

ISABELLA COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION

March 9, 2023

A regular meeting of the Isabella County Planning Commission was held on March 9, 2023 in Room 225 of the Isabella County Building, 200 North Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Bean, Tim O'Neil, Ann Silker, Phillip Vogel, Kyle Camp, Adam Brookens, Steve Swaney, Bob Campbell

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

SUPPORT STAFF PRESENT: Tim Nieporte, Community Development Director
Ray Johnson, Zoning Administrator

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bean at 7:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Bean requested that the agenda be approved as presented.

Mr. Nieporte indicated that staff would like to add Liaison Reports and Public Comment to the agenda after item 4.

A motion was made by Mr. Camp supported by Mr. Swaney to approve the amended agenda.

Yes: Kelly Bean, Tim O'Neil, Ann Silker, Phillip Vogel, Kyle Camp, Adam Brookens, Steve Swaney, Bob Campbell

No: None

Motion carried

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the January 12, 2023 organizational meeting were circulated to the members prior to the meeting for their review.

A motion was made by Mr. O'Neil, supported by Mr. Vogel to approve the minutes

Yes: Kelly Bean, Tim O'Neil, Ann Silker, Phillip Vogel, Kyle Camp, Adam Brookens, Steve Swaney, Bob Campbell

No: None

LIAISON REPORTS

Parks & Recreation – Mr. O’Neil indicated the Parks Board met and received a summary of the parks, including financials. He stated the County Parks are doing well. He also stated that the Parks Board received a final Director’s report from Ms. Sue Ann Kopmeyer as she is retiring.

Zoning Board of Appeals – Mr. Vogel indicated that the Board met last month and approved one variance at Coldwater Lake.

Board of Commissioners – Mr. Swaney stated that the Board met last night and approved payments for the Jail construction and for Spicer Group to perform the plan review. He also indicated the Board appointed Lisa Hoisington to the Planning Commission to fill Mr. Neyer’s vacant seat.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Opened at 7:04 p.m.

Ms. Jackie Curtis of Denver Township indicated the Township was doing good.

Closed at 7:04 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OTHER BUSINESS (NON-PUBLIC HEARINGS)

2022 PC Annual Report

Mr. Nieporte reviewed the 2022 Planning Commission Annual report for the members. He also indicated that he would move the annual report to the Board of Commissioners following tonight’s meeting.

General discussion from the Board regarding violations in the County occurred.

Mr. Camp asked if staff knew how many acres are currently enrolled in PA116.

Mr. Nieporte indicated that he didn’t have the number tonight, but staff would review the State data and send that out to the members.

PA116 - Coe Township - Feltman

Mr. Johnson indicated that an application, submitted by Mr. Feltman, to the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program (PA116) was received from Coe Township. He provided a summary of the application and indicated that it was complete. Hearing no comments from the

members, he stated he would send a letter back to Coe Township informing them of the County's review.

PA116 – Coe Township – Moeggenborg

Mr. Johnson indicated that two applications, submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Moeggenborg, to the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program (PA116) were received from Coe Township. He provided a summary of the applications and noted a few deficiencies in one. Hearing no comments from the members, he stated he would send a letter back to Coe Township informing them of the County's review and will include a notation on the deficiencies.

Union Township Text Amendments

Mr. Johnson informed the members that a summary of amendments to the Union Township zoning ordinance was received. He indicated that these amendments were general clean up of the ordinance following last year's major revision of the Union Township zoning ordinance. Mr. Johnson indicated that following a public hearing, the Union Township Planning Commission recommended to the Township Board the approval of the amendments.

Mr. Johnson indicated that staff saw no concerns with the amendments and that following tonight's meeting a letter would be sent back to Union Township informing them of the Planning Commission's review.

Village of Shepherd Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan

Mr. Johnson indicated that the Village of Shepherd sent the Planning Commission members a copy of their finalized five-year Parks Plan. Mr. Johnson indicated that staff has reviewed the plan and saw no concerns with the plan. He indicated that if there were no comments by the members, staff would forward a letter to the Village informing them of the review.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Opened at 7:17 p.m. Closed at 7:17 p.m.

STAFF COMMENTS – Mr. Nieporte informed the members that after working on the Isabella Wind Turbine project since 2016, staff has finalized the project and DTE has fulfilled all the required conditions placed upon the special use permit approval. Mr. Nieporte then reviewed the process of the post construction sound study for the members and read the executive summary conclusion indicating compliance of the wind turbine park.

There was general board discussion regarding sound and complaints.

Mr. Nieporte indicated we have received only a few complaints regarding sound and as per the sound study conducted by the County, are resolved at this time.

PLANNING COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

Planning Commission

March 9, 2023

Page 4 of 4

Mr. Bean adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ann Silker", is written above a horizontal line.

Ann Silker, Secretary

Ray Johnson, Recording Secretary