Maidencreek Township Planning Commission

August 7, 2019

Present: David Brown, Jason Bailey, Matt Davenport, Randy Hauk, Christopher Garrell – Orlando Law Office, Ed Kopicki – Systems Design Engineering, and Katelyn Gruber – recording secretary

Guests: Ashley Williamson – 414 Acer Drive and Carl Metz – Fleetwood Fish & Game

Matt Davenport called the August 7, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Maidencreek Township Planning Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Maidencreek Township Municipal Building and asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by Jason Bailey to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Randy Hauk and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Dave Brown to approve the prior meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Randy Hauk and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Communications – None.

Public Comments and Questions –

Ashley Williamson, 414 Acer Drive, Blandon recently received a Notice of Violation for performing agricultural functions on her property. She has 6 chickens and has looked through the Township ordinances and has found nothing to stop homeowner's in residential zoning districts from having chickens. The definition of "pet" according to Section 67-2 in the Township Zoning Ordinance states

> ***A domestic or nondomesticated or wild animal, feathered vertebrate, air breathing vertebrate, invertebrate, maintained or kept at least in part for pleasure.***

Ashley Williamson believes her chickens fall under the "pet" definition because she does not use the chickens to produce eggs; the chickens are primarily for pleasure.

The Planning Commission was presented with a letter opposing chickens in residential areas due to noise from the rooster and the unsanitary conditions of the chicken houses that is within close proximity to others. The letter stated houses are only 20 feet apart in the development. The Planning Commission discussed in length that Township Ordinances should address chickens and that the definition of "pet" should be clearer.

Business:

Carl Metz, Fleetwood Fish and Game – Randy Hauk introduced Carl Metz from Fleetwood Fish and Game to discuss shooting ranges. Mr. Metz gave a brief description of the background

of Fleetwood Fish and Game. He stressed that location is key when you are erecting a shooting range due to the danger it can cause to neighboring properties, especially if it is not designed well. Mr. Metz believes that 15ft is the minimum that a berm must be. Noise is a large factor to consider as well. The Planning Commission thanked Carl Metz for his time and information. Tom Unger stated that the Planning Commission should keep in mind that shooting ranges and gun clubs are two entirely different uses and that the Zoning Ordinance does address gun clubs but not shooting ranges. Also, indoor vs outdoor shooting ranges will need to be addressed.

Fireworks Ordinance – Chris Garrell gave a copy of the PA State Regulations for Fireworks. The Planning Commission agreed with the definition of fireworks as presented in the state regulations. The Planning Commission believes that the only zoning districts that would be able to meet the 150ft setback from any structure requirement would be Industrial, Agricultural, and Commercial. Chris Garrell will present a Fireworks Ordinance at the next regular Planning Commission meeting for review.

331 East Wesner Road – Variance – The variance application was discussed and the Planning Commission had no opinion on the variance.

367 West Shore Drive – Variance
Jason Bailey made a motion to draft a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors and Zoning Hearing Board to grant the variance to the rear yard setback for 367 West Shore Drive. The motion was seconded by Dave Brown and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dave Brown to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Randy Hauk and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katelyn Gruber
Katelyn Gruber
Recording Secretary