

Randolph Township Public Hearing Monday, October 19, 2009

Chairman Mike Lang opened the hearing with the pledge at 7:00 p.m. Roger asked all those that wish to speak at this hearing to stand and be sworn in. Mike asked Dan if the Zoning Commission adopted the resolution for the zoning text changes for solar panels and wind turbines that was presented to the trustees. Dan stated that it did. Mike explained the purpose of the hearing and asked for comments.

Paul C. does not appreciate the tower in his neighborhood, especially a 170 foot tower.

Jack stated that he has seen many windmills in his travels. We are the greatest nation in the world and need to stand behind our country in developing new sources of energy.

Roger has studied and looked over all the meeting material involving the proposed text changes and is in favor of passing the resolution as presented.

Gary asked how many have visited wind turbines. There was a show of hands. He asked if it was a noise generator.

Pat stated that she was about 125 feet from one and could not hear anything but the usual sounds.

Fred stated that he visited a windmill in Deerfield. The wind noise in the trees was heard over the turbines.

Gary stated that he recently visited a wind turbine and did not hear the turbine.

Paul C. feels it is unsightly, especially for a residential business.

Jack feels it is a beautiful sight. It is well engineered. There are many things that are unsightly according to individual preference. The various sizes add to the beauty. We all just need to adjust.

Todd stated that the wind noise was louder than the turbine. The cost is expensive, but 20 years no one had a cell phone due to the cost. Now everyone has one. New technology will improve to keep the cost down.

Joe asked if there were any regulations on grain drying operations. Mike stated that it is agriculture and not regulated. Joe stated that his neighbor has a very tall grain dryer, a considerable distance away, and it makes much more noise than a wind turbine. He is not complaining because he knows his neighbor needs it for his farm.

Bob stated that agriculture had windmills to pump water about 60 – 70 years ago. It is part of our heritage. He never considered it ugly.

Mike stated that as township trustees it is our responsibility to our community to investigate new ideas. By adopting a plan and regulating the rules we are able to have some control over new items. As these items become more popular we may need to revisit this proposal again.

Mike moved to adopt Appendix E regarding Wind/Solar Energy System Zoning Regulations as presented by the Zoning Commission. Roger seconded. RCV: Roger – yes; Gary – yes; Mike – yes.

Mike stated that this resolution will be in force 30 days from today.

With no further business, the hearing adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

*Michael Loney*  
*Mary A. Rodenbucker*