

OTISCO TOWNSHIP
Preliminary

ZONING BOARD of APPEALS

MINUTES for June 14, 2021

- Members Present:** Jim Tarkowski – Alternate ZBA Board Member; John Feuerstein – Board Member, Laura Staats – Secretary,
Also present: Roger Vander Molen – Zoning Administrator,
- Members Absent:** Joe Tarkowski ZBA Board Member; Glenn Geiger – ZBA Alternate,
- Call to Order:** Jim Tarkowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- Agenda:** Motion made to approve the Agenda as written. Passed 3 - 0
- Approve Minutes:** Minutes from the April 12, 2021 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made and supported, motion passed 3 - 0
- Board Reports**
- Zoning:** Zoning Administrator, Vander Molen made a few comments on the included written zoning report. For more information see the written report. Roger gave a brief update on some of the continuing issues and those that are now closed. Smyrna Tavern was contacted regarding outside construction, this resulted in the public hearing recorded below.
- Township Board:** Usual Township business was discussed.
- Planning Commission:** There was no meeting.
- Old Business:** None
- New Business:** Public Hearing – Smyrna Tavern – Opened 7:15 PM

Roger open the public hearing with a little background, saying that it had been drawn to his attention that some construction and changes were being made outside at the Smyrna Tavern. Roger wrote a letter to the owners of the Smyrna Tavern; Marcus and Jennifer Bosch, informing them that permits were required for any exterior changes that they wanted to make to the property. An application was submitted for some of the exterior changes. It was noted that some structures had already been built on the property without a permit.

The floor was open for public comment; a number of audience participants made statements, mostly supporting the presence of the bar in Smyrna. A few question the possibility of excess noise from live music, or bright lights from proposed outdoor entertainment. The State of Michigan’s noise law will be enforced. Public comment was closed at 7:28 PM.

After further discussion among the ZBA board members and the Zoning Board of Appeals administrator; it was agreed that the property should probably be surveyed first, and that it should go to the Planning Commission and receive a Special Use Permit before coming to the ZBA Board for any possible variances that need to be granted.

A motion was made to wait until the July ZBA Meeting before making a decision so that it can be based on the action the Planning Commission decides to take. Motion passed 3-0

Public Comment: None

Member Comment: None

Proposed Agenda: Smyrna Tavern Variance Application.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn the meeting, Passed: 3 - 0
Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM

Next Meeting: Next scheduled meeting July 12, 2021 meeting at 7:00 PM at the Otisco Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura J Staats, Secretary