

Columbia Township Planning Commission Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday October 13, 2020 7:00 pm

1. Call to order by Chairperson Terry Mahr at 7:00
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Roger Gaede , Andrew Brieschke, Mike McKay, Terry Mahr, Todd Wanty
Hollis Jeffreys, Flip Reynolds
Absent: none
Visitors: none

4. Public Comments: None

5. Motion to approve the agenda made by Gaede; support by Jeffreys. Vote: Ayes all

6. Mahr asked to correct the minutes from 2-18-20, noting the Public hearing is closed, and prior to the Motion by McKay. So noted and revised

7. Motion by McKay, support by Brieschke to approve the minutes of February 18, 2020, with the noted revision. Ayes all.

8. Purpose of the meeting: **Second of four Annual Planning Commission meetings for 2020.**

9. Old Business:

a. Chairperson Mahr discussed her meeting with the Township Board in regard the PC work on the Master Plan and Community Survey using Survey Monkey, after attending a meeting with Raisin Township. The meeting was less than expected; The Township Board opted to do it themselves. Treasure Calhoun contacted Region II for a quote of the cost to revise the Master Plan. The cost was quoted at \$15,000, which was the amount requested by the PC in the 2020 Budget. Mahr suggested we re-open the efforts. Brieschke had sent a letter to the Board suggesting that we be allowed to continue our work, no response was received.

Reynolds noted that the Township budget was cut \$100,000 for 2020, but State of Michigan Revenue sharing will be more for 2020 by \$1,000. 2021 will have a 4.7% reduction.

b. Master Plan. No action has been done by any entity on the Master Plan since February 2020. Treasurer Calhoun did pursue a quote from Region II to revise the plan at \$15,000. Mahr discussed the importance of continuing the completion of the MP. McKay discussed waiting until the Board approves a vendor for the revision work, due to all the previous starts and stops.

Brieschke suggested that we send a Motion to the Board regarding the Master Plan, Gaede suggested a revision to the motion requesting Region II as a vendor, Brieschke declined the addition.

Motion: Dated 10-13-20 The Columbia Township Planning Commission requests the Township Board take action to re-start the Planning Commission's efforts to revise the Township Master Plan. We request that this be added to the Township Board's agenda for the October Board Meeting.

Motion by Brieschke, Support McKay.

Vote: Ayes: McKay, Brieschke, Mahr, Jeffreys, Reynolds, Wanty Ney: Gaede Motion Carried

Mahr noted that she had requested to be added to the Agenda to discuss this prior, with no response.

Mahr motioned that we establish a regular Monthly Tuesday Planning Commission meeting for the 1st Tuesday of each Month at 7:00 PM, so it will be consistent. If no business is needed, the meeting can be cancelled.

Support: Gaede

Comment: McKay, is it in the Township Budget?

Vote: Ayes all, Motion carried.

Mahr discussed the new Commissioner Pay System, no longer needed to fill out pay slips; a new system has been implemented. She also suggested we all review the PC By-Laws for updates.

Next Meeting will be **Wednesday** October 28, 2020 to review the Zoning Map amendments.

Future Meetings: November 10 is cancelled, December 8 is still scheduled.

Gaede noted that the Township Clerk Marsh is responsible for the Zoning Map updates.

9. Public Comments: none

10. Commissioner Comments:

Gaede: Discussed the Jackson County Planning Commission information, he will distribute. He questioned the legal status of the Used Car Lot in Brooklyn. Mahr stated that is in the court system with no trial date established.

Mahr: We may be returning to Zoom meetings as the Covid cases continue to expand locally. We need to study up on Large Solar Systems, as the Cement City project is coming back around.

Reynolds: The Township Cleanup day is Saturday October 24, 2020.

Mahr: New staff changes coming to the Township office.

McKay: The Clark Lake Church is closing and will be for sale, as a Church.

8:10 PM Motion to Adjourn by McKay, support Jeffreys. Ayes all, motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Wanty

Todd Wanty-Secretary