

Tuscola Township Planning Commission
Approved Minutes for Monday January 9, 2023

Regular Meeting

Tuscola Township Hall, 8561 Van Cleve Rd, Vassar, Mich. 48768

The Regular Meeting was called to order by T. Bushong @ 7:10 PM

Board Members Present: Thelma Bushong, Carol Smith, Larry Kern, Sarah Barber, Renee Rodammer, Jon Blasius, and Lisa Knoll.

Guests: 5

Also in attendance were Michelle Hicks, Twp Clerk and Matt Jobson, Zoning Administrator, Township Attorneys Seth Koches and Michael Bila, via Zoom

The minutes from the December 8, 2022 meeting were read. 1 correction made. Rodammer made a motion to approve the Minutes with correction. Smith supported. Approved.

One of our guests shared their personal experience in dealing with a Solar Energy company on their out of state farm.

Another guest was from Indianfields Township Planning Board, observing our work on Solar Energy Ordinances.

A motion was made by Smith to recommend to the Tuscola Township Board of Trustees, changes to Zoning Ordinance Chapter 4, Section 4.04B, which would amend the penalty for enforcement to a municipal civil infraction and set a fine schedule. Kern supported. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Smith to recommend to the Board of Trustees, changes to the Zoning Ordinance Chapter 9, to add new Section 9.16, authorizing Small Scale Solar Energy Systems as a special use. These changes would also change the title of Zoning Ordinance Chapter 9 to "Alternative Energy Systems". Rodammer supported. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Barber to recommend to the Board of Trustees, changes to Zoning Ordinance Chapter 9, to add new Section 9.17, Large Scale Solar Energy Systems. This would also amend:

- Chapter 2 Definitions to add the term "Solar Energy Systems"
- Chapter 8 to add Large-Scale Commercial Solar Energy Systems as conditional uses in agricultural, residential agricultural, and industrial zoning districts
- Chapter 10 to add Large-Scale Solar Energy Systems to the list of applications that require a Site Plan

Smith supported. Approved.

Next meeting is February 13, 2023

With no further business to discuss, the regular meeting was adjourned @ 7:53 PM.

Lisa Knoll - Secretary