

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

MINUTES FROM 10/24/2023 REGULAR MEETING
(By Anita Szabo, Recording Secretary)

Members present: R. Draeger; N. Hawley; T. Kinch; R. Troman; A. Wellington

1. Call to Order

- Meeting officially called to order at 7:05 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Approval of September 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from 09/26/2023 meeting were reviewed.
- A motion to accept as written was made by R. Draeger, seconded by T. Kinch, and passed unanimously by remaining members.

3. Public Comment

- None; no members of public present.

4. Township Official's Report (per N. Hawley and R. Troman)

- White Lake's Weed Petition was renewed for five years.
- County Commissioner Walz reported that Jackson County has developed a Land Bank to manage derelict properties.
 - o Grants can be obtained to assist with related costs.
 - o N. Hawley stated that she believes the city is partnering in this effort.
- The old school on McDevitt has been purchased with plans to develop a small business incubator at the location.
- There will be a Board of Review meeting relative to property assessments on 12/12/2023.
 - o This is to address technical matters only such as name changes, wording corrections, surveys for land division, etc.
- Henrietta Township Fire Department's 75th anniversary celebration was a success, with a good turnout, as well as some awards being issued.
- The Township entered into a 2-year contract with the County to share the cost of 9-day early voting for next year's election, which translates to a significant cost savings for the Township.
 - o The Township's Clerk and Deputy Clerk have been attending training meetings in regard to the voting process.
- The resolution to accept the Hazard Mitigation Plan was passed.
- Maintenance money to clean up the Nim's Cemetery was obtained, with the Township contributing 50% of the cost.
 - o The work was completed today.
- Township Treasurer, Maria McDonald, has submitted her Letter of Intent to retire on March, 27, 2024.

- The Township is currently accepting Letters of Interest from those interested in the position.
- Materials for the new seawall at the Pleasant Lake Park were delivered today.
 - R. Troman brought forth the idea of installing a pickleball court at the park and R. Draeger questioned whether sand in the beach area would be replenished after the seawall replacement.
 - N. Hawley advised she would follow-up with the appropriate individual(s) at Jackson County Parks & Recreation.

5. Old Business

- FINAL Site Plan Review, Commercial-1 District, proposed Dollar Tree/Family Dollar store, to be located at 5035 Berry Road, just west of M106.
 - N. Hawley reviewed details of Wolgast Corporation’s revised Site Plan of August 16, 2023.
 - Changes previously requested were made.
 - Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Permit was obtained (from Jackson County Road Commission).
 - A motion to recommend the matter to the Township Board for approval at their next meeting was made by R. Troman, seconded by R. Draeger, and passed unanimously by remaining members.
 - Attention was called to ensuring compliance with all contingencies set forth in County Drain Commissioner’s letter of September 21, 2023.
- Result of Jackson County Planning Commission’s recommendation on text amendments to the Township’s Zoning Ordinance concerning Signs and Outdoor Lighting (note: this text amendment does not apply to single family residences), and clarification text for Section 501, Residential 1.4 Garage.
 - The recommendations were unanimously approved and the matter now goes to the Board for their approval.
- Review and discussion on updates to the Solar Energy Ordinance.
 - A handout, composed by PC Chair, N. Hawley, was distributed and reviewed by all, with N. Hawley reading through the most recent revisions noted in bold type.
 - N. Hawley commented that efforts in this regard may prove “moot,” as the State is attempting to pass legislation to gain oversight of this matter.
 - N. Hawley stated Rives Township has updated their Master Plan to allow solar development as a conditional use to Agricultural (AG-1).

6. New Business

- None.

7. Committees/Special Projects/Administrative

- Munith’s annual Halloween Parade will be taking place on Saturday, October 28, 2023, with the lineup starting at 12:30 p.m. and the parade commencing at 1:00 p.m.
 - There will be treats donated by several local businesses, costume judging for different age groups with prizes awarded to winners (bikes donated by Brewster Tire & Towing), and a Truck or Treat event at Brewster’s from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

8. Public Comment/Open Discussion

- None; no members of public present.

9. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn meeting was made by R. Troman, seconded by A. Wellington, and passed unanimously by remaining members.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.