

HENRIETTA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
11732 Bunkerhill Road, Pleasant Lake, MI 49272
Phone: 517-769-6925
Website: henriettatownshipmi.gov

MINUTES FROM 08/22/2023 REGULAR MEETING
(By Anita Szabo, Recording Secretary)

Members present: R. Draeger; J. Duszynski; A. Faist; N. Hawley; R. Troman

1. Call to Order

- Meeting officially called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Approval of July 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from 07/25/2023 meeting were reviewed.
- A motion to accept as written was made by R. Draeger, seconded by R. Troman, and passed unanimously by remaining members.

3. Public Comment

- None; no members of public present.

4. Township Official's Report (per A. Faist and N. Hawley)

- A. Faist praised the continued presence and involvement of Margie Walz, new County Commissioner for Jackson County, District 2.
- Reminder made of Henrietta Township Fire Department's upcoming Annual Chicken BBQ, scheduled for Saturday, August 26, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. until sold out.
- Repairs to the Township Office's parking lot are being considered, and the Fire Chief is investigating the reason behind an increase of \$500 from the original estimate.
- Monies were reallocated to different funds (they must be earmarked for specific uses, or stand the chance of being lost).
- Another election will be taking place this fall, with millage for Jackson College being one of the issues on the ballot.
- Renewal of White Lake's Weed Petition is being reviewed with the wording of same being worked on presently.
- New culvert installation on Territorial Road has been completed.
- A member of the public was present at the last Township meeting and expressed concern about plans to replace some of the grass at the Munith Park with some other substance.
 - o It was clarified that the current plans only involve replacing the rubber material under the playground area.

5. Old Business

- N. Hawley advised she had been contacted by Cole Stadler of Wolgast Corporation seeking preliminary approval of their site plan for the Dollar Tree/Family Dollar store, since discussions with Drain Commissioner were underway.

- She advised him that the Planning Commission had already referred the matter to the Township Board, and as per Township Board Supervisor, Andy Grimes' previously stated position, the subject would be dealt with once all other necessary permits have been approved.
- Ongoing review of proposed text amendments to Commercial Sign and Outside Lighting ordinances, as well as text consistency in R-1, Section 502.4, Detached Garage.
 - A handout with latest revisions highlighted, composed by PC Chair N. Hawley, was distributed, reviewed, and discussed.
 - The main focus of the language in the revisions is on shielding and directing the light.
 - A motion to move forward with a Public Hearing on the matter was made by J. Duszynski, seconded by R. Troman, and passed unanimously by remaining members.
- Possible grant(s) toward cost of constructing connecting pathways between existing businesses at M106 & Berry Road and new Dollar Tree/Family Dollar store (distance required is estimated to be approximately 830 feet).
 - It has been determined that an estimate of cost needs to be obtained before the matter can be pursued further.

6. New Business

- Consideration of updates to the Township's 2018 Solar Energy Ordinance.
 - N. Hawley advised discussing this subject a result of concerns being brought forth by other communities in recent years as a result of the boom in commercial solar development and the resulting loss of productive farmland and/or clearing of forests.
 - A handout with proposed text amendments/revisions, composed by PC Chair N. Hawley, was distributed, reviewed, and discussed.
 - Further review and discussion of same to continue in future meetings.

7. Committees/Special Projects/Administrative

- Plans are already underway by the Waterloo Township Parks & Recreation Committee for the annual Halloween Parade in Munith.
 - The date and time for the event has been set for Saturday, October 28, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.; prizes will be awarded for best kids' costumes; and donations and volunteers are needed.
 - The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.
- N. Hawley provided information on Michigan Townships Association's "Township Planning & Zoning Team Retreat," October 3-4, 2023, at the Highlands in Harbor Springs.
 - Online registration is available at www.michigantownships.org.
- N. Hawley provided information on Michigan State University Extension's "Jackson County 2023 Citizen Planner Program," which is a land use training and certificate course for community land use decision-makers.
 - More information is available at <http://citizenplanner.msu.edu>.

8. Public Comment/Open Discussion

- None; no members of public present.

9. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn meeting was made by J. Duszynski, seconded by R. Draeger, and passed unanimously by remaining members.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.