

1 GOODLAND TOWNSHIP
2 PLANNING COMMISSION
3 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
4 February 11, 2021
5

6 A special meeting of the Goodland Township Planning Commission was held at the Goodland Township
7 Hall, located at 2374 N Van Dyke Rd, Imlay City, MI 48444; pursuant to notice duly posted.
8

9 Board Members Present: Mike Bissett, Larry Kohler, Roger Roszczewski, Matt Van Dyk, John
10 Moenaert

11 Board Members Absent: Lynne Foltz and Dan Steckly

12 Others Present: Stephen Groat, Julie & John Dockham, Andrew Kurzym, Sherry Kurzym,
13 Joe Duquette, Rob Sommer, Tom Pittman, Dave Most, Bashar Abbo, Sam
14 Kilano, Eddie Horner, Pat Meyer, Anthony Ascuitto, Farris Hadad, and
15 Amy Nolin
16

17 Chair Bissett called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
18

19 This meeting is being held to hold the Public Hearing regarding the draft of the medical marijuana Zoning
20 Ordinance amendment.
21

22 The members of the Planning Commission were introduced.
23

24 The Public Hearing was opened at 7:04 p.m.
25

26 Bissett gave a brief explanation as to the purpose of the proposed amendment and that it is based on a
27 similar ordinance in Byron Twp, Michigan that was upheld by the State Supreme Court. It was explained
28 that a caregiver is allowed up to 72 plants under law (12 plants per patient—max of 5 patients—and 12
29 for the caregiver).
30

31 PUBLIC COMMENT
32

33 A member of the public questioned why the issue was being addressed when the Township has opted out
34 of allowing marijuana businesses. Bissett explained that this was different and is allowed by law, but that
35 the Township does have some options for control.
36

37 Anthony Ascuitto—has concerns about the cost of attorney review and ramifications of additional court
38 cases.
39

40 Pat Meyer—explained how case law is established due to the Supreme Court decision.
41

42 Farris Hadad (Attorney that works with the marijuana laws in Michigan)—expressed a concern with the
43 safety of requiring the grow operation to be contained inside a residence, due to fire, mold, insects, etc.
44 He also expressed concerns about 25% of a residence not being enough space and the issue of
45 “grandfathering.”
46

47 Bissett asked what a reasonable grow area would be for the max of 72 plants. Several members of the
48 public responded with 2,000-4,000 sq. ft.
49

50 Hadad explained that some municipalities require alarm systems, including lights and cameras.
51

1 Concerns were expressed about the resources required (police, fire, utility, etc.), property values, and
2 increased crime.
3 Andrew (No Last Name Given)—explained that violence and crime will happen regardless. Medical
4 marijuana operations will not create a crime problem.
5 Roszczewski explained that the ordinance amendment is meant to form a compromise for all.
6

7 There was additional discussion regarding requiring the growing to be done inside the residence versus an
8 outbuilding.
9

10 Hadad—suggested adding a requirement that only one caregiver per property and/or address be allowed.
11

12 The Public Hearing was closed at 8:25 p.m.
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14 Bissett asked directed questions to specific audience members regarding space requirements, residence v.
15 outbuildings, power usage requirements, etc.
16

17 It was the consensus of the Commission to hold another workshop to discuss the draft. The workshop
18 was scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The next regular Planning Commission
19 meeting is Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
20

21 Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.
22

23
24 These minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.
25
26
27

28 _____
29 Mike Bissett, Chair
30

_____ Lynne Foltz, Secretary
31

32
33 _____
34 Amy Nolin, Recording Secretary