EUREKA TOWNSHIP DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING **OCTOBER 27, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Butch Hansen at 7:00 p.m. Commission members present were Butch Hansen, Lu Barfknecht, Phil Cleminson and Allen Novacek. Member Carrie Jennings arrived at 7:10 p.m. Also present were Town Board Supervisors Kenny Miller and Mark Ceminsky, Township Attorney, Chad Lemmons and Township Clerk Mira Broyles.

The purpose of the special meeting was to allow representatives of Organica Gardens, Dale Liene, Jamie Warndahl, Craig Andrews and Paul Frank, to discuss their application with the State of Minnesota to operate a medical marijuana manufacturing facility at 24797 Highview Avenue. They noted that the State will make on-site visits in November and will award two permits in December, 2014. They went on to explain their proposed operation, which would be to grow organic marijuana within a secure building, processing of the product, and ultimate distribution to an off-site dispensary. They discussed State regulations which would include 24 hour security and a close relationship with the Dakota County Sherriff's Department. It was also noted that each individual marijuana plant would be bar coded for inventory tracking.

Commission members questioned the use and disposal of chemicals, which was explained by Mr. Andrews who noted all chemicals and waste would be disposed of off-site at a facility approved by the State. The proposed energy source and drying operation was discussed.

Commission members and the Township Attorney held a discussion regarding the Right to Farm Act, the commercial agricultural zoning of the property, and actual rights to govern this type of operation by the Township. Commission members asked Attorney Lemmons to explain the process to enact a moratorium to allow time for research. Attorney Lemmons stated he could not provide information to the Commission regarding a moratorium, which had been previously requested by the Town Board, until he was so directed by the Town Board attorney liaison.

The Commission thanked Organica Gardens representatives for their presentation.

Chair Hansen called for a recess at 8:05 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

Plans for the open house to present proposed agritourism ordinances scheduled for October 28th was discussed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Barfknecht, seconded by Commissioner Cleminson to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.
Respectfully submitted:
Mira Broyles, Township Clerk