



## AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 18, 2019

8:00PM

### CALL TO ORDER

Bob Puskas called the meeting to order at 8:05PM.

### PRESENT

Bob Puskas, Chair

Councilman Ted

Chase

Craig Feibel

Rik Johnson

Tara Kenyon, AICP/PP – Land Preservation and Management Consultant

### PUBLIC COMMENT

*(The meeting will be opened to the Public to provide time for comments and/or questions related to the agenda)*

Craig Feibel made a motion to open the meeting to the public, which was seconded by Rik Johnson. All agreed and the motion carried.

Jim Harris, a farmer in the Township who also leases Township-owned land for farming, discussed the potential preservation of a newly acquired parcel under his ownership. Tara Kenyon will send him the required paperwork. Mr. Harris also inquired about the amending of his lease to remove the land needed by DPW to access the water meter onsite. Tara will speak with Carl Hauck, Director of DPW to discuss how to address this issue.

### APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Craig Feibel made a motion to approve the January 17, 2019 meeting minutes, which was seconded by Rik Johnson. All agreed and the motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### ***Summary of 2018 – 2019 Hunting Program***

Tara Kenyon recommended the postponement of the summarization report of last year's hunting program, due to a low response rate. Tara will reach out to the hunters to gather more information so she can make a more complete report at the May meeting. All agreed, so the item was tabled until the May AAC meeting.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### ***Meeting Dates for Next Year (before OSAC?)***

Review of the municipal ordinance has proven that all potential properties for preservation must be brought to OSAC before Council. Because of this limitation and because many AAC meetings fall after OSAC meetings on the calendar,

Tara Kenyon asked if the Committee would be interested in moving the monthly meetings before the OSAC meetings (third Tuesday of the month). This would reduce wait time by ensuring that potential farmland properties could be reviewed by the AAC and brought before OSAC in the same month.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to move meetings to the first Thursday of the month at 8:00PM. Bob Puskas recommended starting the new meeting schedule in June. A motion was made by Rik Johnson and seconded by Craig Feibel. All agreed and the motion carried.

### ***Farmers Market***

Tara Kenyon updated the Committee about the progress being made with the Farmers Market, which will have its opening day on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Currently, signage and banners are being designed and ordered. Rik Johnson volunteered to place a sign on his lawn, adding to signs at Al Puchalek's farm and Rich Wolven's farm.

A meeting of the Farmers Market Committee is scheduled for next week for review of applications submitted, grant information and logistical planning.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Craig Feibel made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting, which was seconded by Rik Johnson. All agreed and the Committee entered Executive Session to discuss current and potential land negotiations.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Rik Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Craig Feibel. All agreed and the meeting closed at 9:01PM.