

SYLVAN LAKE PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes of the February 9, 2016
Public Hearing

PUBLIC HEARING

Special Land Use Request – Alcohol Sales for Pepino’s Restaurant, 2440 Orchard Lake Road.

Chairperson Endres called the Public Hearing to order at 7:02pm. He explained the Public Hearing process and asked City Manager Martin to introduce the topic.

City Manager Martin stated the purpose of the public hearing is to review a special land use request by Pepino’s restaurant to allow the sale of alcohol. The City of Sylvan Lake voters approved the sale of Liquor by the glass in November of 2013. Prior to that approval, only beer and wine were available for consumption on premise at public restaurants. The request to allow the sale of liquor at this establishment requires Special Land Use approval per Code Section 78-448. Part of reason that the voters approved the sale of liquor was based on residents, City Council, Planning Commission and City Staff and Legal Counsel coming up with ordinances that would “protect the city”, which is what they did. This ordinance, as a special land use, requires time limits, specific food to alcohol sales ratio, and a specific process to go through.

Pepino’s, has done a very nice, professional job in submitting the required paperwork, site plan and business plan. This is an already established restaurant doing business in Walled Lake for over 30 years. Their building burned and it is necessary for them to relocate. They are planning on moving into the vacant restaurant at 2440 Orchard Lake Road with only cosmetic changes to the inside of the building. Planning Commission is holding this public hearing to hear public comment on their thoughts and ideas regarding this request. Then, during the regular meeting Planning Commission will discuss and make a proposal to City Council.

Kathy Kwiecinski, one of the three owners of Pepino’s gave a brief background of the family restaurant that has been in business for many years. There is always someone from the family at the restaurant. Their goal originally was for this to be a temporary location but now that they have begun moving in, they really love it here. Their building burned in November and the family has been working very hard here and they are anxious to get open again. Sylvan Lake has been wonderful to work with and has welcomed and helped them so much with the transition.

Chairperson Endres opened the meeting to the Public. Commissioner Brundage stated this is a family restaurant and the hours of operation will be 11:00 a.m. 10:00 p.m.

Chairperson Endres closed the Public Hearing.