

## THORN TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION

**Zoning Members Present:** Wayne Gniewkowski  
Ronald Bonnette  
Brad Blain  
Mark Huggins  
Joe Blaine  
Ed Corns, Zoning Inspector  
Deborah Morgan, Zoning Secretary

**Guests Present:** Mary Kay Andrews  
Todd Brune

**Meeting:** Date: 05/13/19  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: Thorn Township Building

The Thorn Township Zoning Commission Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joe Blaine at 6:00 p.m., by saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Roll call was taken and all members were present.

The April 2019 regular Zoning Commission Meeting Minutes were distributed. Ron Bonnette stated that he wanted the minutes to reflect a statement he made concerning people voting for fence regulations, such as a referendum. After discussion Brad Blain made a motion to approve the minutes with the above-mentioned change, Wayne Gniewkowski seconded the motion. Roll call was taken and the motion passed by a unanimous vote of all members present.

### Surveys

Zoning Inspector Ed Corns discussed a recent variance issue and how it relates to why survey language should be added to the zoning regulations. Discussion was held, and after this discussion and a review of the current zoning resolution it was found that there is language in the resolution (Article 4-2) dealing with this issue, therefore no further discussion was needed.

### Proposed Fence Regulations

Chairman Joe Blaine distributed an updated sample of fence regulations that he created. The Board reviewed this sample and the following subjects were discussed:

- Fees, if any, that would be charged for fence permits if regulations were passed
- Pros and cons of sending proposed fence regulations to attorney prior to sending on to Trustees
- Verbiage in regards to what is considered a font yard
- Height restrictions in regards to dogs being able to jump, etc.
- Agriculture exemptions
- What is considered agriculture
- Definition of a fence for the purpose of this discussion
- Knowing when to call the Zoning Inspector

After all discussion Joe Blaine made a motion to send the proposal to the zoning attorney for review and to add the legal definition of a fence, Brad Blain seconded the motion. Ron Bonnette wanted to clarify that he feels it is an unnecessary expense and all fence regulations should be tabled. After no further discussion roll call was taken and the motion passed by a vote of four (4) members in favor (Blain, Gniewkowski, Huggins, Blaine) and one (1) member against (Bonnette).

### **Other Items for Discussion**

Zoning Inspector Ed Corns reported eight (8) permits issued as follows:

- Four (4) new builds
- One (1) deck
- Two (2) pools
- One (1) room addition

Inspector Corns also reported of a neighborhood meeting sponsored by residents of the area in regards to complaints and issues of a prospective new addition/development on Twp. Rd. 495. A brief discussion was held.

Agenda items for the next regular meeting will be fence regulations and open items for discussion.

After no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

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Joe Blaine, Chairman

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Deborah Morgan, Secretary