

ARCADIA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 17, 2023

A regular meeting of the Arcadia Township Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at the Arcadia Township Hall, 4900 Spencer Street, Lum, Michigan. Vice-Chairperson Poniatowski opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Poniatowski, Woloszyk, McClelland, Arnold, Howe, Lalone and (new member) Pugh. Others present: Recording Secretary, Teresa Gormley

MOVED BY Howe, SECONDED BY McClelland to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

MOVED BY McClelland, SECONDED BY Arnold, to ACCEPT the minutes of the November 15, 2022 regular meeting as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC TIME

Vice-Chairperson Poniatowski opened public time at 7:32pm. No one from the public spoke. Recording Secretary Gormley shared with the Board that there is additional training available in-person and online through the Michigan Association of Planning within the next few months.

Public time closed at 7:33pm.

OLD BUSINESS – there was no Old Business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice-Chairperson Poniatowski along with the rest of the Board welcomed their newest member, Gregory Pugh, to the meeting. Mr. Pugh has been appointed by former Supervisor John Howell to fill the vacancy left when Patti Lashbrook accepted the Supervisor's position.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

For the office of Secretary: Poniatowski nominated the current Secretary McClelland. Seconded by Woloszyk.

Moved by Arnold, Seconded by Woloszyk to close nominations for Secretary. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE: McClelland, Yes; Lalone, Yes; Woloszyk, Yes; Howe, Yes; Pugh, Yes; Poniatowski, Yes, Arnold, Yes;

Yes (7) No (0) Absent (0)  
MOTION CARRIED.

It was suggested by McClelland that they vote on Chairperson next.

For the office of Chairperson: Arnold nominated Poniatowski. Seconded by McClelland.

Moved by Arnold, Seconded by McClelland, to close nominations for Chairperson. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Arnold, Yes; Lalone, Yes; McClelland, Yes; Pugh, Yes; Howe, Yes; Woloszyk; Poniatowski, Yes.

Yes (7) No (0) Absent (0)  
MOTION CARRIED.

For the office of Vice-Chairperson: Arnold nominated Lalone. Seconded by Howe.

Moved by Arnold, Seconded by McClelland, to close nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Howe, Yes; Woloszyk Yes; Lalone Yes; McClelland, Yes; Arnold, Yes; Poniatowski, Yes, Pugh, Yes.

Yes (7) No (0) Absent (0)  
MOTION CARRIED.

## 2023 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

MOVED BY Arnold, SECONDED BY McClelland, to adopt the resolution to approve the 2023 meetings calendar as presented and attached. ROLL CALL VOTE; Poniatowski, Yes; McClelland, Yes; Woloszyk, Yes; Arnold, Yes; Howe, Yes; Pugh, Yea; Lalone, Yes.

Yes (7) No (0) Absent (0) MOTION CARRIED.

## STORAGE CONTAINERS FOR USE AS BARNES, HOMES, ETC.

Poniatowski opened this discussion by stating that the Township Board has placed a moratorium on the building, acquisition or placement of any shipping type storage containers for a period of four (4) months. She has a copy of Elba Township's ordinance and has received copies of ordinance language addressing this from Township attorney Michael Gildner for Bay and Saginaw counties for members to review.

Arnold – if containers are used for a residence it must meet the County's building code.

Poniatowski – They are mostly used in our area for storage purposes mostly. We should look at setbacks, colors making it aesthetically appealing. We could add this to the Blight Ordinance and place within the Zoning Ordinance.

Howe – Blight is not policed well now so do we want to add to the Blight issue?

Lalone – How did this arise?

Poniatowski – It came to our attention.

Arnold – This should meet the setbacks the same as the rest of the buildings.

Poniatowski – Under Accessory Buildings, these must meet the setback requirements.

Pugh – I've only seen one on Summers Road and it is way back so it can't be seen well.

Poniatowski – There is one on Lake Pleasant Road and it seems fine.

Pugh – Unless we have a concern we shouldn't make a big issue about it.

Arnold – The storage containers should be on footings so animals can't get under. In Mayfield Township near the dragstrip, there are hundreds being stored.

Howe – That might be a concern. You just can't slap that in your front yard.

Poniatowski – We need a definition. What is a storage container? Includes semi trailers?

Small discussion held by Board.

McClelland – I think we should put this under Old Business for next month's meeting.

Comments from the public:

Joyce Bonesteel, 1293 N. Youngs Road. She had questions about enforcement. Wouldn't the Township Deputy be responsible for the enforcement?

Robin LaFrance, 1320 N. Youngs Road. So if the township can't get ahead of this effectively, how can the Township think they can enforce a color or structure? You have to have proper equipment to haul a storage container away. Some people use these as a boarding kennel facility or a chicken house so you can make it attractive.

Sarah Stepaniak, 2608 N. Lake Pleasant Road. I did research on this and it was I that brought this to your attention. I want to put two in and get a hoop barn ki to create a barn between the two of them. This is a more stable barn. The paint used is to withstand salt. There is a lot less problem than breaking down and decaying wood structures. It gives people a cost effective and secure way to store their junk. It is a solid steel building with latch closures. No animals can get in.

You are going down the right path with the setbacks. The east side of Lake Pleasant has six homes with these for their storage use. Our intent is to use for agriculture.

After a small discussion, the Board decided to table this matter to the next regular meeting.

#### REPORTS

Township Board -- Howe reported that the Imlay City School tax collection will be so that their largest amount is due in the summer rather than the winter.

The Board adopted the poverty tax exemption to be used in conjunction with poverty rates.

The Board adopted a moratorium on storage containers for four (4) months.

Zoning Board – McClelland stated there was no meeting.

#### PUBLIC TIME

There was nothing additional.

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting will be held on February 21, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

MOVED BY Arnold, SECONDED BY Lalone to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm.

Submitted by:

---

Teresa M. Gormley  
Recording Secretary

---

Richard McClelland  
Secretary