

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Commissioners present: Chairman James Funke, Joe Wooding, Jeff Melvin, Martha Bregger

Other attendees: Brian Knotek, Ken Dettloff, John O'Connell, Steve Denenberg, Doug Bowman, Brad Cole, Chris Passmore, Tad Snyder, Mr. & Mrs. Wilson, Michael Gray

Meeting was called to order by Chairman James Funke at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jeff Melvin read the minutes from the December 6, 2017 meeting: Martha Bregger moved to accept the minutes as read. Joe Wooding supported the motion. Passed unanimously.

Chairman Funke stated that the purpose of this special meeting was to consider the operation of medical marijuana entities within the township.

Ken Dettloff addressed the draft Land Use Plan (LUP) and stated that the plan gives guidance to the location of one or more of the five medical marijuana entities should the Board decide to allow them in the township.

Attorney Knotek gave guidance to the commission with the following questions:

1. Are these types of facilities allowable under the LUP?
2. Where can these facilities be located?
3. What types of specific facilities can be in the various zoned areas?
4. How many facilities can be considered?

Attorney Knotek stated that the role of the commission was to answer these questions and to make a recommendation to the Board for action. The planning commission will present a report to the Board at the February 21 regular meeting. Attorney Knotek reminded everyone that the Board will make the final decision on whether to allow medical marijuana facilities to operate within the township.

Public comments:

There was considerable public comment regarding this issue and the commission heard comments and/or questions from Attorney Knotek, Ken Dettloff, John O'Connell, Michael Gray, Susan Wilson, Tad Snyder, Chris Passmore and Steve Denenberg. Some of the statements included:

- Will grow operations require a special use permit in ag-zoned areas?
- The overall economic impact from permits.
- Will the facilities be safe, secure and guarded?
- The application process for permits and approval from the State.
- Cottage industry vs large corporations/companies.
- Indoor/outdoor grow operations for THC/non-THC plants.
- Will any zoning variances be considered?

- What facilities will require a special use permit?
- Would the number of certain facilities be limited due to the lack of certain zoned parcels (commercial, light industrial)?

Attorney Knotek asked to commission to consider the questions that he had stated earlier.

After more discussion, it was determined that these types of facilities are permissible under the draft LUP, all five facilities could be in areas that are properly zoned (special use permits may be necessary in some cases) and the number of facilities to be considered would come later.

Motion by Jeff Melvin, supported by Joe Wooding to recommend to the Board that all five entities are compatible with the LUP and request that the Board act on whether to allow these facilities pending a draft ordinance from Attorney Knotek to be presented at the February 21 regular Board meeting.

Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney Knotek gave a timeline if the Board approves to move forward.

If approved for further consideration at the February 21 Board meeting, the issue will be brought back to the planning commission for its final formulation at their regular meeting on March 7. A public hearing would have to be scheduled and then a recommendation would be forwarded to the Board for final action.

He noted that if the Board does not approve to move forward, the issue is closed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Martha Bregger and Chairman James Funke adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Melvin