

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

MINUTES FROM 11/28/2023 REGULAR MEETING
(By Anita Szabo, Recording Secretary)

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

1. Call to Order

- Meeting officially called to order at 7:02 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Approval of October 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from 10/24/2023 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 at this time.

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

- The final revised site plan for the Family Dollar/Dollar Tree store was voted upon and unanimously approved.
- An individual from the public was present and expressed interest in purchasing the transfer station.
 - o He claimed that the state is going to start mandating recycling services available within any particular community.
 - o Township Supervisor, A. Grimes, advised that it is not for sale.
- Text amendments to the township's sign and outdoor lighting ordinances were voted upon and approved.
- A motion was passed declaring a 1-year moratorium on the placement of any cargo/shipping container within the township, for the purpose of obtaining and reviewing additional information and revising current zoning ordinances if necessary.
- An update on the old Pleasant Lake School on Meridian Road was given.
 - o Efforts continue to track down an actual physical person(s) to serve with legal paperwork.

5. Old Business

- Clean/Renewable (solar, wind) Energy Standards.
 - o A handout, compiled by PC Chair N. Hawley, was distributed, reviewed, and discussed by all in attendance.
 - The governor signed legislation today, which will go into effect in one (1) year, granting the state oversight of future developments.
 - Any local zoning ordinance will be subject to and superseded by this legislation.

- Eminent Domain will not apply to the acquiring of property for development.
- Motion made by J. Duszynski that a moratorium be declared on the development of any utility-sized renewable energy projects within the township, until we receive and are able to review the final details of this new legislation,
 - Motion seconded by R. Draeger and passed 5-1.

6. New Business

- Shipping/Cargo Container regulation.
 - The township board has asked the planning commission to investigate this subject further and determine if any updates to current zoning ordinances may be recommended.
 - N. Hawley distributed a handout she had compiled to all in attendance, which provided some general definitions and examples of other communities' regulations, and asked everyone to be thinking about what we want to do in our township.

7. Committees/Special Projects/Administrative

- R. Troman reported that both he and fellow PC member, A. Wellington, successfully completed the Citizen Planner Program through MSU Extension.
 - A great deal of very informative material was covered and knowledge acquired, which he feels will prove valuable to the performance of their job duties.
 - He mentioned that reimbursement for the cost (\$250/person) may be available through the township's liability insurance provider, and N. Hawley directed him to the appropriate individual to contact to further pursue the matter.
- N. Hawley provided everyone in attendance with a copy of the Jackson County Parks & Recreation Department's 2024 Budget.
- The township board gave their okay for the planning commission to cancel their meetings for December 2023 and January 2024, unless an urgent need develops.

8. Public Comment/Open Discussion

- Deborah Ferguson, a member of the public that was present, asked what would have happened if the township wouldn't have approved the site plan for the Family Dollar/Dollar Tree store.
 - N. Hawley advised the township would have had to go to court.
 - Ms. Ferguson feels the township did not fight hard enough to stop this development.

9. Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn meeting was made by J. Duszynski, seconded by T. Kinch, and passed unanimously by remaining members.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.