

DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 11, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig, Goodall, Hayhoe, Leaf, O'Hara, Todd, Warfield, Weaver, Zietlow  
MEMBERS ABSENT: None  
STAFF PRESENT: Malone, Miller, Robinson

Chairperson Craig opened the meeting at 7:02PM

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Amendments to Agenda: None**

**Approval of September 27, 2010 Planning Commission Minutes**

It was moved by Commissioner Goodall and seconded by Commissioner O'Hara to approve the September 27, 2010 meeting minutes as presented.

A Voice Poll was recorded as follows: All Ayes

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items): None**

**Michigan Medical Marihuana Act**

Ms. Miller introduced the Delhi Charter Township Attorney, J. Richard Robinson, to the Planning Commission (PC) members. Attorney Robinson has worked with other surrounding communities regarding this topic and explained several different avenues that could be taken. Regulating the activities through zoning seems to be the most common approach.

There was general discussion among the PC members and Attorney Robinson regarding dispensaries, the number of marihuana plants that could be permitted and the amount of useable marihuana allowed, compensation for caregivers, law enforcement issues, etc.

There was discussion regarding the schedule for the PC's review and the required report back to the Township Board. It was agreed that the discussion would continue at the next meeting (Oct. 25).

**Case 10-866, Text Amendment to Zoning Ordinance – 39.156 – Chicken Ordinance Amendment**

Ms. Miller reviewed the rough draft of the Urban Chicken ordinance. It was the general consensus to allow the slaughtering of urban chickens on-site but only inside. Commissioner O'Hara expressed a concern with the public welfare if it was to occur outside.

Public comment was received as follows:

Karin Miller, 3950 West Howell Road, Mason, read a letter she had submitted to a few of the PC members in favor of allowing urban chickens and encouraging the PC to consider ordinance language which would be more permissive than what is currently being considered and that would specifically permit chickens to be free range.

Ms. Miller reiterated that currently keeping chickens in residential zoning districts (except A-1 & R1-A) is completely prohibited and it is unlikely that the zoning ordinance would be amended to permit it if the activity is not closely controlled to prevent negative effects.

Janice Wildermuth, 5621 McCue Road, requested a draft copy of the ordinance. Ms. Miller informed her that the PC is currently reviewing a draft and that there will likely be several more changes. She is happy

to provide what is currently presented, but would recommend waiting to see the final draft which will be posted on the Township's website at the time of public hearing. Ms. Wildermuth concurred.

Peter Miller, 3950 W. Howell Road, Mason, questioned his zoning compared to his assessing code. It was explained to him.

Nathan Warner, 5621 McCue Road, asked for an explanation regarding the 40 ft setback regulation in the ordinance and what would meet the definition of a "structure". Ms. Miller responded that it is intended to minimize any potential problems for the adjacent properties and replied that a structure is a defined term in the ZO, but sheds, garages, homes, etc. would all be considered "structures".

Ms. Miller explained the draft, once completed, will go to Attorney Robinson for review and that afterwards a public hearing will be scheduled when time becomes available on the PC's agenda, which may be a couple of months from now.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Weaver  
Secretary

DRAFT