

Cato Township Planning Commission Meeting

September 13, 2023 6:PM

Meeting Called to Order at 6 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Quanah Striker, Phil Morrow, Joe Main, Dave Behrenwald

Absent – Jake Cumings

Absent – Dave Kelsey

Also in attendance was Danielle from McKenna Land Planning

Public members/Citizens

Approved Agenda

Public Comment: Zane Abberger- trying to build a Post Frame Home (Barndominium) and Dave Kelsey told him No and if he tried he would tear it down. Questioning why he can't put one up at 11818 Almy Road. He has been to Montcalm Building Department and has all the information and specs needed. He wants a variance to build.

Additional comment by **Matt Hubbard** in regards to Barndominium. Hoping the planning commission will come up with something to allow this build. He was sent to the planning commission by the board-**Kevin Murphy**

Zoning Report Given by Phil Morrow:

6521 Schmeid Rd – Home Addition - Hammis

11601 Spruce – New home -Scott Crater

9963 Fitzner – New Home and attached garage – Chris Fryover

6950 Lake Montcalm Rd – Barn addition and new 2nd story – Menno and Mary Miller

Cato Board Liason Report - D Behrenwald

Montcalm MTA meeting is October 17, 6pm at the Montcalm County Road Commission

Discussed resolution regarding State control of townships

Want the Wind Ordinance reviewed and sent back to the board- tabled to get Master Plan done. To do wind and solar combined

Old Business-

Danielle discussing further on Master Plan. Giving some information on public feed back in regards to entertainment,etc things the township can do to promote township activities. Age of homes in the township. Always be looking for ways to improve our infrastructure. Continue development according to the Plan. Pay attention to zoning. Caution in compromising prime farm lands. Watch the zonings around lake properties especially with accessory building and set-backs. Discussed public access to lakes. Master Plan has to go to the board for 63 days of viewing and open to the public. Changes/updates to PC by end of September. Going to the board in November.

Motion to send to the board for the 63 day notice. Passed

Dates of 2024 Planning Commission meetings:

January 10

March 13

July 10

September 11

November 13

Accepted

New Business

Reviewed Section 3.2.4 of ordinances- Regards to Barndominiums –

Danielle offered input as to the zoning should not give building code guides. That should be left up to county building code. Suggested Abberger go to ZBA to expedite his complaint giving PC time to alter/amend the zoning ordinance.

Next Meeting is November 8 @ 6pm

Additional Public Comments by Matt Hubbard and Zane Abberger on the Barndominiums.

Meeting Adjourned