

**Portland Township Planning Commission Minutes  
Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

Ross Schneider called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll was taken by Sue Vanlente:

Present: Marcy Lay, Mike Kolp, Tony Dixon, Evelyn Walkington-Jensen, Ross Schneider, and Sue Vanlente  
Absent: Andrew Huhn

Motion by Marcy Lay, seconded by Tony Dixon to approve the minutes from the last meeting. All were in favor.

There were no changes to the agenda or public comments concerning items on the agenda.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The public hearing was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Randy and Michelle Hodge Special Use Permit for Home Based Business**

The Hodges are converting part of their historic home into suites that will be rented out on a nightly basis. The Hodges have met all of the requirements for their home-based business. Motion by Mike Kolp, seconded by Marcy Lay to approve their permit. All were in favor.

The public hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**HB 5120/5121**

Nic gave a short report on recently passed house bills that will give the Michigan Public Service Commission the authority to override local ordinances pertaining to renewable energy facilities.

**Adding Short Term Rental to Our Zoning Ordinance**

Our Zoning Ordinance does not address short term rentals. Nic will continue to look for ordinances in neighboring communities for the PC to look over and consider.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sarah Harraka Application for Group Child Care Home**

Sarah is located at 8045 Meadowland Drive. She is currently operating a Daycare (maximum 6 children) and would like to expand to Group Childcare Home (maximum 12 children). Nic noted that she has met the requirements. His only concern is the congestion that could be created by parents dropping off or picking up their children, but noted that Sarah's driveway can accommodate up to 8 cars. There were no objections or questions. A Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

No public comments or additional PC comments.

The next meeting will be the Public Hearing on January 10, 2024.

The next regular meeting will be on March 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tony Dixon, seconded by Evelyn Walkington-Jensen. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.