit.

New Business: N/A

Old Business: N/A

Zoning Inspector: Doug Howell gave an update regarding the recent hearing and enforcement of the Bradley Kessler camper situation on Cristland Hill Road. A conversation was had about the challenges in holding violators accountable and the anticipated shift from permit writing to enforcement.

Public Comment: No public comment

Mr. Ours moved to adjourn the meeting @ 8:31 p.m.

Ms. Clark seconded the motion.

Roll Call: unanimous

Minutes approved by: