

**PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2009 MEETING**

Members Present: Howard Balzer, Christopher Finn, Glen Hymer, Hulda Moffitt, and Chris Rymer (alternate)

Members Absent: Judy Stalter

Others Present: Connie Swisher, Zoning Inspector; Dana Scott, Zoning Clerk

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Howard Balzer, chairman, at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Balzer asked for a motion to approve or correct the December 16, 2008 Prairie Township Zoning Commission Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Moffitt said that in the second paragraph under *Meeting Minutes*, the date should read November "18," rather than "16."

With this correction being made, Mr. Finn moved to approve the December 16, 2008 Zoning Commission Minutes. Mr. Hymer seconded the motion.

Roll call as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Christopher Finn | Aye |
| 2. Hulda Moffitt | Aye |
| 3. Glen Hymer | Aye |
| 4. Howard Balzer | Aye |

The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Introduction of New Alternate Member of Zoning Commission

Mr. Balzer introduced Chris Rymer as the new alternate member of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Rymer is filling the unexpired term, ending December 31, 2009, of Melinda Schoaf.

Because Ms. Stalter was absent, Mr. Balzer invited Mr. Rymer to be seated as an acting member.

Election of Officers

Mr. Balzer stated that the next business before the Commission was to nominate and elect officers for the year 2009: Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary.

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Mr. Balzer called for nominations for Chairman.

Ms. Moffitt nominated Howard Balzer to retain his chairmanship of the Commission in 2009.

Mr. Hymer seconded Mr. Balzer's nomination for Chairman.

Mr. Balzer accepted the nomination.

Mr. Balzer asked if there were any other nominations for Chairman. There was none.

Mr. Balzer called for a vote on his nomination as Chairman.

Roll call as follows:

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Christopher Finn | Aye |
| 2. Hulda Moffitt    | Aye |
| 3. Chris Rymer      | Aye |
| 4. Glen Hymer       | Aye |
| 5. Howard Balzer    | Aye |

Mr. Balzer asked for a vote on the election of Howard Balzer for Chairman.

Roll call as follows:

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Christopher Finn | Aye |
| 2. Hulda Moffitt    | Aye |
| 3. Chris Rymer      | Aye |
| 4. Glen Hymer       | Aye |
| 5. Howard Balzer    | Aye |

Mr. Balzer was elected unanimously.

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Mr. Balzer called for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Mr. Balzer nominated Christopher Finn for Vice Chairman.

Mr. Hymer seconded the nomination.

Mr. Finn accepted the nomination.

Mr. Balzer asked if there were any other nominations for Vice Chairman. There was none.

Mr. Balzer asked for a vote on the nomination of Christopher Finn for Vice Chairman.

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Roll call as follows:

1. Christopher Finn Aye
2. Hulda Moffitt Aye
3. Chris Rymer Aye
4. Glen Hymer Aye
5. Howard Balzer Aye

Mr. Balzer asked for a vote on the election of Christopher Finn for Vice Chairman.

Roll call as follows:

1. Christopher Finn Aye
2. Hulda Moffitt Aye
3. Chris Rymer Aye
4. Glen Hymer Aye
5. Howard Balzer Aye

Mr. Finn was elected unanimously.

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Mr. Balzer called for nominations for Secretary.

Mr. Finn nominated Hulda Moffitt to retain her position as Secretary for the year 2009.

Mr. Hymer seconded the nomination.

Ms. Moffitt accepted the nomination.

Mr. Balzer asked if there were any other nominations for Secretary. There was none.

Mr. Balzer asked for a vote on the nomination of Hulda Moffitt for Secretary.

Roll call as follows:

1. Christopher Finn           Aye
2. Hulda Moffitt            Aye
3. Chris Rymer             Aye
4. Glen Hymer             Aye
5. Howard Balzer          Aye

Mr. Balzer asked for a vote on the election of Hulda Moffitt for Secretary.

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Roll call as follows:

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Christopher Finn | Aye |
| 2. Hulda Moffitt    | Aye |
| 3. Chris Rymer      | Aye |
| 4. Glen Hymer       | Aye |
| 5. Howard Balzer    | Aye |

Ms. Moffitt was elected unanimously.

In summary, Mr. Balzer stated that the officers of the Zoning Commission have been elected for a one-year term ending on December 31, 2009. The two alternate Zoning Commission members are Bruce Whyte and Chris Rymer.

Ms. Swisher explained that the practice of having alternate members was started in order to have a sufficient number to establish a quorum, which is three persons, necessary to transact business as well as to pass a vote in the event the three did not vote unanimously. In order for an item being voted on to pass, three persons must be "in favor of" it.

**Announcements:**

Conservation District Zoning Code

Ms. Swisher said that several entities, including two developer representatives, who are stakeholders in the Big Darby Accord continue to meet downtown twice a month to work on the conservation district zoning code. Prairie Township's rewritten Article 22 is being used as the model document. Revised Article 22 was never adopted because of the advent of the Darby Accord, which made the conservation district a much broader issue.

The task is challenging because the Darby Accord requires that all participating jurisdictions adopt the same conservation district zoning code.

**Next Meeting:**

Mr. Balzer announced that the next meeting of the Prairie Township Zoning Commission would be Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. at the Township Hall, 23 Maple Drive.

There being no further business, Mr. Balzer adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hulda Moffitt, Secretary  
Prairie Township Zoning Commission



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