

Torrey Planning & Zoning Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2025, at 6:30 pm (postponed from July 31)

In attendance: Allison Moist, Jack Kelly, Steve Babitt, Chair Bill Barrett, Kate Chappell, Nan Anderson

Bill opened the meeting. He asked for conflicts of interest, none were identified. Bill asked if there were any changes necessary in the minutes of the June 26th P&Z meeting. There being none, a motion to approve was made by Jack and seconded by Steve. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill and Steve provided a brief overview of “The Basics of Dark Sky Lighting” for Torrey. This a document that will be included in the permit application packet, and is intended to give homeowners and contractors who are not familiar with Torrey’s lighting ordinance a very simple series of steps and information in an easily understood format. The document includes the brief discussions of what light fixtures are permitted, and how to calculate how many lumens are permitted per acre.

A motion to approve “The Basics of Dark Sky Lighting” was made by Nan, seconded by Bill, and the motion passed unanimously. Bill thanked Steve for all of his efforts to develop and then revise the document.

Bill briefly noted that calculating the number of lumens permitted on a property based on lot size seemed less useful in Torrey where there is a very wide variance of parcel sizes. He believes it would be worth it for the Planning Commission to try to develop a process based on the size of the house and then propose that to the Dark Skies organization.

Review of Torrey Ordinance Chapter 9-4 – Outdoor Lighting

There was discussion of language used in the ordinance. Jack suggested using “shall” whenever referring to a firm requirement, and all thought that was appropriate. The Planning Commission was in agreement with the majority of the changes proposed in the draft document. There was some discussion about inconsistencies relating to exceptions to the lighting requirements. Bill said he would clarify the and bring a final draft to the August P&Z meeting.

The group noted the great work of firefighters on the Monroe Mountain fire that has affected all of Wayne County residents & businesses. It was also noted that having only one transmission line in/out of Wayne County is probably insufficient.

The next P&Z meeting is Thursday, August 28 at 6:30 pm, followed by September 25. Bill will be out of town for the October 30th meeting. He will determine if the meeting can be moved up one week to October 23.

There were no members of the public present and there being no further business to discuss, Bill called for a motion to adjourn. Steve moved to adjourn, Kate seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.