

**Courtland Township
Planning Commission
April 15, 2008**

The Courtland Township Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chairman Matt McConnon on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call: Wood, Moeggenberg, McConnon, Davis, McAvoy.

Members absent: None

Also present: Township Attorney James Scales

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Moeggenberg, Wood supported, to approve agenda as presented. CARRIED.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion by McAvoy, Wood supported, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2008 meeting. CARRIED.

Open Comments: None

Ordinance Amendment - Artificial Bodies of Water: Township Attorney Jim Scales summarized changes he had made in the ordinance as a result of the first review by the Planning Commission in March. Wood questioned whether we were discouraging people from digging ponds. McConnon stated we should set some guidelines, but not be too stringent. Davis asked whether farm ponds would be covered by the ordinance. Scales replied that if farm ponds are covered by GAMP, they are not subject to the ordinance. He also stated that if a pond covered five or more acres, was connected to or within 500 feet of an inland lake or stream, or involved wetlands, a permit from the DEQ is required. It was suggested that the application for Special Land Use for a pond should advise the applicant to contact the DEQ regarding permits. Motion by Davis, Moeggenberg supported, to hold the public hearing on the ordinance amendment at the May 20 meeting. CARRIED.

Zoning Administrator Report: None

Township Attorney Report: Attorney Jim Scales stated that WSL LLC has filed an appeal with the Kent County Circuit Court regarding the ZBA's ruling in February. He also distributed a handout on the new Michigan Planning Enabling Act, which takes effect September 1st. He will have recommendations for the Planning Commission on actions that need to be taken to comply with the act, such as writing bylaws for the Commission.

Township Board Report: None

ZBA Report: None

Adjournment: Motion by McConnon, McAvoy supported, to adjourn the meeting @ 7:38 PM. CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilynn Crosby
Township Clerk