

CATO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING – May 12, 2021
MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: David Behrenwald Kim Carr Brandi Clark-Hubbard
Phil Morrow Quannah Striker

Also present: Dave Kelsey, Cato Township Zoning Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by chairperson, Phil Morrow. Phil noted that this is a special meeting approved by the Cato Township Board specifically to review the current Wind Energy Ordinance. All other information will be tabled until the regularly scheduled meeting in June.

WELCOME / SWEARING IN

New membership, Brandi Clark-Hubbard and Quannah Striker, were officially sworn-in to the Commission by chairperson, Phil Morrow.

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the April 14, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by Brandi Clark-Hubbard and supported by David Behrenwald to approve the minutes as recorded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Phil opened the meeting to public comment noting that each person will be granted a maximum of 3 minutes, each should state their name and township in which they reside. Phil welcomed comments that have not been shared previously, asked that comments be specific to their issue or interest and stated the courtesy of no side-bar conversations is expected.

A total of 28 guests were present of which 19 individuals Cato Township residents. Fifteen guests took the opportunity to share comments. Comments recorded are filed with the meeting minutes. Public comment closed at 7:36pm.

ANIMAL NOISE ORDINANCE

A draft copy of an animal noise ordinance was distributed to the Commission for review and discussion at the June meeting. Dave Kelsey expressed concerns regarding the draft and encouraged a full review noting that if there is no township ordinance, the county sheriff's department must enforce the issue. Based on the draft, it is presumed that the zoning administrator would respond to the complaint and questioned what happens when the enforcement arrives at the scene and the dog is no longer barking, who measures the "longer than 10 minutes" of a barking dog, etc. It was noted that the Village of Lakeview has an existing dog ordinance and suggested to inquire about it.

WIND ORDINANCE REVIEW

Review of the existing Wind Ordinance, created in 2015, began by the commission. Suggestions for change and/or notes to take a closer look were made through Page 56, No. 16. Guy Wires.