

WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
6:00 P.M. March 16, 2022
Minutes

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 6:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited by all present.

ROLL CALL:

Tom VanSyckle x Amy Snyder x Mary Karcher x Ethan McNeal x Lee Carte x

Others Present: Mark Robinson, Ruth Chapman, Judith Porter, Melissa Porter, Mario Porter, Linda Howard, Michelle Charron, Tom Boulford, Bryan Dutcher, Jeff Snyder, Amy Noggle, Nila Simon, Iona Brown, Hunter Brown, Mary Ann Wernette, Chad Paulson, John Wernette, Dee Powell, Denise Reichert, Kim Thiel, John Huff,

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Wernette (resident) informed the group that he is interested in a commercial grow and that he will be doing an inside grow.

Dee Powell (DDA member, non-resident) Shared that the DDA is in full support of any and all business's coming into our township/community.

Ruth Chapman (resident) Ruth stated that it is the Wheatland Townships Board Responsibility to spend money wisely and to be good stewards. Questions she asked the board to think about included: will the cost out number what we will be spending, concerned about the road being kept up with the extra traffic that will be happening with the new business as it is on a gravel road, and reminded the board that Wheatland Township is a quiet small community and always has been.

Mario Porter (former resident) introduced his wife Melissa and mother Judith and explained that they own and run a facility in Wise Township. A comment was that if you think this is a get rich business, probably not. He shared that when done correctly and responsibly a marijuana business can benefit the community in more than one-way. Both Porter brothers are vets and take serving their community very important. Mario shared that a grow facility will increase the tax base in the community. He shared that they have added 45 jobs at \$23 an hour with benefits with their grow and facility. He shared that they hire locally and give back to the community. It's not a get rich business, they suggested that we (as a board) should think locally and think about what it will do for our community. We continued to have a question answer discussion with the people in attendance. They answered many questions.

Mary Karcher, clerk, resident, shared about a conversation she had with the Village of Edmore and their Marijuana establishments.

Michelle Charron, resident, asked, what was John Wernette's role in what was going on (as she had not attended any other meetings). It was explained that he has asked the board to consider allowing him to do a Commercial Grow in the township. Michelle liked the idea that its community members who are wanting to come in and start these business's in our area.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Marijuana Ordinance

- a. Marijuana Grow**
- b. Distribution Centers**

2. BOR Resolutions

a. Resolution # 2022-2 (To Waive Penalty associated with not filed PTA) after a brief discussion, Lee Carte made a motion to accept the language for resolution 2022-2, Ethan McNeal supported the motion, roll call vote, Lee Y, Ethan Y, Amy Y, Mary Y Tom Y, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Resolution #2022-3 (Poverty Exemption Application/Taxpayer Fact Sheet) after a brief discussion, Lee carte made a motion to accept the language for resolution 2022-3, Amy Snyder supported the motion, roll call vote, Lee Y, Ethan Y, Amy Y, Mary Y, Tom Y, all in favor, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

(3 MIN NOT ON AGENDA 5 MIN ON AGENDA)

Linda Howard, County Commissioner, attended the DDA meeting held before this meeting and discussed the \$5000 grant the Remus Historical Society received and plan on doing a Community Forum on Wednesday, April 27, from 5:30-7:30 P.M. There will be speakers discussing the local history and a conversation getting community input as to where our community goes from here. She shared that DDA will be putting out a survey. Linda asked if we would put it on the sign as a Save the Date. Remus Historical Museum was the only small museum to receive the grant. Linda added that our board needed to consider the cost that will be involved in setting up a planning and zoning commission and what will the added work load be on the board of the township to bring marijuana businesses into our community.

Dee Powell, stated that ethically speaking she feels that our board is speaking volumes not making a decision one way or the other on this topic. Feels that we are going in the wrong direction and not considering the children or elderly in our community.

ADJOURN:

Lee Carte made a motion to adjourn, Amy Snyder supported the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned a 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Karcher
Wheatland Township Clerk