

# Almont Township

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## ALMONT TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 8, 2017

The regular meeting of the Almont Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Chairperson Steve Francis at the Almont Township /Village Hall, 817/819 N. Main Street, Almont, Michigan 48003. Roll call was taken.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brad Bletch, Rick Dodge, Steve Francis, Kim Streeter, Jesse Thompson, and Bryan Zender. Also present were Scott Kree and Caitlyn McGoldrick from ROWE Professionals.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mark Lauwers, and Cory Mabery, PE, Davis Land Surveying & Engineering – excused.

**ALSO PRESENT:** 3 guests

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Presented

**MINUTES:** MOVED BY DODGE AND SUPPORTED BY ZENDER TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 11, 2017 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** N/A

**LATE AGENDA ITEM:** New Sign – 5515 Van Dyke – Lakestone Bank & Trust

Consensus of Commissioners agreed to place this under New Business

**INTRODUCTION:** N/A.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** N/A

**NEW BUSINESS:** 1. Application for Temporary Structure (17-01) – Shangos Fireworks

Samir Alyass from Shangos Fireworks was present explaining that he would like to set up a temporary tent at the Mobil Gas Station in order to sell fireworks between June 15 and July 5, 2017. He was approved last year for the same location.

Application for Temporary Structure (17-01) – Shangos Fireworks Continued

Planner Scott Kree noted that in 2016 Mr. Alyass received his approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals, but due to a pending change in the Zoning Ordinance, the ZBA no longer reviews temporary uses or structures. The Planning Commission will now review applications for temporary uses and structures.

Discussion was held on the application 17-01. Consensus of commissioners was to hold a public hearing at the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting so that all property owners within 300 feet will be notified of the proposed fireworks sales.

#2. New Sign – 5515 Van Dyke – Lakestone Bank & Trust

Due to a merger, the bank located at 5515 Van Dyke, was requesting that they be allowed to erect a new sign on the existing sign foundation and also place a new sign on the façade of the building. The new name of the bank is LAKESTONE BANK & TRUST. Discussion was held on the proposed signage.

**MOVED BY STREETER AND SUPPORTED BY ZENDER TO APPROVE SIGN APPLICATION 17-01 AS PRESENTED PROVIDING WIND DEFLECTION CALCULATIONS ARE FORWARD TO THE TOWNSHIP FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL. MOTION CARRIED.**

**OLD BUSINESS:** #1. Review proposed draft amendments – Article 2

Catilyn McGoldrick from ROWE Professionals reviewed the proposed changes with the Commissioners. Discussion was held on the amendments noting what, if any, changes would be made. The amended draft will be presented at the April meeting.

#2. Proposed amendments to Medical Marijuana, Section 2.031

Due to the need for more information and that the State isn't ready to receive new applications, it was requested by the Township Board that discussion be suspended until the Township Board has had an opportunity to review the new law and decide which of the five avenues they think are best for the Township. Commissioners agreed to wait until they have a definitive direction from the Township Board before discussing this matter further.

#3. Proposed "solar farms"

Because of the lateness of the hour and the weather, Commissioners agreed to discuss this matter at a later date. Scott Kree from Rowe Professionals handed out a seminar notice on Solar Energy Planning/Zoning and Smart Growth Strategies. The free seminar will be held at the Rowe Building in Flint on Thursday, April 27 between 7-9 p.m.

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ELECTION: Chairman Francis noted that the appointment of a Planning Commissioner to the Zoning Board of Appeals needed to be held. Commissioner Brad Bletch allowed his name to stand for said position. Upon hearing no other nominees, Chairman Francis called for a vote. Commissioner Bletch was voted unanimously as the Planning Commissioner representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Reports:

Planner – N/A

Engineer – N/A

Zoning Board of Appeals – N/A

Zoning & Building – verbal report given

Planning Commission General Comments – N/A

Proposed Agenda – April 12, 2017

Public Hearing #1. – Shango Fireworks – Temporary Structure

#2 – Paul Scheffer - Special Land Use 17-01

**MOVED BY DODGE AND SUPPORTED BY ZENDER TO ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING WAS  
ADJOURNED AT 9:06 P.M.**

Respectfully Submitted by,

*Ida L. Lloyd*

Ida L. Lloyd, Recording Secretary