

MINUTES
LONG LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
8870 N. LONG LAKE ROAD
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49684

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Cuthbert at 6:00 p.m. at the Long Lake Township Hall.
2. COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Michelle Marsh, Robert Verschaeve, Carol Hoffman, Pam Cuthbert, Mark Humitz, Joy Tobin, and David Williams were present.

Township staff present was Leslie Sickterman, Township Planner, Shirley Mesch, Zoning Administrator and Sara Kopriva, Recording Secretary.

Three members of the public were present, including the Township forester.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: No changes to the agenda were made.
4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT: There were no conflicts of interest at this meeting.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 26, 2009 (REGULAR MEETING) Hoffman moved, supported by Humitz to approve the minutes with changes.

- 1.) Pg 2, B. the second to the last sentence-should include "through the Zoning Ordinance"

Motion Carried.

6. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT: (Any person may speak for up to 3 minutes). There was none.
7. POSTPONED BUSINESS: There was none.
8. NEW BUSINESS: There was none.
9. PENDING BUSINESS

A) PLANNING COMMISSION BYLAWS UPDATE

Sickterman supplied the changes that were made from the last meeting. Minor typographical errors were fixed.

Humitz moved, supported by Williams to adopt the Planning Commission Bylaws with minor changes. Motion carried.

B) ROADSIDE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM UPDATE

Sickterman made updates to the scoring on roads based on comments from last month. She also put together a phasing plan for the program. Humitz was concerned about removing trees and not immediately replacing them. The Planning Commission discussed a timeline and funding for the project. Financing will come from grants, property owners and the Township. Removal of trees is not covered in the planning grant that we are now working under. The Planning Commission felt that the priorities should be: 1) Remove dead and dying trees and replace, 2) Plant in low constraint areas that are located in high scoring stretches of roadway, and 3) Plant along roadways in the agricultural areas not done under priority 2. There was a discussion on planting along M 72. The Planning Commission continues to believe that this area is lower priority.

There was discussion about maintenance, especially watering, and if the Township should invest in a watering truck or contracting the service. The Planning Commission felt that the only way the trees would survive would be if the trees are watered. The next step is to find out how many dead and dying trees there are in the Township and talk with a few property owners to determine their interest in the program. The Planning Commission agreed not to solicit bids for tree planting or tree removal until October at the earliest.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT (Any person may speak for up to 3 minutes): There was none.

11. REPORTS:

A) PLANNER report was received.

1) VILLAGE PLAN UPDATE

An RFP has been created and will be sent out later in the week. A steering committee has been formed consisting of property owners, TCAPS, business owners and Planning Commission members. The Planning Commission decided to hold a special meeting in September to discuss Plan.

2) WATERSHED PLAN UPDATE

As part of the Onsite Septic grant, the Township is required to update its watershed plan. The plan still requires public input and will have many recommendations that the Planning Commission will need to implement.

- 3) ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE
The Zoning Ordinance has been sent to the attorney for review and should be back with comments for the July meeting.
 - B) PLANNING CONSULTANT report was received.
 - C) ZONING ADMINISTRATOR report was received. There have been many junk complaints and building violations. Mesch handed out a letter from Virginia Schram stating that the non-conforming commercial use in an R1 Low Density Residential District, Ed's Water Conditioning, Property Id. No. 28-08-004-011-00, 9704 Cedar Run Road, has been discontinued.
 - D) TOWNSHIP BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: Hoffman stated that the budget is almost complete and there will be a final meeting on June 24th. The Township Board has been working on signage for the South Long Lake Park property. John Brown has been appointed the new fire chief. Bea Houghton has retired.
 - E) ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: There was no meeting in June, but there will be one in July.
12. CORRESPONDENCE: Cuthbert asked how everyone preferred to get their packets for the meeting. It was agreed that the packets would be made available electronically, but if a site plan was to be reviewed for a meeting, a 24"x36" hardcopy would be available for the members.
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS: Commissioner Williams suggested adding the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of the meetings. The Commission agreed and decided to do this under the Call to Order on the agenda.
14. ADJOURNMENT: Verschaeve moved, supported by Tobin, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Motion carried.

JOY TOBIN, SECRETARY
LONG LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

SARA KOPRIVA, RECORDING SECRETARY
LONG LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT AND/OR CORRECTION PRIOR TO THEIR ADOPTION.