

## Sciota Township Planning Commission

January 4, 2021 – 7 p.m.  
(held at Twp. Hall)

Members present: Diane Baclawski (Chair), Dave White, Howard Pierce, Traci Cannon

Members absent: Vaughn Vondrasek

Others: Phillip Matthews

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chair Baclawski and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed by all.

Welcoming comments were expressed to Traci Cannon as the newest member on the Commission. She was approved by the Township Board Members at the December 14, 2020 meeting to fill the vacancy left by Kim Palmer. Kim was elected to perform the duties of the Township Treasurer in November 2020.

### Agenda

- Minutes from 12/7/2020 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved (motion by Dave White/2<sup>nd</sup> by Howard Pierce)
- Public Comment – None
- Old Business
  - Update from Dave White on the Kaiser property regarding the County addressing the junk and garbage issues on the property. He stated he has contacted them but no action yet by the County. He will follow-up with them again before the next meeting. Phillip Matthews also talked with the County regarding this.
- New Business
  - Election of officers (unanimously approved)
    - Diane Baclawski – Chair (motion by Howard Pierce/2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave White)
    - Traci Cannon – Secretary (motion by Howard Pierce/2<sup>nd</sup> by Diane Baclawski)
  - Meeting schedule for 2021 (unanimously approved)
    - The first Monday of each month except for July and September in which the meeting will be held on the first Tuesday due to holiday:  
January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 6  
August 2, September 7, October 4, November 1, December 6

- New Business (continued)
  - Land variance request
    - 7494 Colby Lake Rd, Laingsburg – Parcel 009-27-200-008-02
    - David and Cheryl Snyder via Ballard Development
    - Variance of road setback requirement of 73' vs. 68'
    - Brian Ballard (contractor) was called during the meeting by Phillip Matthews and was placed on speaker phone to describe the request and field any questions by the Planning Commission. The variance is being considered by Shiawassee County and they requested Sciota Township to also approve.
    - There was a consent by all for approval of the variance and will ask the Sciota Township Board members to consider and approve this at the February 8, 2021 meeting. Upon approval by the Board, the Planning members request that a letter be written by the Township Clerk to the County stating we approve the variance but question why this was not discovered before issuing the building permit. Phillip Matthews stated he would talk with the County to get clarification on current setback requirements\*\*. Dave White also asked if there was a split on this property as the Township would then also be eligible to collect \$50 on this variance request. Phillip Matthews will also check on this.
  - Planning Commission Terms
    - Discussion of when the current Commission members terms would expire.
    - Traci Cannon to create ongoing list of past members and current members along with their appointment dates and term expiration dates. She will ask Clerk Jamie Wing for information to create this list.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. (motion by Howard Pierce/2<sup>nd</sup> by Diane Baclawski)

Recorded by Traci Cannon, Secretary

\*\*update as Phillip Matthews reported back on January 5<sup>th</sup> that the County was contacted on the current setback requirements which are now 60' from back line and 73' from center of road. We will request confirmation when these changes were implemented on the County level. Also, this variance was needed because the builder started to build before the permit was issued and therefore the County was not able to change the placement of the structure per the County official.