



GALIEN TOWNSHIP

305 Kiley Drive, P.O. Box 246, Galien, MI 49113
269-545-8143 - galientwpboard@yahoo.com - galientownship.org

Galien Township Planning Commission Public Hearing April 30, 2018 6pm @ Galien Township Office Minutes

The hearing was called to order at 6pm

Roll Call: Present- C. Carr, J. Rochman, J. Richter, L. James, C. Lorange. Absent- None

J. Richter led the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: C. Lorange made a motion to approve the public hearing minutes from 4-9-2018, 4-16-2018, 4-23-2018, and 4-25-2018 as presented. J. Rochman supported. Motion carried. No nays.

Attorney Senica shared an explanation of what the PC's duties are in regards to zoning.

L. James gave a brief explanation of the SUP process and how things would proceed following the hearing.

Public Comments:

Kim Schmitz: Kim stated that she feels the PC has no right to make any decisions about the medical marihuana facilities because we do not have a master plan. She said that we need to take everyone's right and needs under consideration. Kim also stated that is marihuana goes recreational in November the township will get nothing and the State will keep all of the revenues.

Rodney Strefling: Rodney is opposed to all the proposed locations. We have infrastructure to police or monitor the facilities. He feels that there are too many kids in this community to allow these types of businesses. Rodney also stated that the applicants are entitled to nothing and we need to listen to the residents.

Craig Manning: Adams Rd. Craig said he was upset that he just found out about this about a month ago and was told that if the neighbors were opposed that the permits would be denied. He feels that the Adams Road facility is a bad location because it's a dirt road and can't handle the increased traffic. He's also upset that originally he was told the facility would a cultivation business but now they have applied for a processing license instead.

Karl Strefling: Karl gave the PC a map of the proposed Gardner Road facility that showed all of the surrounding homes. Karl said that the PC and Board needs to do what is best for the neighborhood. He said we do not need the money from these businesses and is very upset this has come this far. He feels if it were put to a vote, the residents would say NO.

Donna Potter: Mrs. Potter asked if all the cultivation facilities would be fully enclosed.

Savannah Devries: Pardee Road. Savannah showed her map again. She is an oncology nurse and has neutral feelings about medical marihuana but she does have family members whose lives have been destroyed by it. Savannah feels that property values will go down approximately 8%. She asked the PC to consider her family when making these decisions. She was also very offended by the statement that the marihuana smell would not be worse than the pig smell. She asked that we don't do this for the money. She thinks that community has already been damaged enough by these proposed businesses and doesn't want to see it get worse.

Tammy Sliger: Gardner Road 23 years. Tammy said she lives here because she likes the quiet country life and thinks these facilities will ruin that. She does not want these businesses here and is totally opposed to all of them

Mike Warman: Mike asked if marihuana were to go recreational if these applicants would have to reapply to grow and produce for recreational purposes.

Jim Tumbleson: Gardner Road 78 years. Jim said that the water floods over the road in the spring and with 15 homes within 1000 feet of the proposed location that we should deny the application.

Ina Carr: Ina quoted an article from the MTA stating that surveying the residents is a lawful expenditure. She also said the article mentioned that a referendum was lawful for things concerning zoning. Ina doesn't understand how we can vote on this issue without surveying the residents. She said it would only take 55 signatures to trigger a vote. The people made it clear that they are against this.

Ted Strefling: Ted asked the township voters who were in favor of this to raise their hands. He then asked who in attendance would benefit financially. He feels this is a bunch of nonsense and that the township won't make any money. He thinks we are all nuts and we have no idea what we are doing.

Paula Dickman: Nye Road. Paula stated that we all needed to be aware that the people in attendance did not represent the entire township. She said people won't come and speak in favor of this because they are afraid of the backlash. Paula thinks these facilities are a good thing and she supports them all.

Doug Legault: Doug quoted and mentioned items from section 3.13 of the zoning ordinance. He is curious to see how the vote goes tonight and stated that the value of the building doesn't raise or lower the property values, the character of the business does.

Tammy Sliger's grandson: He stated that he is against these facilities and thinks that the smell will kill his grandma's horses and dogs.

Sarah Strefling: Sarah said that this was her first meeting and she doesn't feel that good valuable farmland should be used to house these facilities. She said if young farmers think this is a good idea that they should put the facilities next to their own homes.

Diane Beadles: US Hwy 12. Diane said she lives in the epic center of the proposed facilities. She said she hopes that the PC has listened well to all the concerns raised by the residents and landowners. She also hopes that if this moves forward we make the applicants follow through on their promises and they weren't just words.

Amy York: Smith Road. Amy told a story about having to dial 911 and the slow response time. It turned out there wasn't a problem but what if there had been? How long would it have taken for the police to arrive? She feels the facilities will invite criminals and safety is a big concern for her and her family.

Kate Westveer: Kate questioned why the crowd was being filmed.

Kelly Keefer: Smith Road. Kelly stated that there are 9 kids living on Smith Road. He thinks having these facilities will be a safety concern for his property because people will be trying to break into his home and vehicles.

Michelle Lozmack: Michelle said that she knows we have spent a lot of time and done a lot of research. She thinks this is scary territory and it is not a good and solid business. Michelle asked why we are so diligently seeking it out. She also mentioned the township not having a master plan. She suggested we try opening up to some other type of business.

J. Richter shared a letter submitted by Barbara Truman (see attached).

Public comments were closed at 6:51pm

Green Mitten Agricultural Group: (see attached 3.13 question sheet). C. Lorange made a motion to approve Green Mitten to move forward with their application for 1-Class C license and 1-Processor. J. Rochman supported. Roll Call: Ayes: C. Lorange, L. James, J. Richter, J. Rochman. Nays: None. Abstain: C. Carr. Motion carried.

Exclusive Healing, Pardee Rd: (see attached 3.13 question sheet). C. Lorange made a motion to deny the application based on items A, B, D, and E of section 3.13. J. Rochman supported. Roll Call: Ayes: J. Richter, L. James, C. Lorange, J. Rochman. Motion carried.

Exclusive Healing, Smith Rd: (see attached 3.13 question sheet). C. Lorange made a motion to approve Exclusive Healing to move forward with their application for 1-Class C license and 1-Processor. J. Rochman supported. Roll Call: Ayes: C. Lorange, L. James, J. Rochman. Nays: C. Carr, J. Richter. Motion carried.

Med Farm of Michigan, LLC.: (see attached 3.13 question sheet). J. Richter made a motion to approve Med Farm of Michigan to move forward with their application for 2-Class C license and 1-Processor. J. Rochman supported. Roll Call: Ayes: C. Lorange, J. Richter, J. Rochman. Nays: L. James. Motion carried.

McCoy Creek Naturals: (see attached 3.13 question sheet). C. Lorange made a motion to deny the application based on items A, B, C, and E of section 3.13. J. Richter supported. Roll Call: Ayes: C. Carr, J. Rochman, J. Richter, L. James, C. Lorange. Nays: None Motion carried.

Jaide Forest Farms: (see attached 3.13 question sheet). C. Lorange made a motion to deny the application based on items A and B of section 3.13. Roll Call: Ayes: L. James, C. Lorange, C. Carr, J. Rochman, J. Richter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Southwest Michigan Cultivators: (see attached 3.13 question sheet). J. Richter made a motion to deny the application based on items A, B, C, E. J. Rochman supported. Roll Call: Ayes: C. Carr, J. Rochman, J. Richter, L. James, C. Lorange. Nays: None. Motion carried.

C. Lorange made a motion to adjourn the hearing. J. Rochman supported. Motion carried. No nays.

The hearing was adjourned at 7:48pm