

Colfax Township, Weldon Township and Village of Thompsonville
Community Joint Planning Commission
14731 Thompson Avenue, Thompsonville, MI 49683
Minutes – December 4, 2014 Regular Meeting

Jack Richter declared the meeting open at 7:01 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call: JPC members Jack Richter, Shelley Greene, Peggy Minster, Sue Meredith, Chris Jones, Debra Franke and Eugene Allen; alternates Irene Dunham Thayer, Sally Bobek and Mike Foust. Absent: Don Suchocki and Craig Meredith (excused). Guests: Chuck Syer, John Meusling, Matt Harrington and Pat Workman.

Citizen Matters

- Persons requested by the Commission to attend the meeting:

John Meusling, Matt Harrington and Pat Workman attended to present details and answer questions on the Village ball field renovation. John brought an aerial view of the grounds to aid discussion, and a list describing planned improvements was provided. It included new bleachers, rebuild dugout as needed, new concession stand with an upper level for announcers, children's area with play equipment and safety posts for protection from vehicles, restrooms, septic system, and seven foot fence around diamonds for safety. Improvements of diamonds to regulation standards will allow more groups to use the facility. Concern for safety was expressed about concrete under the bleachers, but they will only be five to six feet high at the most. There will be no propane in the area; service will be electric.

John asked the Board about its function and role in the community. The joint master plan was discussed, that its overall scope is to attract people and businesses to the area to as a great place to live, provide jobs and offer services to those who live and visit here. Also, protecting the area's natural resources is important for residents and visitors who enjoy a variety of recreational opportunities. John shared the Webber Foundation's philosophy which is focused on youth and education.

- Public comment: none.

Agenda Additions/Corrections. Debbie moved, seconded by Sue to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Approval of Minutes. Debbie moved, seconded by Peg to approve the November minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Draft Joint Zoning Ordinance. Copies of the corrected draft were distributed. Public hearing will be Saturday, January 31, at 1:00 P.M. at the Village Community Center. Public hearing script was reviewed. Public review dates of the ordinance were set at January 10, 17, and 24 from 5:00-7:00 P.M. at the Weldon Township hall. Debbie, Sally and Shelley will take turns at the hall. Public hearing notices will be published in the Record Patriot January 7 for the JPC and municipalities, January 21 for the JPC and in the GT Insider January 25 for the JPC. Notices to state the public review dates and that draft ordinance and map will be on Weldon and Colfax websites. Shelley will make up a binder for the library.

Unfinished Business

A. Zoning Board of Appeals. The Village still needs members for the JPC and ZBA.

B. Fee Schedule. In process; Craig to discuss with Don.

C. Capital Improvements Plan. Peg gave an overview of the process for input by the townships and Village on capital expenditures and public projects. Revisit in February.

D. Zoning Administrator Update. Sue reported for Craig that two LUPs are out.

E. Budget and Expense/Compensation Approval. Jack, Eugene and Don are committee members to develop a 2015-16 fiscal year budget. The proposed budget is to be included in the annual report to the townships and Village at their January meetings. Peg moved, seconded by Debbie to approve Shelley's expenses of \$88.27. All ayes; motion carried.

New Business

Renewal of JPC Appointments. Shelley noted the terms that will expire March 31, 2015. The townships and Village should make appointments at their December meetings.

Insurance Renewal. A policy update was received for renewal in April. Shelley will find out who is covered by the bond; it states there are four board members.

Annual Report. Shelley will present at the January meetings and ask for approval of the proposed budget by February. This timing coincides with their work to prepare for budget hearings in March.

Ball Field Letter. As a step in the public project review, Peg moved, seconded by Sue to send a letter to the Village of Thompsonville approving the ball field renovation. All ayes; motion carried.

Adjournment. Shelley moved, seconded by Peg to adjourn at 9:08 P.M. Next meeting is January 8 at 7:00 P.M. at the Weldon Township hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Greene

Secretary

Minutes are proposed until approved at the next meeting.