

# AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION – SPECIAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 9, 2023 – 6:00 PM – AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP HALL

## Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman Lang called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## Roll Call:

**Members Present:** Jason Cain, Secretary; William Gramm, Member; Matt Lang, Chair; Bill Weisinger, Vice; Jake Miller, Trustee.

**Others Present:** Kathleen Lindquist, ZA; Michelle Doucette, Township Supervisor; Donna Shields, ZBA; Sabrina Brown, Jim Middlebrook, Tracy Middlebrook, Kerry Way, Barry Flavin.

## Approval of Agenda:

**Motion:** To approve the agenda as written.

**Moved:** Cain

**Supported:** Weisinger

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## Approval of Minutes:

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from January 12, 2023 Regular Meeting as written.

**Moved:** Cain

**Supported:** Gramm

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## Public Comment:

None

**Public Hearing:**

**Conditional Use Permit – Barry Flavin for a short-term rental located at N2855 Toms Road.**

Chair Lang opened the public hearing at 6:05 PM.

Mr. Flavin presented his plan and had Ms. Sabrina Brown (employee of rental management company hired to manage the rental) present to discuss solutions to any issues that would arise with the addition of the rental and explain how the daily operations of the rental would work.

Mr. Jim Middlebrook (President of Homeowners Association in neighborhood of the proposed rental) spoke in opposition of the rental, stating concerns with additional use of the private road, snow removal, road upkeep, trash removal, excessive noise, fireworks from renters, and snowmobilers.

Mr. Stephan Salo (neighbor property trustee two parcels away from proposed rental) wrote a letter in opposition of the rental, stating concerns about nesting loons near the proposed rental, excessive noise, light pollution, excessive use of roads, excessive trash, reckless behavior caused by renters, and safety of children and homeowners in the area.

Mr. Flavin spoke again, citing multiple inaccurate statements made by both Mr. Middlebrook and Mr. Salo. Mr. Flavin stated his property does not butt up against the lake with the nesting loons, and his guests would not have any impact to the loons. He also argued that there was no difference between himself or other homeowners use of the road versus guests using the roads. He stated he was not going to rent the cabin out during the winter, so there would be no additional snowmobilers. He also stated he would be more than willing to give additional funds to the association for road upkeep.

With no additional comments, Chair Lang closed the public hearing for Barry Flavin at 6:37, and discussion between board members began at that time. Board members went line by line through section 802 of the Au Train Zoning Ordinance – Basis of Determination / General Standards – and made the determination that a short term rental in this location will satisfy the standards set forth.

**Motion:** To approve the Conditional Use Permit in question for Mr. Barry Flavin

**Moved:** Cain

**Supported:** Gramm

**Ayes:** Cain, Gramm, Miller

**Nays:** Lang, Weisinger

**Motion Carried 3-2**

**Conditional Use Permit – Patrick Dickenshied for a short-term rental located at N3891 Peninsula Point Road.**

Chair Lang opened the public hearing at 7:07 PM.

Mr. Karry Way representing Mr. Dickenshied presented the applicant's position and stated he is already operating multiple rentals close to the proposed rental.

Board members asked several questions of Mr. Way in regards to number of guests allowed in the rental (3 max), how many bedrooms, bathrooms, etc.

Satisfied with the answers, and with no opposition to the rental present or written, Chair Lang closed the public hearing for Patrick Dickenshied at 7:14 PM.

Board members went through Section 802 and acknowledged that the rental met the standards and that it would be a good location for the rental.

**Motion:** To approve the Conditional Use Permit in question for Mr. Patrick Dickenshied

**Moved:** Gramm

**Supported:** Cain

**Ayes:** Gramm, Cain, Lang, Weisinger, Miller

**Nays:** None

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Correspondence / Announcements:**

None

**Next Meeting:** Next meeting was set for February 23, 2023 for review of three CUP requests.

**Public Comment:**

Kathleen Lindquist asked the board members if the electronic packets of CUP sent via email ahead of time would suffice for the board member's needs.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** To adjourn

**Moved:** Cain

**Supported:** Weisinger

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Chair Lang adjourned the meeting at 7:44 PM