

# Joint Work Session of the Au Train Township Planning Commission and the Au Train Township Board

Thursday, July 29, 2021 - 6:00 PM, Au Train Township Hall

## **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:**

Chairman Carr called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Planning Commission Members Present:** Jake Miller, Trustee; John Carr, Chair; Duke Fillmore, Vice Chair; Bill Weisinger, Member; Matt Lang, Secretary

**Township Board Members Present:** Michelle Doucette, Supervisor; Mary Johnson, Clerk; Kristy Cota, Treasurer; Tom Balmes, Trustee

**Others Present:** Jason McCarthy, Jerry Doucette, Tom Beauchaine, Lonnie Perry, Dawn Smith, Jason Cain, Erin Miller

## **Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion:** To approve the agenda as presented.

**Moved:** Fillmore

**Supported:** Carr

**Motion Carried**

## **Public Comment:**

Lonnie Perry spoke of concerns he has about disabled persons in Au Train Township being able to handle the new garbage cans to be delivered to township residents.

## **Discussion - Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments:**

Various questions and concerns on the proposed zoning ordinance amendments were brought up and discussed. Following are some of the items to be reviewed:

- In an effort to reduce the number of potential nonconforming land uses and streamline the amendment process, should potential township rezoning efforts occur in conjunction with the amending of the zoning ordinance?
- Revisit that the definition of Recreational Vehicle includes "pickup camper"
- Try to come up with language so that "structures" such as deer blinds do not require a zoning compliance permit.
- Revisit the language covering under what conditions a CUP may be revoked.
- Making a short-term rental a permitted principal use in the Township Development district.

## **Discussion - Undocumented Short-term Rentals:**

Some of the topics discussed regarding undocumented short-term rentals were:

- Some short-term rentals may be claiming the Homestead exemption on their property taxes.
- There are companies which document and monitor short-term rentals for the township.
- Should the township consider using short-term rental density as a restricting metric?
- Should the 16-mile Lake area be rezoned?

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## **Public Comment:**

Jason Cain spoke in favor of CUPs [for short-term rentals] in all districts.

Erin Miller spoke of the gray area between the proposed definitions of “resort” and “short-term rental”. She also spoke of how short-term rentals are important to the residents of the community.

## **Adjournment:**

**Motion:** To adjourn.

**Moved:** Lang

**Supported:** Carr

**Motion Carried at 8:16 pm.**

**Acronyms used in this document:** PC - Planning Commission, ZA - Zoning Administrator,  
CUP - Conditional Use Permit