

Otsego County Planning Commission 2016 Annual Report to the Otsego County Board of Commissioners

This report is submitted as required under the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Act 33 of 2008, MCL 125.3819 (2).

125.3819 Bylaws; adoption; public record requirements; annual report by planning commission.

Sec. 19. (1) A planning commission shall adopt bylaws for the transaction of business, and shall keep a public record of its resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations.

(2) A planning commission shall make an annual written report to the legislative body concerning its operations and the status of planning activities, including recommendations regarding actions by the legislative body related to planning and development.

2016 Planning Commission Cases

- January:** Special Use Permit PZSU15-011 Telecad Wireless – a request for the installation of a three hundred feet (300’) wireless telecommunications tower located in a FR Forestry Recreation Zoning District-*Approved*
- March:** Special Use Permit PZSU15-010 John & Mary Brink-a request for 20’x200’ storage building containing twenty (20) storage units located in a B2 General Business Zoning District-*Approved*
- June:** Special Use Permit PZSU15-008 Dennis Freeman-a request to remodel an existing barn as a wedding venue located in an AR Agricultural Resource Zoning District-*Approved* (The ZBA found the use comparable to other listed uses subject to special conditions in an AR Zoning District)
- August:** Proposed language to SECTION 21.46 WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS/PERSONAL WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS- the allowance of smaller guyed towers on leased property for increased internet access-*Recommended to Board of Commissioners*; Proposed ARTICLE 15 MUZ Multiple Use Zoning District-new zoning district addition-*Recommended to the Board of Commissioners*; 2017-2022 Otsego County Capital Improvement Plan was presented-*Recommended to the Board of Commissioners*
- September:** Proposed language to ARTICLE 14 HX HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE ZONING DISTRICT-the allowance of *Above ground storage of flammable or hazardous material* with restrictions-*Recommended to the Board of Commissioners*
- October:** Special Use Permit PZSU16-002 Cherry Capital Connections LLC-a request for the installation of a one hundred twenty-eight foot (128’) guyed personal wireless communications tower located in an AR Agricultural Resource Zoning District-*Postponed*
- November:** Special Use Permit PZSU16-003 Snowbelt-a request for a detailing/small engine repair garage with outside sales display located in a B2 General Business Zoning District-*Approved*; Special Use Permit PZSU16-002 Cherry Capital Connections LLC-a request for the installation of a one hundred twenty-eight foot (128’) guyed personal wireless communications tower located in an AR Agricultural Resource Zoning District-*Approved*

**Otsego County Planning Commission
2016 Annual Report**

Other Activities

- January:** Proposed language for Personal Wireless Communications towers discussed and returned to Committee for revisions
- March:** Proposed language addition to SECTION 21.46 WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS for Personal Wireless Communications towers sent to townships; 2015 Annual Report to Board of Commissioners
- May:** Proposed language for the addition of the new MUZ Multiple Use Zoning District reviewed and sent to townships along with the Schedule of Dimensions; Minor amendments to the Planning Commission By-Laws reviewed; Discussion on the format for conducting a public hearing
- June:** Elmira residents brought concerns over noise levels at the Alpine Power Plant to the Planning Commission members; Planning Commission By-Laws amended as presented ; Proposed language addition to the HX Highway Interchange Zoning District sent to townships; Special Use Permit PZSU15-001 Dean & Sara Gapinski one (1) year extension request-Approved
- August:** Discussion continued over noise issues between Elmira residents, Wolverine Power representatives and Planning Commission members
- September:** Special Use Permit PZSU15-003 DTE Energy one (1) year extension request-Approved; Discussion concerning language in SECTION 21.46 WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS requiring a stamped site plan and the possibility of waiver-ARTICLE 23 SITE PLAN REVIEW to be reviewed
- October:** 2016 Objective List update discussed; Elections
- November:** Wolverine Power reported updates to the Alpine Power Plant intended to improve noise reduction
- December:** Wolverine Power submitted the final sound testing report prepared by Hessler Associates Inc with results below the stipulated measurements attached to Special Use Permit PSUP14-004; 2017 Objective List prioritized and approved; 2017 Meeting Dates presented and approved

The Planning Commission sets priorities with an Objective List of Zoning Ordinance sections for review and revision along with items from the Otsego County Master Plan for implementation to guide the Planning Commission and staff in activities. Ordinance revision and development recommendations are made to the Board of Commissioners as developed throughout the year.

**Otsego County Planning Commission
2016 Annual Report**

Attendance Record of Planning Commission Meetings

ATTENDANCE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2016

Member	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
K. Arndt	X	--	X	--	A	X	--	X	A	X	X	X
W. Brown	X	--	X	--	A	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
F. Nowak	X	--	X	--	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
J. Jarecki	X	--	X	--	X	X	--	X	A	X	X	X
C. Klee	X	--	A	--	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
P. Hartmann	X	--	A	--	X	X	--	X	X	X	A	X
J. Caverson	X	--	X	--	X	X	--	A	X	X	X	X
R. Tholl	X	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
S. Bauman	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	X	X	X	A
N. Corfis	A	--	X	--	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X
J. Hilgendorf	A	--	X	--	X	A	--	X	A	X	X	X
K. Borton	X	--	X	--	X	X	--	X	X	X	X	X

X = Attended
A = Absent
-- = Meeting canceled

Member Training

Members attended training at Treetops in Gaylord pertaining to the roles of Planning Commission / ZBA members; a workshop for regulation changes to *Sign Ordinances* was attended at the University Center as well.

Planning Commission Members

The Planning Commission Members as of January 1, 2016 are:

Ken Arndt:	Term expires: 12.31.2017 (<i>Secretary</i>)
Willard Brown:	Term expires: 12.31.2016
Frances Nowak:	Term expires: 12.31.2017
Judy Jarecki:	Term expires: 12.31.2018 (<i>Vice Chairperson</i>)
Charles Klee:	Term expires: 12.31.2017
Paul Hartmann:	Term expires: 12.31.2018 (<i>Chairperson</i>)
Jason Caverson:	Term expires: 12.31.2016
Roberta Tholl:	Term expires: 12.31.2018 <i>Mrs. Tholl resigned April 13, 2016</i>
Steve Bauman:	Term expires: 12.31.2018 <i>Mr. Bauman appointed June 12, 2016</i>
Nora Corfis:	Term expires: 12.31.2016
Jim Hilgendorf:	Term expires: 08.25.2018 (<i>School District Representative</i>)
Ken Borton:	Board of Commissioner Representative

Respectfully submitted,

OTSEGO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION