

WATSON TOWNSHIP MICHIGAN
1895 118th Ave. Allegan, MI 49010

PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING DATE: March 23rd, 2022

FINAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02pm @ Watson Township Hall

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited

ROLL CALL: Present: Bruce Bos; John Caras; Shawn Caulder; Bev McKinnon; Owen Ramey; Jay Roberts-Eveland : **Quorum:**

VISITORS: Jason Derry- PCI; Bradley Stalker- community member

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: APPROVED

MOTION: Shawn Caulder

SECOND: Jay Roberts-Eveland

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

FEBRUARY- NO MEETING- NO QUORUM

JANUARY 26TH, 2022

MOTION: Jay Roberts-Eveland

SECOND: Owen Ramey

APPROVED

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Public Hearing - Opened @ 710pm

Amendment of Zoning: Bruce Bos had Jay Roberts-Eveland read the **NOTICE of Public Hearing:**

No Community communication was received

Possible action taken for the following items:

1. An amendment to Section 3.19, 6.04.d, 6.04.f, 7.04.d, 7.04.e, 8.04.d, 8.04.e, 9.04.4, 10.05, 11.09.d, 28.04.d3, and Chapter 23 of the Watson Township Zoning Ordinance to include lot area overlapping the road right-of-way in overall lot area calculations.
2. Beginning development of the draft Watson Township Parks and Recreation Plan.
3. Any such other business that properly comes before the Planning Commission.

Chairperson, Bruce Bos led a discussion of the existing Zoning ordinance and suggested amended language to the draft resolution, and zoning ordinance- that upon approval from the Planning Commission will be submitted to the Watson Township Board for approval.

A RESOLUTION TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR MINIMUM LOT AREAS TO EXCLUDE THE ROAD RIGHT OF WAY ON ALL PARCELS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP.

WHEREAS, The Watson Township Planning Commission has considered that oftentimes surveys for typical metes-and-bounds parcels within the Township often include adjacent Right of Way within their bounds, and;

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission recognizes that some property owners could be adversely affected by this requirement when considering division or re-division of property, and;

WHEREAS, The Planning commission determines that amending the ordinance does no harm to the overall health, safety and welfare of the citizenry, passers by and other stakeholders within the Township.

The Watson Township Planning Commission therefore recommends to the Watson Township Board to make the attached amendments to the Watson Township Zoning Ordinance.

MOTION: Bruce Bos

SECOND: Bev McKinnon

ROLL CALL VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Bruce Bos; Shawn Caulder; John Caras; Bev McKinnon; Owen Ramey; Jay Roberts-Eveland

b) Election of Officers: 2022: Chairperson; Bruce Bos: Co-Chairperson; Bev McKinnon: Secretary; Jay Roberts-Eveland.

MOTION: Jay Roberts-Eveland

SECOND: Shawn Caulder

APPROVED

c) Set Meeting Dates for 2022- April 2023

Planning Commission meetings will be the 4th Wednesday of every month, except; November- no meeting; and December's meeting will be on December 7th

May 25, 2022; June 22,2022; July 27, 2022; August 24, 2022; September 28, 2022; October 26, 2022; November-NO meeting; December 7, 2022; January 25, 2023; February 22, 2023; March 22, 2023; April 26, 2023

d) Begin the process of developing a parks Plan for Watson Township.

e) Begin the process of assessing the review of the Master Plan as required by law.

A lengthy discussion pursued with members voicing a need for an efficient timeline/format to move forward with meeting the requirements. Jason Derry, PCI, explained the proposed timeline and the proposed survey that would create a "data" review and input from community members. The methods of distribution were discussed as well as the concerns for a limited response from "few" in determining further action from the Planning Commission and Township. Planning Commission members were divided on the value of a survey, with some suggesting it was unnecessary, while others saw merit in giving residents an opportunity to take the survey to further the work of Planning and identifying concerns of the community. It was requested that Jason Derry, PCI review the survey to remove questions that were irrelevant to Watson Township residents- and with a consensus of Planning Commission members, Jason Derry, PCI was asked to submit the survey to Supervisor, Kevin Travis to add information to the April newsletter informing the community of a link to the survey, availability of picking up a hard copy of the survey (in the foyer) at the township hall, and posting on social sites- the link to the survey for input.

Remaining agenda was tabled

MOTION TO ADJOURN: @ 9:27PM

MOTION: Bev McKinnon

SECOND: Shawn Caulder

APPROVED

Submitted by: Jay Roberts-Eveland- March 24, 2022

