

Lake Charter Township Planning Commission Meeting

January 3, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman William Geukes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman William Geukes welcomed the two new members Bill Shuler and Jason Kading.

ROLL CALL

Members present were: William Geukes, Mike Essig, Jordan Klint, Megan Bowen, Christin Rice, Bill Shuler and Jason Kading

Absent: None

Zoning Administrator – Richard Kubsch

Township Supervisor – Zach Carson

Township Trustee – John Wilk

0 - Guests attended

PC BYLAWS

Zoning Administrator Rich Kubsch referred to the November 2016 version of the Bylaws adopted on December 5, 2016 and presented the new version for review and approval, highlighting some points of change.

Megan Bowen had emailed Rich Kubsch earlier in the day with a sample version that is available for adoption and commented that she felt that this version removed the restrictions of Roberts Rules of Order giving the Planning Commission more freedom to conduct meetings.

Member Discussion followed:

Jordan Klint asked for clarification on the new version presented by Rich concerning: A member being on the Planning Commission but not living in the Township, the quorum requirements of a 7-member board and the time restraints on and for applicants.

General discussion was held on handling conflicts of interest siting recent lawsuits that a neighboring township had just been through.

Christin Rice stated that the MSU document was not received in the packet and that she was not willing to approve a document that was not received without time to review. Jordan Klint asked if the MSU document could be reviewed for next months meeting. Rick Kubsch stated that if Bylaws are not approved tonight no further business could be conducted.

Motion was made by: Christin Rice; seconded by: Mike Essig to approve the version of the Bylaws Rich Kubsch presented, with the option to add or revise them as issues come up. All ayes; motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by: Christin Rice; seconded by: Mike Essig to keep the same slate of officers as in 2022, stating that with new members need time to acclimate to the Planning Commission and there is no need to make any changes to the officers at this time. All ayes; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda with a change to the July meeting date from July 3 to July 10, 2023 was made by: Jordan Klint; seconded by: Mike Essig; all ayes, motion carried.

TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT – reported by: Mike Essig:

1. Tabled the RV/Trailer Park re-zoning, discussion is still being held on the master water meter.
2. Adopted the 2023 Police Budget
3. Amended the 2022 Budget

APPEALS BOARD REPORT – reported by: Mike Essig

1. No meeting – for the month of December.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the December 5, 2022 minutes was made by: Jordan Klint; seconded by: Mike Essig; all ayes, motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – Non-agenda – None

OLD BUSINESS

1. None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Master Plan worksheet – Williams and Works
Rich Kubsch presented and reviewed the list of goals and objectives (see attached) Discussion was held on Trails, the possible change on Red Arrow Hwy to 3 lanes which Bridgman City is in favor of and completing the John Gast Memorial Trail. Extensive discussion on the Cook Plant's future operations and beginning to develop a relationship with the plant management team. Suggestions on funding future revenues was also discussed. The Final Draft Design Futures Map was reviewed.

Chairman William Geukes asked about the situation that South Haven has just addressed with golf carts being used as modes of transportation. This could most likely be and issue the City of Bridgman will be dealing with.

Zoning Administrator Report

Richard Kubsch reported on the following:

1. Welcomed the new members
2. Advised that he is checking into classes for those who are interested in taking the Master Citizen Planner course, either on-line or in person.

Audience Comments

Opened at: 8:04 p.m.

Township Supervisor Zach Carson and Trustee John Wilk both welcomed the new members to the Planning Commission on behalf of the Township Board and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

Closed at: 8:06 p.m.

ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn was made by: Mike Essig, seconded by: Christin Rice at 8:07 p.m.; all ayes, motion carried.

Next meeting February 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Christin Rice - Secretary

Date