

**SANDS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting**

April 28, 2020 (originally scheduled for April 21, 2020)

1. Call to Order at 6:33 PM by Planning Commission Chair S. Brauer
2. Roll Call: S. Brauer, J. Yelle, S. Sundell (arrived 6:36), & C. Bushong (via phone)
  - a. Absent: P. Lajewski-Pearson
  - b. Others in Attendance: Mark Hirvonen
3. Approval of Agenda: S. Brauer moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the agenda with the removal of Item 7 (Review & Discussion of Draft Ordinance 59 and the Master Plan). Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion carried.
4. Approval of Minutes: C. Bushong moved, J. Yelle seconded, to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2020 and February 20, 2020 meetings as presented. Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

5. Public Comment: None

6. Business:

Public Hearing SUP20-02

a. Open Public Hearing: S. Brauer opened the Public Hearing at 6:36 PM.

- i. Staff Input: R. Yelle explained the request, which is for an archery range on property leased from the Marquette County Fair.
- ii. Requester Input – Mark Hirvonen explained the plans for the range, which is not open for general public; it will not be staffed, will have portable restrooms, and open during daylight hours. Some details still need to be worked out with the Fair Board when they are able to meet and walk around the property.
- iii. Public Input – Although not in attendance, a neighbor did contact Randy with questions about where the driveway will be located (still being worked out exactly, but will use an existing driveway off M553), hours of operation (daylight hours), and whether alcohol is allowed (it is not).

b. Close Public Hearing: S. Brauer closed the Public Hearing at 6:51 PM.

- c. Commissioner Discussion and Action: **C. Bushong moved, S. Sundell supported, that, after conducting the required public hearing, receiving input from Township staff, Township residents, the general public and the requester, and after reviewing the Township's Zoning Ordinance and Master Plan, the Sands Township Planning Commission grants approval for Special Use Permit SUP20-02, with the attached conditions:**

- **Activities are limited to Archery weapons only,**
- **Target as well as field archery is allowed,**
- **Must meet & comply with applicable federal, state, county and local ordinances and guidelines,**
- **300 foot setback-all sides,**
- **Applicant shall provide reasonable operation hours. However, the hours shall be approved by the Sands Township Planning Commission,**
- **No shooting after dusk,**
- **A minimum of forty-eight (48) square feet shall be provided for each shooting station (8' x 6'),**
- **Spectator areas shall be separated from the range to prevent anyone from entering the downrange area & shall be placed behind the shooting line,**
- **Backstops shall be placed immediately behind targets that consist of bales of excelsior, straw bales, netting, or similar materials to keep arrows on site,**
- **Restroom/s shall be within an enclosed structure,**
- **Berms shall be placed downrange from target area along with dense evergreen near property line.**
- **Target areas shall be set back at least 300 feet from property lines, & 1,500 feet from downrange dwelling. Indoor archery may be permitted as an ancillary use to the outdoor facilities, and**
- **A review of the permit and conditions in 6 months is required.**

**Ayes: 4   Nays: 0   Motion carried.**

7. Administrative Report

- a. Violation Report – R. Yelle gave an update
- b. Authority Update – R. Yelle gave an update

8. Public Comment: None

9. S. Brauer adjourned meeting at 7:09 PM.

S. Brauer  
Chairman

P. Lajewski-Pearson  
Secretary

C. Kerkela  
Recording Secretary